

WINDY  
CITY  
TIMES

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

VOL 32, NO. 47    AUGUST 9, 2017

www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com



JC BROOKS

Soul man to perform at Market Days.  
Photo by Vern Hester

28



TREVOR

Musical focuses on Diana Ross-obsessed gay teen.  
Photo of Eli Tokash and Salisha Thomas  
courtesy of Writers Theatre

19



EISHA LOVE

Trans activist speaks at Black and Pink Conference.  
Photo by Tarina Hargrays

6



PAGE 30

Left: Achy Obejas. Right: Riki Wilchins.  
PR photos



PAGE 32

LIT FEST

LGBT authors shine a light  
on the personal and political



PAGE 12

Wanda B in 2013.  
Photo by Hal Baim

Howard Brown Health presents



# MARKET DAYS HEALTH VILLAGE

August 12 & 13 3245 N. Halsted, Parking Lot 12 - 6 p.m.



LEARN ABOUT HOWARD BROWN HEALTH'S PROGRAMS AND **SUPPORT GROUPS**, PICK UP SOME FREE SWAG, AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR ON-SITE **HIV SCREENINGS**, MENINGITIS VACCINATIONS, HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS, **PREP REFERRALS**, TRANSGENDER HEALTH REFERRALS, AND MORE!



Howard Brown  
Health

## WINDY CITY TIMES

## INDEX

## DOWNLOAD THIS ISSUE

AND BROWSE THE ARCHIVES AT  
[www.WindyCityTimes.com](http://www.WindyCityTimes.com)



## NEWS

Professor surrenders; Truvada; column	4
Raising the Bar talk; state rep's anti-LGBT move	5
Black and Pink Conference	6
NQAPIA awards event; LGBT parents reunite	8
South suburban LGBTQ group Lighthouse	11
Wanda B on being a stud	12
Gay rugby player dies at 41	14
Letters	18

## ENTERTAINMENT/EVENTS

Scottish Play Scott: Trevor	19
-----------------------------	----



Theater reviews 23

Kiehl's holds Liferide for amfAR	26
Lollapalooza highlights	27
JC Brooks interview	28
WCT talks with musician Inaya Day	29
Novelist Achy Obejas and 'the Antilles'	30
Riki Wilkins and the memoir 'Trans/GRESSIVE'	32
Document looks at Ferguson uprising	34
Northalsted Market Days schedule	35
NIGHTSPOTS	36
Classifieds; calendar	38

ABOVE: Samantha Newcomb and Adrienne Matzen are featured in theatrical production In the Wake.  
Photo by Paul Goyette

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



## O SOLE TIO

Gubernatorial candidate Tio Hardiman (left) talks urban violence, LGBT family members and hate crimes.  
Photo courtesy of Hardiman

## VEX-CITING



Vex was among the acts at the very LGBT-positive Fed Up Fest.  
Photo by Vern Hester

## 'MAJOR' LEAGUE

Out actor Phillip Keene talks about his time on the show Major Crimes.

## THAT'S SHOW BIZ

Find out the latest about Jim Parsons, Patti LaBelle and Jill Soloway.

plus  
**DAILY BREAKING NEWS**

## THE SUBARU A LOT TO LOVE EVENT

When A Great Deal Matters, Shop Rob Paddor's...

## Evanston Subaru Year-End Deal-Time!

EVERY NEW 2017 SUBARU OUTBACK  
& NEW 2017 SUBARU LEGACY

FIRST  
TIME  
EVER

0%



FOR 63 MONTHS

NO MONEY DOWN \*

## NEW 2017 SUBARU IMPREZA 2.0i



\$109 PER MONTH\*

0% APR\*\*

Back-up Camera  
All Wheel Drive  
Bluetooth,  
Cruise Control

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT! 36 month lease.  
\$2,995 due at signing. HJA-01 #2387

## NEW 2017 SUBARU FORESTER 2.5i



\$124 PER MONTH\*

0% APR\*\*

Back-up Camera  
All-Wheel-Drive  
Bluetooth, VDC  
Flexible Storage

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT! 36 month lease.  
\$2,995 due at signing. HFA-01 #1870

## NEW 2017 SUBARU CROSSTREK 2.0i



\$139 PER MONTH\*

0% APR\*\*

Back-up Camera  
All-Wheel-Drive  
Bluetooth, USB,  
HD Radio & More

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT! 36 month lease.  
\$2,995 due at signing. #2378

## TOP-QUALITY INSPECTED USED CARS &amp; SUV's

## IMPORTS &amp; DOMESTICS

'15 Honda Civic Si	Manual, Only 22K, Crystal Black, 17592B	\$18,995
'12 Honda Crosstrek EX-L AWD	Automatic, Leather, Grey, P5407A	\$14,995
'16 Hyundai Elantra SE	Automatic, Full Power, Grey, P5542	\$11,995
'14 Nissan Sentra FE + S	Auto., Full Power, Grey, 17884A	\$9,995
'09 Infiniti G37 AWD	Leather, Moonroof, 58K, Black, 17768B	\$9,995
'12 Hyundai Sonata GLS	Automatic, Full Power, Black, 17169A	\$8,995
'09 Toyota RAV4 Sport 4x4	Auto., Sunroof, Grey, 17243A	\$7,995
'09 Honda Accord EX-L	Auto., Leather, Sunroof, Grey, P5409A	\$7,995
'04 Infiniti G35	Auto., V6, Leather, Desert Platinum, P5554A	\$6,995
'10 Kia Soul +	Automatic, Full Power, Molten, 17833A	\$6,995
'07 Hyundai Tucson GLS	Auto., Full Power, 81K, Black, 17009A	\$6,995

## SUBARU FORESTERS

'15 Forester Touring	Auto., Sunroof, Leather, Green, 17816A	\$23,995
'15 Forester Ltd./Navi.	Auto., Sunroof, Leather, Silver, P5573	\$22,995
'16 Forester Prem.	Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Blue, P5540	\$21,995
'15 Forester Prem.	Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Black P5539	\$19,995

'15 Forester 2.5i	Automatic, Full Power 16K, Grey, P5531	\$20,995
'14 Forester Ltd.	Auto., Sunroof, Leather, Grey, P5475	\$20,995
'14 Forester Prem.	Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Brown, P5519	\$18,995
'14 Forester 2.5i	Automatic, Full Power, Red, P5571	\$17,995
'11 Forester Ltd.	Auto., Sunroof, Leather, Green, 16451A	\$13,995

## SUBARU OUTBACKS / LEGACYS

'15 Outback Ltd.	Automatic, Moonroof, Leather, Grey, 17943A	\$24,995
'16 Outback Prem.	Auto., Bluetooth, All Weather, Grey, P5430	\$23,995
'15 Outback Prem.	Auto., Alloys, All Weather, 16K, Grey, 17784A	\$22,995
'14 Outback Prem.	Automatic, Alloys, All Weather, Silver, P5572	\$20,995
'15 Legacy Prem.	Automatic, Alloys, All Weather, Red, P5330	\$15,995

## SUBARU IMPREZA / CROSSTREK / WRX / BAJA

'15 WRX Prem	Manual, Ice Silver, 17811A	\$23,995
'16 Crosstrek Prem.	Auto., All Weather, Full Power, White, P5432	\$21,795
'14 Crosstrek Ltd.	Auto., Leather, Sunroof, 26K, Khaki, 17544A	\$18,995
'11 Impreza Prem.	Auto., All Weather, Full Power, Grey, P5507	\$11,995
'06 Subaru Baja	Manual, Runs Great Silver, P5535	\$8,995



847-869-5700

3340 OAKTON - SKOKIE • EVANSTONSUBARU.COM



\* Add tax, title license and \$172.15 doc fee. \*Finance on approved credit score. Monthly payment of \$15.87 per \$1,000 borrowed Subject to vehicle insurance and availability. \*Lease on approved credit score. Lease, 10k miles per year, 15 cents after. Lessee responsible for excess wear and early termination of lease. Option to purchase; Crosstrek \$15,262, Forester \$15,959, Impreza \$10,690. All offers end in 3 days, unless noted.

# NU assoc. prof surrenders, suspected in Chicago murder

A Northwestern University associate professor as well as a British payroll assistant wanted in the July 27 Chicago killing of a hairstylist have been taken into custody in California, multiple media outlets have reported.

Northwestern University associate professor Wyndham Lathem, 42, and Oxford University employee Andrew Warren, 56, are suspects connected to the death of 26-year-old Trenton Cornell-Duranleau.

Warren surrendered to police in San Francisco; Lathem turned himself in to authorities in Oakland, California.

Lathem—an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Feinberg School of Medicine—and Cornell-Duranleau lived together at the Grand Plaza Apartments, 540 N. State St., where the victim was found.

WGN-TV reported that neighbors said Lathem and Cornell-Duranleau were in a relationship. However, Lathem and Warren's relationship with

each other (as well as Warren's link to Cornell-Duranleau) is unknown.

Chicago authorities have revealed on Aug. 4 that a video has surfaced in which Lathem reportedly apologized to friends and family for his alleged involvement in Cornell-Duranleau's death.

Chicago police have said the two men will appear before an Oakland court before being sent back to Chicago.

Lathem appeared in a California court on Aug. 7. His attorney, Kenneth H. Wine, said that Lathem plans to waive his right to an extradition hearing and should be back in Chicago within weeks, The Chicago Tribune reported.

The WGN item is at <http://wgntv.com/2017/08/02/northwestern-professor-is-sued-arrest-warrant-in-near-north-side-fatal-stabbing/>. The Chicago Tribune article is at <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/ct-northwestern-professor-stabbing-20170807-story.html>.

## Insurer drops additional Truvada criteria

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Insurer UnitedHealthCare (UHC), on Aug. 3, seemingly dropped controversial pre-authorization requirements it had recently introduced for physicians prescribing the oral medication Truvada for pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP.

Minnetonka, Minnesota-based UHC, on July 1, began requiring physicians to obtain quarterly authorizations for PrEP claims; those authorizations had previously only been required annually. UHC also had required patients use its in-house mail-order pharmacy to obtain the medication, a rule that many patients reported difficulty in opting out of. The questionnaire physicians were required to submit was, according to some advocates and healthcare-providers, invasive of patients' privacy, asking whether Truvada was being prescribed for "high-risk" homosexual, bisexual or heterosexual behaviors.

The situation came to a head Aug. 3 when New York-based activist James Krellenstein posted to Twitter a mid-July letter from UHC denying a PrEP claim to an acquaintance. The letter said the denial was issued because the patient intended to use the medication for "high-risk homosexual behavior."

In a statement, UHC National Communications Director Lynne High said, "We apologize for the insensitive language appearing in the letter and regret any difficulty it caused. We have corrected our letters, removed the prior authorization requirement for Truvada and members can fill their prescription at the network pharmacy of their choice. This is effective immediately."

The Refinery29 website originally reported the

statement on Aug. 3.

Chicago physician Andrew Pavlatos said he was so incensed by the initial questionnaire that he returned it with a note that the question was illegal.

"It asks if you are gay, straight or bisexual," Pavlatos said. "Who the hell cares? If you're at risk, you're at risk—your doctor determines that."

The National Coalition for HIV Health, as well as a number of HIV/AIDS advocacies, on Aug. 4, nevertheless sent a letter requesting a meeting with UHC officials over the matter. AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) was among the signatories on the letter, which noted that the rules may violate the Affordable Care Act's non-discrimination protections.

"PrEP is a critical advancement in HIV prevention that, when taken as prescribed, can provide nearly 100% protection from acquiring HIV infection," read the letter. "Stigma and discrimination are major barriers that have impeded uptake of this highly effective prevention intervention. In addition to violating multiple laws, the new policies have been implemented in such a way as to insult and disrespect UHC members."

The PrEP intervention has been shown to prevent the risk of HIV transmission by as much as over 90 percent. But advocates and service providers have struggled with wider implementation of PrEP due to a number of factors, among them educating diverse audiences and the high cost of Truvada, which can run more than \$1,800 a bottle.

Windy City Times asked the Illinois Department of Insurance to comment on the legality of the rules with regards to the state's human rights laws, but did not receive a response by publication time.

Refinery 29's article is at <http://www.refinery29.com/2017/08/166525/insurance-discrimination-hiv-prevention-truvada-prep-gay-man>.

## GUEST COLUMN

BY ALEXANDRA BILLINGS



### A tribute to Mariann Mayberry

*Steppenwolf Theatre actor Mariann Mayberry died at age 52 after a long battle with cancer. Following is a tribute to her from Alexandra Billings.*

I walked into the rehearsal room shaking from the bottom of my feet and knowing they had made a dreadful mistake. That I wasn't the human they wanted and that this was certainly some kind of colossal joke. There were actors milling around, talking, giggling, gesturing, all sparkly and shiny and filled with great hope and joyful buoyant promise. We were there to help tell a story of the forgotten and the hopeless, both of which I had come from, and both of which I knew.

And far off in the corner was a woman, sitting in a chair in the vast emptiness of the room, thumbing through a large script and mumbling to herself. She was gesturing and her hands sliced through the air with a precise delicacy. I walked up to her, past the bunches of people, and sat next to her.

"Hi," I said.

"Wanna smoke?" she asked.

"Yes," I answered.

We went outside and she spoke to me about her family, about her fear of this play and what it meant, about her life force and her self indulgence, and about her capacity to love and how it always seemed to take the wrong turn with the wrong man. I told her about being trans and about having AIDS and about my wife and my complete bewilderment at being hired at the Steppenwolf when really I should be taking tickets at the door and just helping out.

"You're here because your gift matters, Alex."

No one had ever said that to me before.

We finished smoking and headed back inside where the director, a wild woman with a fierce heart and a manic intellect, guided us through a spiritual manifestation she called The Viewpoints, which ended up changing the trajectory of my life.

After rehearsal, I hugged my new family, and headed to my car in the parking lot. As I walked toward it, the woman I smoked with and lived with and Viewpointed with and traveled with, ran up to me calling out my name.

I stopped.

"You forgot your lighter," she said, bouncing toward me and standing nose to nose.

I took it and put it in my bag. I was still reeling from Tina Landau and the messy beautiful madness she guided us toward.

"Can I tell you how much I feel your loss?" she said, seeing into the center of me. "I feel

it. I love it and it makes me really happy and I just want to say you don't have to keep pretending it isn't happening. It's probably time to let that go," she smiled and her eyes widened and she held me and she wept a little in my arms. "Thanks. For everything."

I was out of breath and a little lost.

"See you tomorrow," she said.

Mariann lead me and held on to me and in the '90s when being brown and being trans was a national punchline and target practice for the transphobic and maniacal, she saw me. She received me. She allowed me and was one of the first actors to give me room and permission.

Our pal Laura D. Glenn nicknamed her "MariLou," after Cindy Lou Who from Dr. Seuss' Grinch masterpiece.

And MariLou was a force. She was a protector and a light. She laughed deep. She inhaled her life through the soul of her Art. She ingested passion and love and gave all of herself to you when you needed her and even when you didn't. She was never absent. She was never cautious or careful. She simply went. She ran into walls and doorways and was the first to volunteer to climb the highest scaffold. Her fearless nature was the ignition of her power.

And I wanted to be just like her.

We worked with each other many times and loved each other many times and showered together on stage once and had secrets and she gave me books and advice and showed me a clarity of spirit I had only dreamed about. And she was a true female friend. I was whole with her. She called me on my bullshit and she never let a moment pass where she didn't direct my attention to the thing I assumed wasn't useful.

"Alex you love hard but you don't love whole," she once said to me.

I was furious at her for saying that, because she was absolutely right.

I wasn't there at the end of her journey. I tried, but the disease had ravaged her and she was too far gone. And I will live with that for the rest of my time here. And so I see her still and I hear her still and my heart is cracked wide open and today I shattered and fell apart in my wife's arms and we both said her name out loud. And she is never very far from me because she believed in the vastness of space and the bending of time and the glory of the human condition. And that we are made of stardust and that never ever really goes away. And she cannot be taken because she is far too magnificent. And I can still hear her from across the room on that

**Turn to page 5**

Alexandra Billings is an award-winning actor and playwright. A former Chicagoan, she stars in *Transparent* and lives in California.

# Lambda attorney talks legal climate at 'Raising the Bar'

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Speaking at Equality Illinois' 2017 Raising the Bar Breakfast on Aug. 1, Lambda Legal Staff Attorney and Senior Workforce Strategist Gregory Nevins suggested that, at least for the near future, advancements in LGBT rights are most likely to happen at the judicial level.

"Lawyers should be really thankful for the profession that we have," Nevins said. "Courts don't deal in alternative facts."

The Equality Illinois event honors law firms that "are leading the way with regard to creating a welcoming and affirming workplace for [LGBTQ] employees," according to the organization. Its CEO, Brian Johnson, read the names of 51 firms so honored that day.

Nevins, who is based in Lambda Legal's Atlanta office, argued *Hively v. Ivy Tech Community College* on behalf of an Indiana woman, Kimberly Hively, who said she was not promoted in her job because she is a lesbian. In that case, attorneys successfully maintained that she was covered under federal Title VII sex-discrimination protections. Nevins is working on a similar case, *Evans v. Georgia Regional Hospital*, that Lambda Legal will try to appeal to the United States Supreme Court after another appellate court conversely stuck to a longstanding precedent that suggesting LGBTs were not covered.

Nevins said that, with both a dysfunctional



Lambda Legal's Greg Nevins.

Photo by Matt Simonette

Congress and several similarly dysfunctional statehouses, the LGBT community should not expect much significant pro-LGBT legislation. Only one state, Utah, has added anti-discrimination protections for LGBTs in recent years.

Legislative pushes from the LGBT community, he predicted, will be a "slog." The legal profession needs "to be there, making sure we keep the doors open for the most vulnerable people in our community," Nevins said.

He added, "We deal in a world where we have facts on our side. That shouldn't have to be a privilege, but it is. ... America needs this profession now, more than ever."

## State Rep. Ives reposts anti-LGBT article

BY MATT SIMONETTE

State Rep. Jeanne Ives (R-Wheaton), on Aug. 2, posted an article to her Facebook page from the right-wing Illinois Family Institute mocking transgender students, LGBT parents and numerous others. The article ultimately warned Christian parents of the supposed dangers their children faced if left in secular schools.

On her post, Ives warned that the pro-LGBT developments discussed in the article are "happening in Wheaton schools too."

The article was penned by Laurie Higgins, IFI's "cultural analyst," and laments, among other anti-LGBT musings, that activists teach that "men can be mommies, and women daddies"; "to be loving, compassionate, and inclusive, they must lie by calling gender-pretending peers by opposite-sex pronouns, and they must be willing to relinquish their privacy"; and "expressing the belief that homoerotic activity or cross-dressing and bodily mutilation are wrong is equivalent to bullying and the cause of teen suicide."

Carol Stream-based IFI was first classified as a hate-group by the Southern Poverty Law Center in 2009.

Ives has regularly opposed pro-LGBT advance-

ments and has had a tumultuous relationship with the community. In 2016, a gay man was convicted of leaving a threatening voicemail message on her office phone three years earlier.

Ives' posting was reported by Jezebel at <http://theslot.jezebel.com/illinois-state-rep-seemingly-worried-lgbt-protections-1797512443>.

An inquiry sent to Ives was not returned by the press deadline.

## GUEST COLUMN from page 4

very first day at that very first rehearsal, shouting, screeching, shaking her fist at the universe:

"I Ain't Down Yet, Dammit!"

... and so I remember you MariLou. And I am different because of you. And because you are gone, I take you with me. And because of you, I allow others to see me. Broken. Messy. Whole. Shaking my fist at God in chaos and prayer. You lead me into a safe place by allowing me to find it where it all began; in the very center of me. And you saw it. I grew up with you and I will miss you every moment.

And I see now, that no matter what, I can remind myself that I need to love wholly, and not just in part, and that no matter what, no matter how much disease tries to take me or art tries to save me ... I Ain't Down Yet.

Dammit.

Fly, my love. There is no more pain.

You are free.

— Alex

Chicago Dancers United *Presents*



Saturday, August 19, 2017 | 7:30pm

Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University  
50 East Congress Parkway, Chicago

CHICAGO  
dancers  
UNITED

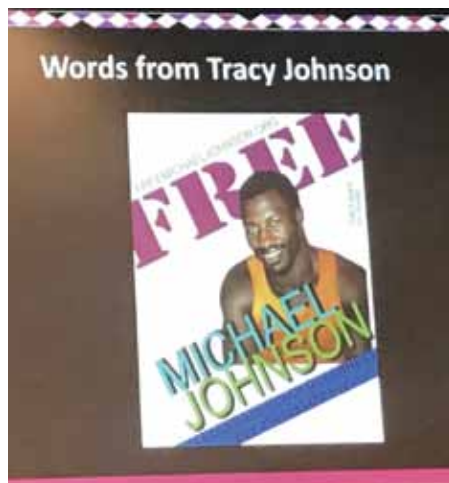
To purchase tickets, visit  
**ChicagoDancersUnited.org**  
or call **312-341-2300**

# Black and Pink hosts gathering of LGBTQ prison abolitionists

BY TARINA HARGRAYS

On Aug. 4, Black and Pink Chicago hosted its second national gathering at Chicago's Teachers Union Center. The event brought out LGBTQ prison abolitionists from around the country to speak about their experiences and the prison system as well as raise money for the Black and Pink organization.

The event, which was free to the public, began with a celebration dinner. Attendees were able to mix and mingle, have a little fun in the photo booth, as well as visit booths to buy raffle tickets and prison abolition T-shirts. Guests who were incarcerated at any time in their lives were able to buy the merchandise and tickets for half-price.



Video display of Michael Johnson; mother Tracy spoke about her son.

As guests began to take their seats, emcee Sasha Taylor took the stage to greet them. Taylor, who was recently incarcerated in 2008, is a 41-year-old, transgender female from San Antonio. Since then, she has been crowned with six titles that include Miss Wild & Wicked, Miss Texas for Life and Miss Corpus Christi Latina. Aside from her numerous titles, Taylor also works at BEAT AIDS as a health intervention specialist.

After wowing the crowd with her glamorous personality and fashion sense, Taylor gave over the mic to the event's speakers. The first speaker was former political prisoner Lauren Whitehorn. Although Whitehorn could not make it due to traveling troubles, she and her partner, activist Susie Day, were able to speak to guests via Skype. The two discussed topics from falling in love in prison to finally getting out and reclaiming their lives, which received several rounds of applause from guests.

Following Whitehorn and Day's speech, formerly

incarcerated and transgender female Eisha Love took the stage. Love was arrested in 2012 on Chicago's West Side for defending herself against a man with whom she had gotten into a physical altercation. She was indicted on attempted first-degree murder without lawful justification with intent to kill. She then spent nearly four years in the maximum security male Division IX of the Cook County Jail. Her story, with the help of a friend, went viral in a manner Love would have never imagined. (*Editor's note:* A series on Love ran in Windy City Times in 2015.)

"I still can't believe that I got this platform to speak. I'm lost for words," said Love, who went on to admit that reliving the story tends to make her emotional. She then spoke about how the overwhelming support she received while locked up is what got her a lawyer and what got her through the entire ordeal. "It made me who I am today."

The night continued with spoken-word performances from Alan Schultz and Monica Cosby, theatrical dance performances from Youth Empowerment Performance Project and several other speakers.

Activist and former political prisoner Ricardo Jimenez also made an appearance. Jimenez is known for receiving a 90-year sentence for his role in FALN, a political group that fought for complete independence for Puerto Rico. However, Jimenez was released early in 1999 after President Bill Clinton extended a clemency offer to him.

In his speech, Jimenez discussed the trials and tribulations people of color have experienced during their fight for equality, as well as coming out as a gay man while being tied to his former organization. Jimenez mentioned how hard it was for him separating his gayness from what he was fighting for, saying, "My sexuality did not define my politics; my politics was defined by the colonial situation of my country." However, he said that when he finally came out some people did not see it that way, and questioned his role as a man. In response to that, Jimenez went on to say, "it's not about tolerance; it's not about you accepting me. It's about you including me in society because I am apart of this society; I sacrificed my life for this nation."

Similar to Jimenez's speech, one of the more emotional and powerful segments of the night was one called "Prisoner Voices." This was when incarcerated Black and Pink members' voice recordings were played for guests to hear how their lives have been impacted by the support of the organization.

Tracy Johnson—mother of Michael Johnson, a gay Missouri man who was convicted of 30 years in prison for exposing a partner to HIV—spoke at the gathering on behalf of her son.



Eisha Love talks at the conference. Photo by Tarina Hargrays

After discussing her son's upbringing, she mentioned that he was dyslexic, indicating that his reading skills were partly to blame for his mishaps. She also urged attendees to know their HIV/AIDS state laws. Johnson said that her son didn't know what he needed to about Missouri's HIV laws, adding, "If you don't know your laws, you will never know how to fight your laws."

She went on to say that, "It's not against the law to be sick" and that she looks at HIV as if it were any other life-threatening disease. She closed her remarks by saying that her son's case is "new" again due to an appeal, and could not disclose specific details. (*Editor's note:* Michael's conviction was reversed last year; see <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/lgbt/Johnson-HIV-conviction-reversed/57516.html>.)

Shortly after, Black and Pink's Outgoing Na-

tional Director Jason Lydon took the stage to discuss what the organization means to him and its members. With Lydon aiming to raise funds, guests agreed to donate \$6,200 to Black and Pink.

The night concluded with Black and Pink presenting its awards to organizations and individuals for their work in the LGBTQ community. Among the recipients were Su'ganni Tiuzza, who received the Kuwasi Balagoon Award; Trans Pride Initiative, who received the Pay It No Mind Award; Afrika Lockett, the recipient of the Out of Control Award; Sero Project, who got the Mike Riegler Award; and Brandon Pierce, with the Exceptional Newspaper Submission Award.

**For information about Black and Pink or to donate, visit [BlackAndPink.org](http://BlackAndPink.org).**

## Hearings continue in bias case

BY MATT SIMONETTE

A status hearing has been set for Thursday, Aug. 17, in ongoing litigation for a longtime Chicago Park District (CPD) employee who alleged race-based discrimination against her former employer, court records show.

Lydia Vega, who is lesbian, was a park district employee during 1990-2012, and had been a park supervisor since 2004. In September 2012, she was fired for falsifying information on her time sheet. Vega sued for race-based discrimination in federal court; a jury found in her favor in March 2017 and awarded her

\$750,000 in damages.

Vega alleged that investigators following her during CPD's research of the timesheet-falsification charges mocked her for appearing masculine, but charges of gender-based discrimination against her employers were dropped earlier in the case.

Judge Jorge Alonso, on July 31, refused the park district's motion for a new trial; lawyers claimed that Vega's lawyers had failed to prove discrimination based on her Hispanic background. But Alonso reduced the amount of Vega's award for damages to \$300,000—the cap imposed on claims based on federal Title VII violations. The Aug. 17 hearing will discuss proceedings on back and front pay that are also due to Vega.

# Affinity hosts Black Equal Pay Day panel discussion

BY TARINA HARGRAYS

On July 31, Affinity Community Services hosted its Black Equal Pay Day intersectional panel discussion.

The panel was led by Affinity Executive Director Imani Rupert-Gordon. The other three panelists were Shirlondra Brooks, senior program manager at Women Employed; Ruth Sweetser, immediate past president of the American Association of University Women (AAUW); and career specialist (and Windy City Times 30 Under 30 recipient) Ashley Brazil.

The intimate event allowed guests to lounge comfortably as they ate snacks and listened to the four women speak.

The discussion began with each of the women recalling how the gender wage gap has affected them in their careers and their personal lives. "It interrupts your motivation," said Brooks regarding her experience with unequal pay in the workforce. The panel went on to discuss why Black women in low income areas fail to speak up about the wage gap. The panelists credited the lack of voice to lack of resources and fear of missing out on a paycheck entirely.

Other topics that were explored included the "motherhood" tax or the "wife penalty," as well as how the negotiation of benefits and wages in the workplace. Lastly, solutions were discussed.

"Safety is key," said Brazil, who assists LGBT people as they emerge themselves in today's

workforce. She went on to say that trainings for employers and employees would be a great start to women gaining equality at work. Rupert-Gordon added that training as well as raising awareness could be helpful. She encouraged guests to be transparent about their wages. "Keeping salaries quiet does not benefit us; it benefits employers," said Rupert-Gordon.

The conversation came to a close with a Q&A segment during which guests asked panelists for personal advice in attacking the gender-wage gap as well as tips on advocating for other women.

For more information on Affinity or the gender-wage gap, visit [Affinity95.org](http://Affinity95.org).



From left: Imani Rupert-Gordon, Shirlondra Brooks, Ruth Sweetser and Ashley Brazil.  
Photo by Tarina Hargrays

# WE OBJECT

WE OBJECT with our voices  
WE OBJECT in the courts  
WE ARE YOUR lawyers

Show us your objection  
f t i @LambdaLegal  
#weobject #resist



**Lambda Legal**  
making the case for equality

Join us: [www.lambdalegal.org/weobject](http://www.lambdalegal.org/weobject)

## Hate-crimes summit Oct. 25

In Chicago, a coalition of community advocates, government agencies and law-enforcement officials will take part Wed., Oct. 25, in the Chicago Commission on Human Relations' second annual hate-crimes summit, "Bridging Systems Against Hate."

The event will be 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Student Center East, 750 S. Halsted St.

Featured speakers include Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx; Christian Picciolini, a former skinhead and current peace activist; Pardeep Kaleka, a licensed therapist whose work focuses on community trauma and healing; and Stephen Scaffidi, the mayor of Oak Creek, Wisconsin.

Those who would like to apply for a poster presentation should submit a one-page abstract of a proposed presentation to Joanna Thompson at [jthomp45@uic.edu](mailto:jthomp45@uic.edu).

More information about the summit is at [https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cchr/supp\\_info/2017HateCrimesSummit.html](https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cchr/supp_info/2017HateCrimesSummit.html).

# NQAPIA hosts Community Catalyst Awards

BY EMAGIN TANASCHUK

The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) hosted the Chicago Community Catalyst Awards to honor individuals and organizations who have worked to make strides in representing the LGBT community on Aug. 5 at Cai Restaurant in Chicago's Chinatown.

NQAPIA—a federation of LGBTQ Asian-Ameri-



Aliasha Boti Kabob performed a Bollywood dance at the award ceremony.

Photo by Emagin Tanaschuk

can, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander organizations—seeks to promote visibility, educate the community, and challenge homophobia, transphobia and racism.

The event—which included cocktails, a 12-course meal, performances and music—also served as an opportunity to raise money for the organization's work, which helps build a world where LGBT API individuals are accepted into their homes, families, jobs and religions.

The event's honorees were Chicago Desi Youth Rising (CDYR), Tanvi Kaushal Sheth, and Asian Americans Advancing Justice.

Each year, Chicago Desi Youth Rising puts together the very first summer leadership retreat in the Midwest for youth ages 15 to 21 who trace their heritage to South Asia and seek to effect change. The group strongly encourages all lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, two-spirit, intersex, and asexual+ youth to apply and be on their way to further their social justice work.

Tanvi Kaushal Sheth is a project attorney and board member of the Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois, and advocate for civic equality for transgender, intersex and gender non-conforming people.

Asian Americans Advancing Justice is an organization working toward empowering, educating, and bringing justice to Chicago's Asian American communities.

Several guests were moved to tears after hearing the differences these honorees have made in their communities.

"Events like these are so important because unlike in pop culture, people can see LGBT API individuals, who look like them, and it is more relatable," Tia Adams, an organizer of the event, said.



Robert Child, Sabrina Child, Patricia Child-Prairie, Rick Karlin and Adam Karlin at the parents' gathering.

Photo by Nina Matti

## Parents' group holds first-ever reunion

BY NINA MATTI

The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Parents Group held its first-ever reunion at Sidetrack on July 30.

The group formed in the late '70s, a time when gays and lesbians were starting to feel more comfortable coming out, many were in a unique situation: They had previously been married and had children.

"Other single gay people didn't always quite get it," member Rick Karlin said. "[We had to say,] 'No, I can't go out Saturday night unless I

find a babysitter'—especially with lesbian moms who had custody of their kids. So we formed the group as a support group."

What began as a group small enough to meet in founder Kathy Ramos-Benson's living room, it quickly expanded. Eventually, the Gay and Lesbian Parents Group was holding multiple meetings a week at Horizons Community Center to accommodate its large number of members.

"It saved our lives," member Rita Battles said. "We thought we were the only gay people with kids in the world."

Members bonded over their commonalities, Karlin said, and many of them are still in touch today.

Activism meet-ups,  
personal book recommendations,  
weekly events, Kids Storytime, and more!  
There are so many reasons to support  
Chicago's only feminist bookstore.



**WOMEN &  
CHILDREN FIRST**

5233 N. CLARK  
CHICAGO, IL 60640  
(773) 769-9299

womenandchildrenfirst.com

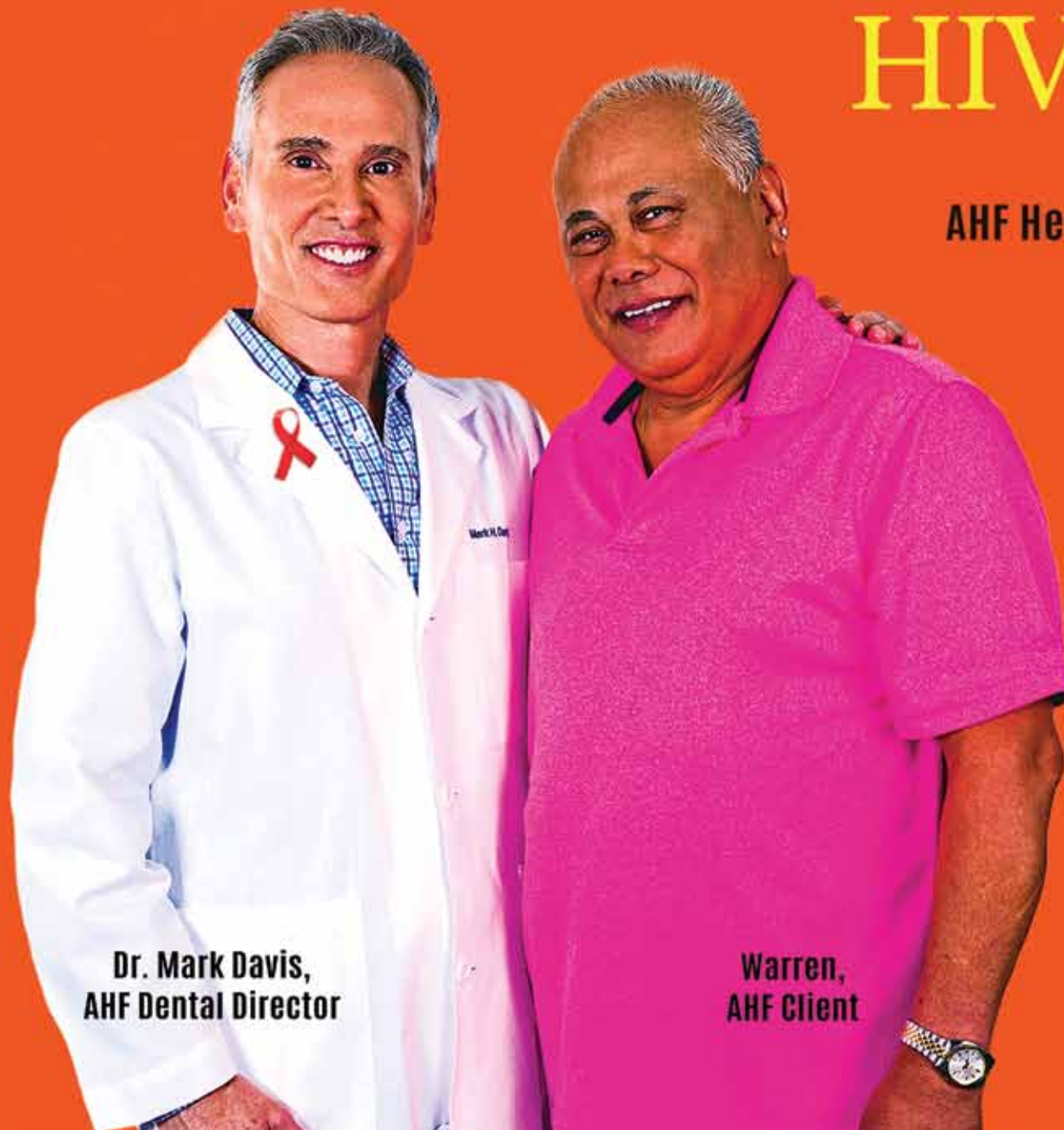


eat.  
drink.  
read.  
local.  
the book cellar.

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

# Trust Matters

HIVcare.org



**Dr. Mark Davis,  
AHF Dental Director**

**Warren,  
AHF Client**

**AHF Healthcare Center Hyde Park  
1515 E 52nd Pl, #206  
Chicago, 60615  
(312) 881-3050**

**Tu 9am-11am  
Wed 6pm-8pm**



## Knight, LYTE partner on project to end youth homelessness

Stemming from research showing that traditional models of time-limited, crisis-focused support in many youth programs are ineffective at helping young people out of poverty as they move into adulthood, the LYTE (Live Your Truth Everywhere) Collective and the Knight Family Foundation are partnering to build the LYTE Lounge, a South Side community center where the focus will be on building long-term support-

ive relationships and a deeper investment in each young person that goes well beyond their current crises.

According to the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, more than 11,000 Chicago youth aged 14-24 are homeless and living on their own without the support of family or a guardian.

The LYTE Lounge, a youth community center that is the foundation of the LYTE Collective approach, will be located in the Greater Grand Crossing neighborhood. The new approach to supporting youth struggling with poverty and homelessness will house a music studio, basketball court, performance stage, teaching kitchen, computer lab, arts and dance space, secure stor-



Exterior of the LYTE Lounge.

age units, meeting and gathering spaces as well as private offices for counseling and tutoring.

The building, located at 76th Street and St. Lawrence Avenue, was secured with the assistance of 6th Ward Ald. Roderick Sawyer.

Almost \$300,000 was pledged in response to a Knight Family Foundation challenge grant of \$500,000 in support of the new initiative.

See LYTECollective.org.

## Crain's recognizes Taylor, Lightfoot as top local lawyers

Crain's Chicago Business announced the selections of Lambda Legal Senior Counsel Camilla Taylor and Lori Lightfoot as two of the "Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago."

Taylor was national marriage project director of Lambda Legal, during which she litigated the freedom to marry in Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, New Jersey, West Virginia and North Dakota until 2015, when the U.S. Supreme Court finally secured marriage equality for the rest of the nation in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, in which Taylor was also counsel.

Taylor has been recognized by Crain's Chicago previously. She was named one of Chicago's 40 Under 40 in 2009, a recognition given to "the builders, thinkers and leaders who make us hopeful about our city's future."

Lightfoot has practiced law in three settings: the law firm Mayer Brown (where she has prac-

ticed from 1990-1996 and 2005-present); the City of Chicago (where, among other roles, she was general counsel and chief of staff, Office of Emergency Management and Communications; and chief administrator, Office of Professional Standards of the Chicago Police Department); and the federal government (as assistant U.S. attorney in the criminal division of the U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Illinois).


Taylor's profile is at [ChicagoBusiness.com/most-influential/women-lawyers/ctaylor.html](http://ChicagoBusiness.com/most-influential/women-lawyers/ctaylor.html). Lightfoot's profile is at [ChicagoBusiness.com/most-influential/women-lawyers/lightfoot.html](http://ChicagoBusiness.com/most-influential/women-lawyers/lightfoot.html).



Camilla Taylor.  
Photo by Kate Sosin

WHAT IS GENIUS?

DISCOVER MORE. TAKE OUR UNITY TEMPLE TOUR.

 Frank Lloyd Wright Trust

FLWRIGHT.ORG | 312.994.4000

Cannabis is legal for 40+ conditions including:  
HIV/AIDS - Cancer - ALS - Glaucoma - MS - Crohn's - Post Concussion Syndrome  
Alzheimer's - Fibromyalgia - Traumatic Brain Injury - PTSD

{ INSERT MEDICAL CANNABIS HERE. }

Our dispensary is open to the public, visit us today!

 MedMar Lakeview  
Medical Cannabis Dispensary

773.698.8182  
3812 N. Clark Street  
MedMarDispensary.com

# Lighthouse provides for LGBTQ youth in south suburbs

BY TARINA HARGRAYS

Chicago's south suburbs has recently gotten a bit more inclusive with the help of a local LGBTQ organization called Lighthouse.

Lighthouse is an organization designed to support LGBTQ youth and their families. Stephanie Wright, Valerie Litchfield and Phillip Barker, a social worker at Homewood-Flossmoor High School, founded the organization last April. Both Wright and Litchfield bonded over having sons who were gay and, after driving multiple times for more than 45 minutes into the city, realized that there

Organizers of Lighthouse, which is still in the process of becoming a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, said that 14 Flossmoor businesses donated to its pride celebration. However, "none of the businesses were solicited whatsoever," said Austin. When asked why he thought businesses were so eager to support Lighthouse all of a sudden, Austin credited the unexpected support to the Village of Flossmoor's updated website. Flossmoor recently added an LGBTQ community resource tab to its website, which Lighthouse took a screen shot of and shared on its Facebook page. Shortly after, Lighthouse had re-



Lighthouse co-founders (L-R) Stephanie Wright, Valerie Litchfield, Phillip Barker and Jimmy Austin. Photo courtesy of Jimmy Austin

was no spot in their suburban community specifically catered to LGBT youth and/or parents. That was when the idea of Lighthouse started.

Since then, Lighthouse has served as a support group for teens and young adults "who are discovering their sexual identity," said project manager Jimmy Austin. The organization is typically self-funded. However, Flossmoor Community Church—where Wright and Austin are youth leaders—donates meeting space as well as money every year to the organization. "We have limited funding but it is enough to keep us going," said Austin.

Lighthouse holds meetings the third Wednesday of each month. Although the group's numbers aren't too high (averaging about 15 youths a meeting), Lighthouse's June 21 Pride celebration suggested those numbers could be going up very soon. What Lighthouse organizers thought would be a 30-person event actually brought in more than 300 people to celebrate with food, fun and music. "The people were from all over—Frankfort, Tinley Park, Naperville and Kankakee," said Austin of the event, called the south suburbs' first-ever Pride celebration. "To our knowledge, there has been no other Pride event in the south suburbs, let alone of that size." Mayor Richard Hofeld of Homewood and Mayor Paul Braun Flossmoor also attended.

ceived more than 4,000 interactions on that post alone and the support from businesses started pouring in, according to Austin.

After its successful Pride celebration, Lighthouse has been thinking more about the future of its mission and vision, according to Austin. In addition to the aforementioned registration, Lighthouse hopes to start having more "themed" meetings per month.

Overall, developing Lighthouse has been more fun than actual work, according to Austin, who recently came out two years ago. He added that coming out can be a "lonely road." He also explained that if there was an organization like Lighthouse around when he was younger, it would have given him "peace of mind" just knowing that support was there if he needed it. "We want to make sure kids struggling with their identity feel as comfortable as possible in their community; that's our number one priority." Said Austin. When finishing his statement about Lighthouse's future, Austin said that he knows Lighthouse will have to evolve depending on the LGBTQ community's needs but it helps that they have "such a supportive community and the response has been overwhelming."

For more information on Lighthouse, visit its website at <https://www.LighthouseLGBTQ.org/>.

## BRAD LIPPITZ GROUP FEATURED PROPERTIES



2212 N BURLING

Classic Vintage Estate gut-renovated on a double lot with a protected private side yard, rare coach house & 4-car garage. **\$4,690,000**



530 W HAWTHORNE

Grand 8,300 sq. ft. 6 bedroom vintage estate on 5+ city lots with enormous yard and 3.5 car garage on best block in all of East Lakeview. **\$4,575,000**



1259 W WRIGHTWOOD

Extraordinary home where fantasy meets reality. Extravagant indoor and outdoor entertaining spaces. Must be seen to be believed! **\$3,895,000**



830 W. BUENA

Award-winning modern masterpiece comprising almost 3 city lots offers modern perfection, sophistication and inspired design. **\$2,395,000**



647 W MELROSE

Spectacular new construction by GVP Development! Luxurious full-floor residences in sophisticated elevator building. 50' wide in East Lakeview. **\$1,950,000-\$2,299,000**



1323 W SCHOOL

One-of-a-kind 4 bedroom single-family house. Sensational urban sanctuary located on a quiet tree-lined street in the Southport Corridor. **\$1,774,000**



3846 N OAKLEY

All-brick custom 5-bedroom Mangan home on wide 30' lot on premier block in Bell School District perfectly balances high design with practicality. **\$1,749,000**



6 N MICHIGAN 503

Experience serene urban sophistication in this stunning 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath designer showcase overlooking the Bean & Millennium Park. **\$1,250,000**



3318 N CLAREMONT

Best value in Roscoe Village! Wonderful light-filled 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home with perfect floorplan right off Roscoe. **\$899,000**



517 W ROSCOE 2W

Sprawling exquisite 3 bedroom, 3 bath vintage residence in boutique building in the heart of East Lakeview with garage. **\$765,000**



2216 W DICKENS

Treasured classic Bucktown 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath single-family home, renovated and expanded with a 3-story addition. **\$749,000**



2423 W FLETCHER

Light-filled renovated house is open and airy with wonderful finishes throughout. Rental unit provides extra income! **\$619,000**



639 W MELROSE 1S

Terrific one-of-a-kind 2 bedroom, 2 bath, duplex-up by GVP Development in the heart of East Lakeview, with a soaring 2 story living room. **\$565,000**



3750 N LAKE SHORE 13C

This wonderfully updated 3 bedroom, 3 bath residence in an established vintage cooperative building offers the best of city living. **\$489,000**



3750 N. LAKE SHORE 16C

Enjoy amazing views in the tastefully renovated 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath in this classic full-service pre-war cooperative. **\$518,000**

A proud member and supporter of our community for over 20 years, no real estate broker in the city sells or gives back to our community as much as Brad.

**RANKED ONE OF THE TOP 15 BROKERS IN CHICAGO\* WITH OVER \$62 MILLION SOLD IN 2016**



Boutique Real Estate, Worldwide



### BRAD LIPPITZ GROUP

3323 N. Broadway | Chicago, IL 60657  
980 N. Michigan Ave #900 | Chicago, IL 60611  
773.404.1144  
BLippitz@KoenigRubloff.com  
BradLippitz.com



\*BHH Affiliates, LLC, an independently operated subsidiary of HomeServices of America, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate, and a franchise of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of HomeServices of America, Inc. © Equal Housing Opportunity. \*MRED MLS, 1/1/16-12/31/16, Chicago, all property types, ranked by total closed volume.

# Community leader Wanda B. talks about being a stud

BY ANGELIQUE SMITH

For Wanda B., founder of the social club Stud 4 Life, the word “stud” stands for “Solidarity, Trustworthiness, Understanding and Dependability”—and those principles extend to the service mission of her organization.

Beyond Stud 4 Life’s social events, charity work and various causes—from marching for marriage equality in Springfield in the past to stop the violence walks—Wanda works security for CTA. She is also known for looking sharp, and readily gives due credit for that to her wife Stephanie Green, who she’s been with for 24 years.

Windy City Times spoke with Wanda about her work in the community and the upcoming book chronicling her life.

**Windy City Times: To you, what makes a stud?**

Wanda B.: I can only speak for myself, but it’s somebody who takes charge. I’m the aggressive one, the one that makes sure everything is okay and secure. A stud is just like a gentleman, really.

**WCT: Tell us about the Stud 4 Life, which celebrated its fifth anniversary earlier this year.**

WB: I started Stud 4 Life because I wanted to give back to the community. I wanted to adopt a shelter, so I adopted Clara’s House, which is for abused women and children. I wanted to help the community and unite with studs, because we have been through so much.

My goal was for us to become a family and be able to talk about things. A lot of studs don’t have any family anymore because they’ve been disowned. I wanted to unite us, really. We’re very active in the [African-American] community. We’ve done walks to stop the violence, toy drives, anything and everything, we’ve done so much in these five years and it’s awesome, too.

**WCT: Can you tell me more about the walks?**

WB: Every Saturday from 12 to 3—and I know this sounds crazy—we go on the dangerous corners and streets and we have a bullhorn and we say, “Blow to stop the violence.” I made some signs about stopping the killings and all that. We have sno-cones and hot dogs and that brought people and they started to march with us. No police protection or anything, but that’s okay. We talk to people about how to get off the streets, especially me because I’m from the streets. I talk to a lot of different gangs about getting off the streets and getting jobs, which I personally do myself every day after work.

**WCT: Where did you grow up in Chicago?**

WB: I grew up in the projects on 39th [Street]: Madden Park Homes.

**WCT: How do you think the community has responded to some of the work you’ve been doing?**

WB: There’s been a lot of change, especially on 87th [Street]. A lot of guys have turned their lives around since we’ve started this, because I started a mentoring program, too. I just talk to people and they also come to me, too, because I’ve got that type of personality. I help them in any way that I can ... and they tell a person and they tell a person. Now I’ve got too many people! [laughs] I love it, though.

**WCT: I watched a YouTube video where you talk about the pressures and the struggles of being a stud. There was even mention of an encounter you had with your brother where he had an issue with you.**

WB: Coming out as a stud, I’ve been shot at, I’ve been stabbed, I had to fight growing up in the projects to get where I am. Being a stud is not an easy thing to be, growing up out here. There’s a lot of hatred. I’ve cried. ... I’ve been through so much just being who I am but I have to be who I am. My brother feels like I’m trying to be more of a “man” than what he is. He has a problem with me because I “look like a guy,” “dress like a guy” and I do all “guy” things. My relationship with my brother is still strained after

all these years. I think he’s getting better, but we’re always going to have a strained relationship. My mother is what keeps us together.

**WCT: What was it like when you came out to your mother?**

WB: When I came out to my mother, it was hard because her best friend sexually abused me. So, I didn’t tell my mother until I was graduating from high school. I tried to tell her earlier, but she wasn’t really listening. When I finally told her, she was crying and stuff like that. She felt like she should have paid better attention and she should have protected me. After that, everything was cool [with her].

**WCT: Tell us about the book you have coming out.**

WB: It’s called Leader by Fault. I chose this title because—at 13, growing up in the projects [and] by me being a stud—all the guys had me doing “guy things” like fighting and all that, and made me a leader. I chose the title because the things that happened to me, as far as on the streets and being sexually abused, none of that was my fault. It tells the story of all I’ve been through and how I overcame obstacles, didn’t do drugs and it’s a very powerful story of where I

was then and where I am now.

**WCT: When did you start writing it?**

WB: About 10 years ago. But I would start and stop because it’s painful. I didn’t want to hurt my mother because of the stories I was telling. I decided the time is now because it’s not going to just help me. I know it’s going to help a whole lot of people, especially the younger LGBT people that are going through this but don’t know how to deal with it.

**WCT: How can people get the book?**

WB: Hopefully in the next couple of months, it’s going to be on Amazon. And I’m going to have a book signing before the end of the year.

**WCT: Any advice for young studs out there?**

WB: You don’t have to get high just to be a part of this lifestyle. It’s dangerous out here. Always take advice from an older stud that’s been there. Find my mentoring program, where we can help you through the pain you’re going through and the struggle. People can come to me about anything and can talk to me about anything. I mentor a lot of people on Facebook now. Whatever people need. I love my rainbow family and everybody knows that.

**Follow Wanda B. at [facebook.com/wandab.onamission.5](https://www.facebook.com/wandab.onamission.5).**



Wanda B. at the 2013 Illinois March on Springfield for Marriage Equality.

Photo by Hal Baim



Wanda B. with trophy at this April's Stud 4 Life celebration.

Photo by Vern Hester

1478 W. Berwyn, Andersonville

Proud to be part of the community since 1991

## The family law of today. *For the families of today.*

Families are changing, especially in the LGBTQ community. Now with legal marriage come unique legal concerns, related to adoption, surrogacy, divorce, custody, property division, pre- and post-nuptial agreements. At Schiller DuCanto & Fleck LLP, we have been practicing – as well as shaping – family law for more than 35 years. We offer you the full depth and breadth of our resources in managing the often complex legal issues surrounding your families. Rely on the firm where you will find expertise in family law joined with a special understanding of LGBTQ couples.

For more information on LGBTQ Family Law issues, please visit SDF's Family Law Blog at [familylawtopics.com](http://familylawtopics.com)

Chicago | Lake Forest | Wheaton | [sdflaw.com](http://sdflaw.com)



**SCHILLER  
DuCANTO  
& FLECK<sub>LLP</sub>**

FamilyLaw. Unparalleled.

## LAGBAC celebrates 30 years of service

BY EMAGIN TANASCHUK

The Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago (LAGBAC) celebrated 30 years of service July 27 at The Peninsula Chicago.

The Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago plays a crucial role in the LGBT community by providing members social and networking opportunities, offering mentoring to young lawyers, granting scholarships to law students, evaluating candidates for judicial office, and so much more. All funds raised that evening went directly to the organization's education fund, which provides scholarships and internship opportunities for future lawyers.

The gala celebration was even more special this year with guest speeches from Andrea Zopp, a chief neighborhood development officer for the City of Chicago, and state Rep. Greg Harris, as well as a dinner for everyone and dancing. LAGBAC Foundation President Jeremy H. Gottschalk and LAGBAC President the Hon. Cecilia Horan began the night with opening speeches, thanking the sponsors who came and reiterating the importance of the organization's work.

Later, Zopp and Harris spoke on how crucial it is that the community keeps pushing forward for rights, despite the current federal administration.

"When you stand up, you are also very often a shining beacon in the dark," Harris said.



Attendees at  
the LAGBAC event.  
Photo by Emagin  
Tanaschuk

## ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON

CAR ACCIDENT, WORK INJURY OR ORTHOPAEDIC INJURY

- BACK
- SHOULDER
- ELBOW
- WRIST
- HAND
- HIP
- KNEE
- ANKLE
- FOOT



**GOLD COAST ORTHOPAEDIC SPINE AND HAND SURGERY  
ROBERT JAMES FINK, M.D.**

Conveniently located at 7200 N. Western Ave., 2nd Floor

**312-654-8800**

**[www.goldcoastorthopaedic.com](http://www.goldcoastorthopaedic.com)**

**¡Se habla Español!**

"Eureka Springs, Arkansas, ... is the kind of place that enchants you and convinces your heart that it's found its home."

— Kirk Williamson, Windy City Times, Nov. 19, 2014



**"Let's look at real estate and have some fun!"**

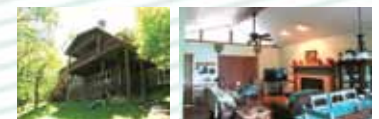
**Ken Riley**  
**Century 21**  
**Woodland Real Estate**  
**kriley479@gmail.com**  
**479-253-7321 (office)**  
**479-244-6258 (cell)**  
**buyeurekasprings.com**



#### **40 N. Bluff Rd. - Residential**

**\$239,000**

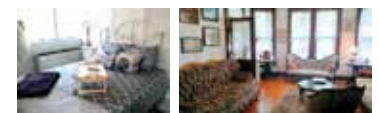
Super home, great location. Great view. Immaculately maintained, lovingly upgraded. Close to main channel of Beaver lake and Starkey Marina, seasonal slip rental, slips for sale close by. Lot is easy to maintain, gentle slope with mature dogwoods, redbuds, and hardwoods. Lower level has a large suite now a bar and den. All rooms freshly painted. Lakeview is nicest road in this subdivision. This is one home to see. New roof and gutters, newer a/c extra deep one car garage.



#### **104 Wall St.**

**\$290,000**

Gorgeous Victorian home currently operating as a B&B featured in Vintage & Victorian Magazine. Land to build several cabins. Level lot close to downtown, trolley and services. This property has great potential as a business or a lovely home. Brand new roof as of 2016. Insurance cost to rebuild as of 2014 is \$437,000. Cabins can be built on vacant land.



#### **79 Mountain St.**

**\$299,000**

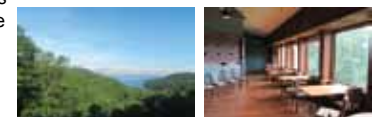
Lovely Victorian home currently being used as a bed and breakfast with four nightly rental rooms (with a C2 commercial rating). Many beautiful architectural features completely restored. Ample parking in an attached lot that can accommodate 10 vehicles. Front and back decks are beautiful with plenty of room to sit back and relax. Business is located along the tour and trolley route providing for easy access and good visibility.



#### **304 Mundell Rd. - Restaurant**

**\$375,000**

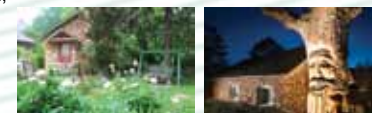
Beautiful lake views. The facility is clean and neat and ready for a new owner. Look out over the lake through the many picture windows on both the upper and lower levels. There are 3 dining areas and 2 potential bar areas. There are several delightful details, such as built-in shelves, stained glass windows and a fireplace that will give your business a cozy feel. Business-wise, the Mundell Peninsula has the highest tax base in Carroll County, while the closest restaurant is more than 20 minutes away.



#### **10 Eugenia St. - Guest Cabins**

**\$750,000**

Beautiful accommodations and grounds provide for a true Ozark Mountain vacation. These comfortable cottages have all the amenities, including private cozy fireplaces. Well-equipped common areas so that you may easily provide extra space for your guests. Clean, modern kitchen for preparing breakfast. The property has excellent drive-by appeal, GREAT history, established clientele, landscaped gardens and off-street parking. Well-maintained and ready for a new owner as a turn key operator.



#### **2 Kirk St.**

**\$499,000**

Navy officer's life project, starting with \$100,000 in foundation updates and then additional I-beam support of 2nd floor. Rebuilt rock walls. The craftsmanship in this home is seldom seen. Hand-crafted dentil crown moldings, built-in bookcases throughout. Most doorways have corner onlays, some are hand-carved. Elevator from parking lot on Howell Street, handicapped ramp from there in. Huge porches and some of the best views from the SE, East and NE. Steps off upper Spring street, close to trolley.



#### **1080 CR 212**

**\$350,000**

Beautiful property and home on the White River bottoms of Table Rock Lake. Ideal for your private river, fishing retreat. All bedrooms come with a full bathroom and most have private entrance. The living area is open and spacious. Relax on one of the decks and patios that run the full length of the home. A lightly sloping yard provides easy access to the White River along a semi-private drive, but before reaching the river the land becomes open flat just awaiting a ball court or outdoor living area.



*Eureka Springs, Arkansas*  
**OPEN FOR FUN**  
**— RAIN OR SHINE! —**

f t i y

**EurekaSprings.org**

The Extraordinary Escapet  
**Eureka Springs**  
 arkansas

### *Eureka Springs is known for its diversity!*

We have 3 Diversity Weekends a year, drawing hundreds. A good many of our businesses are gay-owned. The restaurants here are FABULOUS. Arkansas was the first state in the south to have a domestic partner registry and the first with marriage equality. Located near Bentonville, Fayetteville, and Rogers, Arkansas, which are some of the fastest growing areas today in these United States. Eureka Springs itself is a historic district with controls within the city itself. Once the second largest city in Arkansas, the town itself has just over 2,000 people within city limits.



**“Pet Friendliest” Resort**  
 in NW Arkansas

Open All Year  
 Unique Themed Private Cabins  
 Destination Weddings & Reception

**Retreat at Sky Ridge**  
 800-242-3128 retreatatskyridge.com

**RED BUD MANOR .COM**  
 ON THE HISTORIC LOOP

ANY ROOM **\$99** CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

**479-253-9649**

The Extraordinary Escapet  
**Eureka Springs**  
 arkansas  
 www.eurekasprings.org



### ***Specialty business opportunity!***



Keels Creek Winery, located in the picturesque town of Eureka Springs, Arkansas, offers an inviting atmosphere and award-winning wines. This turnkey operation includes the 2 building on 5 acres, plus all equipment and wine inventory. The main building houses the tasting room, art gallery, offices and bottled wine storage. The custom built wine production facilities is furnished with state-of-the-art equipment and allows for significant production expansion. Financials available for review.

**\$1,250,000**



**Diane Murphy**  
**Century 21 Woodland Real Estate**  
 Office 479-253-7321 • Cell 479-981-1323  
 diane@buyeurekasprings.com  
 http://buyeurekasprings.com



# Member of gay rugby team dies at 41

BY ROSS FORMAN

Jeremy Begy, an original member of the Chicago Dragons gay rugby team, passed away at his northside residence on July 18. He was 41.

Begy was a graduate of Loyola Academy in suburban Chicago, and Loyola University. He recently went back to school to further his education and pursue a career as a paralegal. Begy began playing rugby in college. After graduating, he continued to play with the Dragons.

"To say that Jeremy was a big presence on the Dragons is an understatement," as Begy joined the team for its inaugural season in the spring of 2004, said longtime Dragons member Bhuttu Mathews.

"Jeremy was definitely an 'acquired taste.' There was nobody who would step up as eagerly to welcome a new player or be present for a teammate who was in personal distress, [but] Jeremy's extremely strong political opinions, which leaned on the extreme right, made him stand out, particularly as a gay man. Balancing these two personas were what those of us who were close to Jeremy saw him live and often struggle with."

Mathews said Begy was "headstrong as a player, just as he was as in life."

"He wouldn't come out of matches even when it was apparent he was playing through injuries.

True to Jeremy's form, he would bounce right back up, shake it off and continue playing. He hated being pulled from a game—the mark of a true competitor."

Mathews said his favorite memory of Begy was in the 2006 Bingham Cup, held in New York City. Chicago had just defeated Atlanta for the second consecutive day, the second time was in the play-offs. Mathews had kicked the game-winning penalty goal with no time remaining and Begy was the first teammate to reach Mathews. "We hugged and jumped while screaming in joy as our teammates bunched up on us," Mathews said. "Those early days of sharing painful losses, bleeding on the pitch together, and playing our own roles in creating what is now a winning club brought us closer together."

Begy stopped playing for the Dragons in 2007 for about four years due to multiple injuries. He returned to play in 2011 and retired in 2016 "when he felt he had given everything his body could give," Mathews said.

Begy was a lifelong Chicago White Sox fan.

"Jeremy's love for his teammates was his greatest gift to us—we could love each other no matter what our social or political beliefs [were, or how they differed]. And those of us who knew him the longest loved him the most. We are much poorer for his loss," Mathews said.



Jeremy Begy (center, with friends).

Facebook photo

Former Dragons team president Paul Cannella said, "It's still really hard to believe that Jeremy has passed. Just way too young. I'll remember Jeremy as giving everything he had on the rugby pitch, and then enjoying every second afterwards. It didn't matter if we were in a plowed over corn field, a puddle of mud, or a dive bar. That was the best place to be at that moment in time, so enjoy it. RIP buddy and with you always."

Mike Turkal, president of the Dragons, has been part of the team for about four years—and Begy was one of the first to introduce himself to Turkal and make him feel welcome. "I didn't know anyone and had never played rugby, so I was a bit nervous," Turkal said. "He was always smiling and eager to help the club. He will be missed, but always remembered as a founding member, teammate and brother."

Begy was always one of the first arrive to a Dragon event and one of the last to leave, recalled team member Robert Klein. "Whether it was a rugby match, fundraiser, or party, he always showed up with a smile on his face ready to go," Klein said. "When I joined the Dragons in 2013, he was very kind, welcoming and incredibly helpful as a teammate, which is why when I was the former recruitment chair for the team I knew that Begy would be an excellent veteran player for the rookies to look to for guidance and advice and he would show them the same kindness and welcoming attitude he showed me."

"Begy loved rugby and the Dragons very much. It was a part of him. He truly showed the spirit of 'Murphy,' our Dragon, at every match and event we had. The Dragons, his teammates, and his family will be with him always."

A funeral mass celebrating the life of Jeremy Begy will be held Friday, Aug. 11, starting at 10 a.m., at Queen of All Saints Basilica, 6280 N. Sauganash Ave., in Chicago. In lieu of flowers, gifts in his honor should be made to the Chicago Dragons Rugby Team at [www.chicagodragons.org/support](http://www.chicagodragons.org/support).

**Looking for a good old-fashioned house party to meet mature men 35+?**

**HOS is hosting a private party.**

Open bar and food buffet.

If you're interested in M4M meeting face to face, come to this

**Singles Party 2017.**

**\*\*THIS IS NOT A SEX PARTY \*\***

**Sept. 23 • 7 pm - 1 am**

**South Plainfield, NJ**

Close to all public transportation from NYC/Newark airport.  
This is a nationwide invitation.

**\$30**



**Contact Tony for more information!**

Call or text: (908) 930-9204

Email: [tyleeking@aol.com](mailto:tyleeking@aol.com)

You must register to be invited to this private event.

**\*\* DRUGS ARE NOT ALLOWED \*\***



**HOWARD**  
street  
ROGERS PARK, CHICAGO

**Live Summer Music & Activities in the Garden**

**Every Saturday from June 3 - Sept 16, 2017  
12 - 5PM**

**(Corner of Howard & Ashland)**

Sponsored by Howard Street Special Service Area #19

**come in, go home**

leasing | buying | selling | investing



**Apartment People**

[apartmentpeople.com/LGBT](http://apartmentpeople.com/LGBT)

**773.248.8800**

**30+** YEARS+ 

## Rogers Park man attacked while walking dogs

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Sean Blay, a gay man who is a resident of the Rogers Park neighborhood, was, on the morning of Aug. 6, attacked while walking his two dogs.

Blay and the dogs were near the intersection of Touhy and Paulina at about 8:30 a.m. when they were about to pass another man who was loudly speaking on his iPhone, Blay said.

"When he approached me, he said, 'Get your fucking dogs away from me,'" recalled Blay, who added that the exchange between him and the other man led one of the dogs to begin to walk in the direction of the other man.

"The dogs felt like he was saying hello, and the dogs went up to greet him," Blay said. "He kicked my one dog, Jefferson, who is really sick. ... Jefferson is a cool and collected Labrador-pit bull mix and just came up to give him a hello."

But the man then grabbed Blay by the arms and threw him up against the side of a building.

"He told me to, 'Get the dogs away from [me], you fucking faggot.' He kept calling me a faggot. As he walked away, all I said was, 'Really? Could this really be happening?'"

Blay said the incident was over in about five minutes. He returned to his home before calling police, he added. He also said the officers recognized his description of the assailant, a local

resident with a history of problems seemingly related to mental illness; they did not divulge his name. Blay filed a report about the incident, however.

"My dogs are the sweetest, most gentle dogs you'll ever meet," he said. "To kick a sick dog who has an ear issue and then to push me? That's why I haven't left my house again today. I've just been very depressed about this."

Blay described the assailant as an African-American male, who is about 6'2" and wore green khaki pants and a long-sleeved brown shirt.

## Schock lawyers want case dropped

Attorneys for former Rep. Aaron Schock, R-Illinois, are accusing federal prosecutors of misconduct over asking witnesses about Schock's sexual orientation and his past sexual relationships.

In a filing, Schock's lawyers stated, "For no apparent reason, the government has felt itself compelled to investigate this too. Indeed, from the very inception of this investigation, the government has discussed with witnesses whether Mr. Schock is gay, whether he really 'dated' his ex-girlfriend (a highly accomplished diplomat and attorney), and whether he spent the night or shared hotel rooms with her."

Schock is facing a 24-count grand-jury criminal indictment over the alleged misappropriation of House and campaign funds. His trial is slated to start in January.

## Local researchers seek subjects for 'smart-PrEP' study

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Researchers with Cook County Health & Hospitals System (CCHHS) are seeking volunteers for a study researching the effectiveness of a "smart-PrEP" capsule intended to help improve patient adherence.

The capsule consists of the medication Truvada—the only such medication approved for a PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) intervention—encased within a sensor capsule. When that capsule is ingested and makes contact with gastric fluids, it emits a signal used to record adherence.

Dr. Gregory Huhn, CCHHS' associate professor of infectious diseases and principal investigator of the trial, said in an Aug. 1 statement, "The electrical signal is less than the frequency of a heartbeat, so nobody is going to feel it. But it transmits a signal in real-time that the pill has been ingested."

Researchers are seeking about 100 young men between the ages of 16-24, an age demographic advocates and researchers consider especially at risk for HIV-infection.

"Adherence—by that I mean, taking PrEP daily as instructed—is so critical," said Jennifer Brothers, project director at CCHHS' Hektoen Institute of Medicine. "We know if people take at least four pills of PrEP a week, they will achieve a high level

of HIV protection. But the number one factor or determinant of whether one is adherent is age. So if we can provide a tool that provides real-time patient support with real-time adherence monitoring for adolescents, who are least adherent, we could make great strides in HIV prevention."

Huhn said that the patch the research subjects where in order to transmit the readings will also read heart-rates, sleep-patterns and other fitness measures, adding, "It's not just about emphasizing HIV-protection, it's also about emphasizing health and well-being."

Those interested in participating in the study should contact Brothers at 312-864-8008.

## FCKH8 Pride Tour in town Aug. 12

This pride season, Jack'd has partnered with FCKH8 on the FCKH8 Pride Tour, which is aimed at combating racism, sexism and homophobia.

The tour is traveling to 25 cities in the USA, Canada and Europe with its message of inclusiveness, community and equality—and will arrive in Chicago on Saturday, Aug. 12, at Northalsted Market Days.

FCKH8.com started in 2010 as a social-change mission that armed thousands of people with pro-LGBTQ shirts. At each FCKH8 Pride Tour stop, Jack'd is setting up a FCKH8 station, giving away "No Bullies, No Bigots" T-shirts and free 30-day Pro memberships on Jack'd.

For more information on the tour, visit <https://www.fckh8.com/pages/pride-2017>.

**Tucker, Inc.**  
ENGAGEMENT RINGS WEDDING BANDS  
JEWELRY FOR ALL OCCASIONS

5 S. Wabash, ste 507  
Chicago, IL 60603

IS

312.263.3315  
tuckercompany@aol.com

**LOVE LOVE**  
Donald Strzepek

**OPEN HOUSE,  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH 1-3 PM**

**HOT ALBANY PARK**  
4930 North Hamlin Avenue  
Four Bedrooms, Two and One Half Baths  
Offered at \$524,900

**FULL ACRE ESTATE IN OAK PARK**  
417 North Kenilworth Avenue  
Six Bedrooms, Four and Two Half Baths, Mature Landscaping and Coach House  
Newly Priced at \$2,100,000

**MICHAEL KENNELLY**  
312-310-9855  
[Michael.Kennelly@cbexchange.com](mailto:Michael.Kennelly@cbexchange.com)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC.

## letters

## Banning the ban

Fifty-six retired General and Flag Officers provided the following statement to the Palm Center:

The Commander in Chief has tweeted a total ban of honorably serving transgender troops. This proposed ban, if implemented, would cause significant disruptions, deprive the military of mission-critical talent, and compromise the integrity of transgender troops who would be forced to live a lie, as well as non-transgender peers who would be forced to choose between reporting their comrades or disobeying policy. As a result, the proposed ban would degrade readiness even more than the failed 'don't ask, don't tell' policy. Patriotic transgender Americans who are serving—and who want to serve—must not be dismissed, deprived of medically necessary health care, or forced to compromise their integrity or hide their identity.

"President Trump seeks to ban transgender service members because of the financial cost and disruption associated with transgender military service. We respectfully disagree, and consider these claims to be without merit. The RAND Corporation, as well as research in the New England Journal of Medicine, found that the financial cost of providing health care to transgender troops would be, at most, \$8.4 million per year. This amounts to one one-hundredth of one percent of the military's annual health care budget. As for ostensible disruptions, transgender troops have been serving honorably and openly for the past year, and have been widely praised by commanders. Eighteen foreign nations, including the UK and Israel, allow transgender troops to serve, and none has reported any detriment to readiness.

Recently, two former Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff have taken courageous stands in support of our transgender service members. General Martin Dempsey said of our transgender troops that, 'The service of men and women who volunteer and who meet our standards of service is a blessing, not a burden.'

And Admiral Mike Mullen stated that, 'I led our armed forces under the flawed 'don't ask, don't tell' policy and saw firsthand the harm to readiness and morale when we fail to treat all service members according to the same standards. Thousands of transgender Americans are currently serving in uniform and there is no reason to single out these brave men and women and deny them the medical care that they require. The military conducted a thorough research process on this issue and concluded that inclusive policy for transgender troops promotes readiness.' Admiral Mullen urged civilian leaders 'to respect the military's judgment and not to breach the faith of service members who defend our freedoms.' We could not agree more."

General John R. Allen, USMC (Retired)  
General Robert W. Sennewald, USA (Retired)  
Vice Admiral Donald Arthur, USN (Retired)  
Lieutenant General Robert Gard, USA (Retired)  
Lieutenant General Walter Gaskin, USMC (Retired)  
Vice Admiral Kevin P. Green, USN (Retired)  
Lieutenant General Arlen D. Jameson, USAF (Retired)

Lieutenant General Claudia Kennedy, USA (Retired)  
Lieutenant General Willie Williams, USMC (Retired)  
Major General Juan G. Ayala, USMC (Retired)

Major General Donna Barbisch, USA (Retired)  
Rear Admiral Chris Cole, USN (Retired)  
Major General Vance Coleman, USA (Retired)  
Major General J. Gary Cooper, USMC (Retired)  
Major General Paul Eaton, USA (Retired)  
Major General Mari K. Eder, USA (Retired)  
Rear Admiral F. Stephen Glass, USN (Retired)  
Major General Richard S. Haddad, USAF (Retired)  
Major General Irv Halter, USAF (Retired)  
Rear Admiral Jan Hamby, USN (Retired)  
Major General Marcelite J. Harris, USAF (Retired)  
Rear Admiral John Hutson, JAGC, USN (Retired)  
Major General James R. Klugh, Sr., USA (Retired)  
Major General Dennis Laich, USA (Retired)  
Major General Randy Manner, USA (Retired)  
Major General Dee Ann McWilliams, USA (Retired)  
Major General John Phillips, USAF (Retired)  
Major General Dana J.H. Pittard, USA (Retired)  
Major General Gale Pollock, CRNA, FACHE, FAAN, USA (Retired)

Rear Admiral Harold Robinson, USN (Retired)  
Major General Patricia Rose, USAF (Retired)  
Rear Admiral Alan Steinman, USPHS/USCG (Retired)  
Major General Antonio Taguba, USA (Retired)  
Major General Peggy Wilmoth, PhD, MSS, RN, FAAN, USA (Retired)

Major General Maggie Woodward, USAF (Retired)  
Rear Admiral Dick Young, USN (Retired)  
Brigadier General Clara Adams-Ender, USA (Retired)  
Brigadier General Ricardo Aponete, USAF (Retired)  
Rear Admiral Jamie Barnett, USN (Retired)  
Brigadier General David Brahms, USMC (Retired)  
Brigadier General Stephen A. Cheney, USMC (Retired)

Brigadier General Julia Cleckley, USA (Retired)  
Rear Admiral Jay DeLoach, USN (Retired)  
Brigadier General John Douglass, USAF (Retired)  
Brigadier General Evelyn "Pat" Foote, USA (Retired)  
Brigadier General Judy M. Griego, NMANG (Retired)  
Brigadier General David R. Irvine, USA (Retired)  
Brigadier General John H. Johns, USA (Retired)  
Rear Admiral Gene Kendall, USN (Retired)  
Brigadier General Thomas Kolditz, PhD, USA (Retired)

Brigadier General Carlos E. Martinez, USAF (Retired)  
Brigadier General Ronald Rokosz, USA (Retired)  
Brigadier General John M. Schuster, USA (Retired)  
Rear Admiral Michael E. Smith, USN (Retired)  
Brigadier Paul Gregory Smith, USA (Retired)  
Brigadier General Marianne Watson, USA (Retired)

## Choosing my religion

Byron Brazier  
Pastor, Apostolic Church of God  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Pastor Brazier:

I am not debating what you can do in your church.

If you choose to publicly shame a member and put her out of the church for marrying her same-sex partner, our civil laws allow you to do that. My question for you is "Is that the loving thing to do?"

—1 John 4:8: "He who does not love does not know God. For God is love." We all have a problem with love, because we learn that love is conditional. God's love is unconditional.

—To get a glimpse of what unconditional love from God looks like, go to 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8: "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrong. Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." What say you, Pastor Brazier?

—Matthew 22:37: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind." What say you, Pastor Brazier?

—John 8:17: "He who is without sin among you, let him cast a stone at her." What say you, Pastor Brazier?

—Matthew 7: 1-3: "Judge not, that ye be not judged. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but consider not the beam that is in thine own eye? What say you, Pastor Brazier?"

—Galatians 6:7: "Be not deceived, God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

I await your reply.

Sincerely,

Ruffin Robinson

A sinner saved by God's amazing grace

## It's time to discuss

To the editor:

As we all know, Chicago gun violence has become an epidemic and Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson made a very important point recently when he stated that "It takes everybody to step up. We need the alderman, elected officials, clergy, community residents, business owners, it doesn't matter who it is. Everybody has a vested interest in reducing crime."

In this spirit, we recently convened a meeting at the Chicago Bar Association (CBA) with the presidents of 19 Illinois bar associations and asked them if their members would meet with community representatives from neighborhoods afflicted by violence in order to provide them legal assistance to help address this crisis.

The lawyer associations responded immediately, enthusiastically and positively. The Decalogue Society, the Black Women Lawyers Association, the Cook County Bar Association, the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois, the Seventh Federal Circuit Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, the Arab American Bar Association, the National Bar Association and many other lawyer bar associations have now committed to step up and help.

On Nov. 3, 20 representatives from communities across Chicago will meet with lawyers from the lawyers' bar associations in an unprecedented summit to be held at the CBA. The community representatives will ask the lawyers for specific legal assistance in the areas of mental health services, police-community relationships, faith-based community services and employment for high-risk men and women.

Hon. Thomas R. Mulroy

President, Chicago Bar Association

## WINDY CITY TIMES

VOL. 32, No. 47, August 9, 2017

The combined forces of Windy City Times, founded Sept. 1985, and Outlines newspaper, founded May 1987.

PUBLISHER & EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Tracy Baim

ASSISTANT PUBLISHER Terri Klinsky

MANAGING EDITOR Andrew Davis

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Matt Simonette

BUSINESS MANAGER Ripley Caine

DIRECTOR OF NEW MEDIA Jean Albright

ART DIRECTOR Kirk Williamson

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Terri Klinsky, Kirk Williamson, Amy Matheny, Gretchen Rachel Hammond, Scott Duff, Monika Pickett, David Strzepek

NATIONAL SALES Rivendell Media, 212-242-6863

SENIOR WRITERS Bob Roehr, Tony Peregrin,

Lisa Keen, Yasmin Nair

THEATER EDITOR Scott C. Morgan

CINEMA WRITER Richard Knight Jr.

SPORTS WRITER Ross Forman

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT WRITERS

Mary Shen Barnidge, Lawrence Ferber, Mel

Ferrand, Jerry Nunn, Jonathan Abarbanel

COLUMNISTS/WRITERS: Yvonne Zipfer, Jorjet

Harper, Charles Dewey, Carrie Maxwell, Billy

Masters, Sarah Toce, Dana Rudolph, Melissa

Wasserman, Joe Franco, Nick Patricca, Liz

Baudler, Rex Wockner, Angelique Smith

SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHERS Kat Fitzgerald, Hal

Baim, Tim Carroll, Ed Negron

WEBSITE LISTINGS VOLUNTEER Gene Naden

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR Jean Albright

DISTRIBUTION Ashina, Allan, Dan, John, Sue

and Victor

WEB HOSTING LoveYourWebsite.com (lead

programmer: Martie Marro)

Copyright 2017 Lambda Publications Inc./Windy City Media Group; All rights reserved. Reprint by permission only. Back issues (if available) for \$5 per issue (postage included). Return postage must accompany all manuscripts, drawings, and photographs submitted if they are to be returned, and no responsibility may be assumed for unsolicited materials. All rights to letters, art and photographs sent to *Windy City Times* will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication purposes and as such, subject to editing and comment. The opinions expressed by the columnists, cartoonists, letter writers, and commentators are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of *Windy City Times*. Publication of the name, photograph, or likeness of a person or organization in articles or advertising in *Windy City Times* is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person or organization. While we encourage readers to support the advertisers who make this newspaper possible, *Windy City Times* cannot accept responsibility for advertising claims.

(773) 871-7610 FAX (773) 871-7609

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

www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com  
podcast: WindyCityQueercast.com

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

Windy City Times Deadline every Wednesday.  
OUT! Chicago's LGBTQ Visitor's Guide Online  
www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com



# WINDY CITY TIMES DIVERSIONS

THEATER • FILM • ENTERTAINMENT • SPORTS



35

Maple & Ash brunch.



35

Lolla Sideshow at Berlin.



## ‘Standing’ offer

23

WCT reviews the musical *Last Dancer Standing*.

Photo of Deverin Deonte' by Michael Courier

### SCOTTISH PLAY SCOTT

## A musical ‘Trevor’ project

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

The entire cast and creative team behind the world-premiere musical *Trevor* at Glencoe's Writers Theatre know they're facing huge expectations.

"The biggest challenge with this piece is taking what is a 16-minute film, and to create a two-act musical out of it," said *Trevor* director Marc Bruni, who is best known for helming *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* on Broadway.

*Trevor* is about a Diana Ross-obsessed suburban gay teenager circa 1981. Yet *Trevor* starts contemplating suicide when he becomes ostracized and bullied at school.

*Trevor* received the 1994 Academy Award for best short film. It won in a rare tie with Franz Kafka's *It's a Wonderful Life*, which was directed by then-future *Doctor Who* actor Peter Capaldi.

"The bones of the story are the same," said Bruni about the new musical. "But the characters are much richer and there's much more plot."

Yet there's something even more important for *Trevor* than just living up to its Oscar-winning source material. The acclaimed short film went on to inspire a vital resource—namely *The Trevor Project*, which was formed in 1998 to be a 24-hour, toll-free suicide prevention hotline for LGBTQ youth.

"We feel a weight and responsibility with that film and what it has become," said playwright and lyricist Dan Collins, who is collaborating on *Trevor* with composer Julianne Wick Davis. "Ultimately we have to keep that out of our heads as much as possible in tackling the adaptation and

making it our own story."

There was also another major writing challenge faced by Davis and Collins. The lead *Trevor* producers, U Rock Theatricals, also obtained the rights to use some iconic Diana Ross songs in the show.

"These Diana Ross songs are woven in," said Davis, adding that her *Trevor* score has more of a contemporary musical theater sound rather than being a 1980s pastiche.

"We use five different [Diana Ross] songs, but some of them are just recognizable quotes," Davis said. "But then there are a couple of them that we're using larger amounts of because they play a part of the fantasy world of *Trevor* and his Diana Ross obsession."

Davis and Collins notably won a GLAAD Award for their stage adaptation of *Southern Comfort*, an acclaimed 2001 Sundance Film Festival documentary about a constructed transgender family reunion in rural Georgia. Davis and Collins' bluegrass-infused musical was staged off-Broadway in 2011 and 2016.

Collins and Davis note the importance of collaborating again on another LGBTQ musical in America now, particularly given the current presidential administration's attacks on transgender military service members and its refusal to stand up for LGBTQ workers in employment discrimination suits.

"With the rise in intolerance and anti-LGBTQ laws that are happening right now, we just feel like it's a really important story to be telling," said Davis, noting that a song from the musical was recently performed at the 2017 *TrevorLIVE*



Eli Tokash as Trevor and Salisha Thomas as Diana Ross in *Trevor: The Musical*.

Photo illustration courtesy of Writers Theatre

Fundraiser in New York.

"It was mentioned at the event that [The Trevor Project] had the highest call volume ever in this past year," Davis said. "The organization is needed today more than ever."

One thing that really sticks out for director Bruni is that Collins and Davis wrote *Trevor* featuring a cast of characters who are mostly teenagers.

"We're telling a coming-of-age tale about emergent sexuality in the early 1980s," Bruni said. "There's a unique quality to the show. It's not college-age people playing teenagers, it is actual teenagers in a professional show."

Right now the creators of *Trevor* are just focused on the world premiere production at hand. They're all also amazed by the sparkling new Writers Theatre complex and all of the support they've received from the staff under the leadership of artistic director Michael Halberstam.

"This is exactly what we need in where we are

with the show and the development," Collins said. "[Writers Theatre] totally gets it and understand and we couldn't ask for a better group of people and a better place to be."

Whether *Trevor* will go on to have New York or London productions remains to be seen. But the creators of *Trevor* hope that the musical might have a future afterlife—especially with amateur and high school productions.

"It has become more and more necessary to tell this story," Bruni said. "Hopefully we can play a small part in helping kids who feel marginalized or who feel like they don't have a place. We hope they are given some sense of hope and a reason to not be overcome by those dark feelings."

**Trevor: The Musical continues through Sunday, Sept. 17, at Writers Theatre, 325 Tudor Ct., Glencoe. Previews run through Aug. 13 with an official press opening 7:30 p.m. on Wed., Oct. 16. Tickets are \$35-\$80; call 847-242-6000 or visit [WritersTheatre.org](http://WritersTheatre.org).**

## What is TRUVADA for PrEP?

TRUVADA for PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) is a prescription medicine that is used together with safer sex practices to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This use is only for HIV-negative adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1. To help determine your risk of getting HIV-1, talk openly with your healthcare provider about your sexual health.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to prevent getting HIV. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

### What is the most important information I should know about TRUVADA for PrEP?

#### Before taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- ◆ **You must be HIV-negative before you start taking TRUVADA for PrEP.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1. Do not take TRUVADA to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-negative.
- ◆ **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** If you have flu-like symptoms, you could have recently become infected with HIV-1. Tell your healthcare provider if you had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting or at any time while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin.

#### While taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- ◆ **You must continue to use safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- ◆ **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP:**
  - ◆ Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months.
  - ◆ If you think you were exposed to HIV-1, tell your healthcare provider right away.
- ◆ **To further help reduce your risk of getting HIV-1:**
  - ◆ Know your HIV status and the HIV status of your partners.
  - ◆ Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV to infect you.
  - ◆ Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior, such as having fewer sex partners.
  - ◆ Do not miss any doses of TRUVADA. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- ◆ **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.

#### TRUVADA can cause serious side effects:

- ◆ **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** TRUVADA is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV and stop taking TRUVADA, your HBV may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health.

## Who should not take TRUVADA for PrEP?

#### Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- ◆ **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.** If you are HIV-1 positive, you need to take other medicines with TRUVADA to treat HIV-1. TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- ◆ **Also take** certain medicines to treat hepatitis B infection.

## What are the other possible side effects of TRUVADA for PrEP?

#### Serious side effects of TRUVADA may also include:

- ◆ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider may do blood tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with TRUVADA. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking TRUVADA.
- ◆ **Too much lactic acid in your blood** (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ◆ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ◆ **Bone problems,** including bone pain, softening, or thinning, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.

**Common side effects** in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP are stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or do not go away.

### What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking TRUVADA for PrEP?

- ◆ **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis.
- ◆ **If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.** It is not known if TRUVADA can harm your unborn baby. If you become pregnant while taking TRUVADA for PrEP, talk to your healthcare provider to decide if you should keep taking TRUVADA.
- ◆ **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. If you become HIV-positive, HIV can be passed to the baby in breast milk.
- ◆ **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. TRUVADA may interact with other medicines. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.
- ◆ **If you take certain other medicines** with TRUVADA, your healthcare provider may need to check you more often or change your dose. These medicines include certain medicines to treat hepatitis C (HCV) infection.

**You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.FDA.gov/medwatch](http://www.FDA.gov/medwatch), or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

**Please see Important Facts about TRUVADA for PrEP including important warnings on the following page.**

# We're open, not unprepared.

**We know who we are.** And we make choices that fit our lives.


**TRUVADA for PrEP™ is a once-daily prescription medicine that can help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 when taken every day and used together with safer sex practices.**

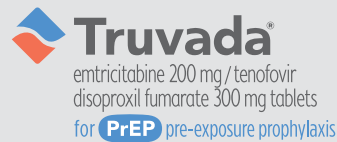
- ◆ TRUVADA for PrEP is only for adults who are at high risk of getting HIV through sex.
- ◆ You must be HIV-negative before you start taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

**Ask your doctor about your risk of getting HIV-1 infection and if TRUVADA for PrEP may be right for you.**

GILEAD

Learn more at [truvada.com](http://truvada.com)

 **Truvada®**  
emtricitabine 200 mg / tenofovir  
disoproxil fumarate 300 mg tablets  
for **PrEP** pre-exposure prophylaxis



(tru-VAH-dah)

## MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

### Before starting TRUVADA for PrEP:

- **You must be HIV-1 negative.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1. Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-1 negative.
- **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include flu-like symptoms, tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin. Tell your healthcare provider if you have had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting TRUVADA for PrEP.

### While taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- **You must continue to use safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.** Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you think you were exposed to HIV-1 or have a flu-like illness while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.
- **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- See the “How To Further Reduce Your Risk” section for more information.

### TRUVADA may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** TRUVADA is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking TRUVADA. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

## ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

TRUVADA for PrEP is a prescription medicine used together with safer sex practices to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This use is only for HIV-negative adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1.

- To help determine your risk of getting HIV-1, talk openly with your healthcare provider about your sexual health.

### Do NOT take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.**
- Take certain medicines to treat hepatitis B infection.

## HOW TO TAKE TRUVADA FOR PrEP

- **Take 1 tablet once a day, every day,** not just when you think you have been exposed to HIV-1.
- Do not miss any doses. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- Use TRUVADA for PrEP together with condoms and safer sex practices.
- Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months. You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

## IMPORTANT FACTS

**This is only a brief summary of important information about taking TRUVADA for PrEP™ (pre-exposure prophylaxis) to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 infection. This does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your medicine.**

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF TRUVADA FOR PrEP

### TRUVADA can cause serious side effects, including:

- Those in the “Most Important Information About TRUVADA for PrEP” section.
- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.
- Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- Severe liver problems, which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- Bone problems.

**Common side effects** in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP include stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight.

These are not all the possible side effects of TRUVADA. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

**Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with TRUVADA for PrEP.**

## BEFORE TAKING TRUVADA FOR PrEP

### Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis.
- Have any other medical conditions.
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
- Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. If you become HIV-positive, HIV can pass to the baby in breast milk.

### Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with TRUVADA for PrEP.

## HOW TO FURTHER REDUCE YOUR RISK

- Know your HIV status and the HIV status of your partners.
- Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV to infect you.
- Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior, such as having fewer sex partners.
- Do not share needles or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them.

## GET MORE INFORMATION

- This is only a brief summary of important information about TRUVADA for PrEP. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more, including how to prevent HIV infection.
- Go to [start.truvada.com](http://start.truvada.com) or call 1-800-GILEAD-5
- If you need help paying for your medicine, visit [start.truvada.com](http://start.truvada.com) for program information.



TRUVADA FOR PREP, the TRUVADA FOR PREP Logo, the TRUVADA Blue Pill Design, TRUVADA, GILEAD, and the GILEAD Logo are trademarks of Gilead Sciences, Inc., or its related companies. All other marks referenced herein are the property of their respective owners.

Version date: April 2017

© 2017 Gilead Sciences, Inc. All rights reserved. TVDC0153 07/17

## The Fair Maid of the West

**Playwright:** Thomas Heywood,  
adapted by Kevin Theis  
**At:** Oak Park Festival Theatre in Austin  
Gardens, 167 Forest Ave., Oak Park  
**Tickets:** \$30  
**Runs through:** Sept. 2

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

Thomas Heywood's sword-and-cloak extravaganza was a blockbuster in 1631, but then faded from popularity until 1986, when Trevor Nunn turned it into a swashbuckling pageant for England's Royal Shakespeare Company. In 1994, Kevin Theis adapted the two-part action-adventure yarn for Chicago's CT20 troupe, where it received one of the first Jeffs for Stage Combat ever awarded. Now, nearly 25 years later, the Fair Maid of the



**Ken Miller, Debo Balogun and Andrew Mierzejewski in The Fair Maid of the West.**  
Photo by Cole Simon Photography

West sails again, not over the bounding main, but through the bosky confines of Austin Gardens.

Fans of theaters-in-the-park can attest to the mixed pleasures of sweet-smelling greenswards mingled with the noise of automobile traffic and airplanes overhead. To ensure that every playgoer keeps step with the complicated plot, Theis makes the most of his text's "asides"—speeches delivered directly to the audience—to render us always cognizant of the circumstances leading the courageous and chaste Bess Bridges to don

male attire and take to the sea in search of her fugitive swain, her mission aided by shrewd Captain Goodlack, swaggering bully Roughman and impish innkeeper Clem.

The first act ends with a devastating storm following a fierce battle with Spanish pirates, during which the companions suffer losses and triumphs, but earn praise from their enemies. The second act opens with their ship wrecked on the foreign coast of Fez and our heroes taken prisoner by its Sultan-King Mullisheg, where their escape

is later facilitated by selfless oaths discharged at great sacrifice, a comedic "Bed Trick" in the prudish Shakespearean mode and more clashing steel. The Fezian hosts, by the way, are depicted as Panto-style "exotics," sporting dialects ranging from the court major-domo's Appalachian twang to Queen Tota's Natasha-Fatale Muscovite. Audience members are also entreated during the course of the performance to wave flags and hurl projectiles.

Director Theis and Stunt Choreographer Geoff Coates—both alumni of the 1994 production—keep the thrilling spectacle forthcoming at dizzying velocity, thanks to an acting ensemble, led by Amanda Forman as the worthy commander Bess, that swarms over Michael Lasswell's three-level jungle-gym towers with the agility of squirrels and the stamina of racehorses, while still retaining enough lung power for affirmations of loyalty and bravado. "These English are in all things honorable!" declares King Mullisheg. What churlish knave would disagree?

## THEATER REVIEW In the Wake

**Playwright:** Lisa Kron  
**At:** The Comrades, at the Greenhouse Theater Center, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave.  
**Tickets:** 773-404-7336;  
**the-comrades.com;** \$15-\$20 (plus fees)  
**Runs through:** Aug. 26

BY JONATHAN ABARBANEL

In the Wake takes place between November 2000 and mid-2005, and concerns Ellen (Rose Sengenberger), a twentysomething writer living in New York, and the surrogate family she's constructed: live-in boyfriend Danny (Mike Newquist), Danny's lesbian sister Kayla (Adrienne Matzen), Kayla's

life partner Laurie (Erin O'Brien) and Ellen's acerbic friend Judy (Kelli Walker), an international humanitarian aid worker who doesn't like humans. Later, there is Amy (Alison Plott), who brings Ellen out. "Just talking with you, I felt myself open ... a part of me that was as if it was dead," Ellen tells Amy.

Politically liberal Ellen talks a mile a minute at the drop of an electoral college reference. She has plenty to talk about, as In the Wake is told against the background of the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections and the Iraqi War. She is much slower to recognize herself or deal with the changing nature of who she is and—above all—to be aware of how she affects others. Eventually she's torn between two lovers, the patient and humorous Danny and Amy (Alison Plott). Ellen ends up with neither and still is trying to figure herself out at the final curtain.

In the Wake is filled with very astute writing, delivered in a consistently believable manner by the cast under Alex Mallory's smart direction and generally-crisp pacing. There are many telling and sympathetic observations, such as Amy's remark to Ellen, "What you have with [Danny] and Kayla and Laurie, if I had that I'd never leave it. ... I need someone of my own." The detailed political discussion is very passionate and certainly on-the-mark if you are liberal.

But there simply is too, too, too much of it. I began to tune out by Ellen's second extended political rant within the first half-hour of the play. Hey, Lisa Kron, remember what Mies van der Rohe said: "Less is more." The politics of the play overwhelm and interrupt the personal tale repeatedly in a two-and-a-half-hour running time. Also, late in Act I, Kron introduces an unnecessary character; Judy's mixed-race teenaged niece from small-

town America who has never met gay folks or unmarried cohabitants such as Ellen and Danny. Tessa is capably played by Samantha Newcomb, but I don't believe the character at all and she has no impact on the plot. Tessa—and even Judy, for that matter—are in the play only as political sounding boards.

Despite being politically top-heavy and too long, In the Wake has its moments and generates empathy, in part because of Kron's skillful character writing and in part because the cast successfully sustains the character lines through a long play, especially Sengenberger as Ellen.

## CRITICS' PICKS

**Aladdin**, Cadillac Palace Theatre, through Sept. 10. This national tour is a corporate Disney product, no doubt. But most audiences nostalgic for the blockbuster 1992 animated feature probably won't care since Aladdin delivers as a wowing, big-budget stage spectacle. SCM

**Fight City**, Factory Theater, through Aug. 26. Why wait for a fight to break out at the post-show discussion? Summer's here and the time is right for a fight-filled futuristic fable (with a social commentary) at the Factory. MSB

**Little Fish**, Kokandy Productions at Theater Wit, through Aug. 20. This wonderful 90-minute jazz cantata has a big powerhouse score (words/music by Michael John LaChiusa) to tell the story of a contemporary woman in search of self-confidence. The tale isn't terribly original but the performers and band make it remarkable. JA

**Megastasis**, Eclipse Theatre Company at Athenaeum Theatre, through Aug. 20. A hopelessly snarled legal system creating more troubles than it purports to remedy is the villain in Kia Corthron's old-fashioned "problem play" reflecting our society today. MSB

—By Abarbanel, Barnidge and Morgan

## THEATER REVIEW Last Dancer Standing (More Than Hip-Hop)

**Playwright:** Rueben Echoles  
**At:** Black Ensemble Theater, 4450 N. Clark St.  
**Tickets:** \$55-\$65  
**Runs through:** Sept. 3

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

A competition—whether between warring nations, athletic clubs or ambitious entertainers—is suspenseful in its very concept, but rarely is the victory quickly determined. Compressing the events to the abbreviated length dictated by modern theater practice can be accomplished by dividing the dramatic focus according to geography (battlefield/headquarters, dugout/arena, dressing room/runway), or rank (soldiers/generals, teammates/coaches, directors/performers).

Ah, but what if you want to include representatives from *all* these demographics?

You do what author Rueben Echoles has done in his *roman a tiroirs* ("play of drawers") framed in a reality-television dance competition. The action opens in the 814 Studios during the final rounds, allowing a dozen contenders to be swiftly whittled down to half that number. The show's producer and choreographer double as the contest judges, with a rap artist "celebrity judge" serving as a tie-breaking third. The singer/emcee is an up-and-coming talent, herself, albeit not yet an icon like her mother, while the house band and choir are faceless hired help. Instead of dialogue-driven offstage scenes, the climate in the trenches is conveyed in talking-head montages. Finally, the dancers are tested in groups, reducing the time required to acquaint us with the assembly.

The actors playing those first eliminated have obviously been instructed to project anonymity, the better to highlight the individuals who will continue on. These are the usual assortment found in this milieu, with a few notable excep-

tions, like the flamboyant gay and rigidly homophobic males, and the rare plus-sized hooper. Director Echoles is also to be commended for casting across color lines to include three non-African-American dancers, none of whom are reduced to cheap jokes (although when one violates contest rules by getting drunk at a club, his companions attempt to excuse his behavior, saying, "He's from Iowa! They don't get out much!").

This is still a lot of intrigue packed into two-and-a-half hours. Playgoers can perhaps be forgiven their attention wandering during the soapy romantic/domestic complications or the excellent vocals (though Shari Addison's cover of "Ain't Nobody" will make your blood tingle). Dance demands to be witnessed in the moment, however, so don't *you* be reading your playbill during the Stravinskian ballet vs. orchesis duel, the popping-percussive drill-formation set to Michael Jackson's "Smooth Criminal" or the full-company finale featuring the Beyonce-Lamar arrangement of "Freedom" that reveals the true purpose of the venture we have just witnessed.

Nicholia Q. Aguirre and  
Lewis R. Jones in *Who's  
Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*  
Photo by Joe Mazza

## THEATER REVIEW

### Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

Playwright: Edward Albee

At: City Lit Theatre, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.

Tickets: PulseTheatreChicago.com; \$20

Runs through: Aug. 20

BY SEAN MARGARET WAGNER

Pour a drink and put in your mouth guard: Theater's most notorious cage match—Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?—is back by popular demand.

Pulse Theatre and Director Chris Jackson have succeeded at doing something wonderful and necessary in this often-visited New Carthage living room, however. Theirs is the first production in 55 years to feature a diverse cast, with George and Martha portrayed by actors of color. Whether this production flew under the radar of Edward Albee's estate, or they were found to be in line with the author's wishes after some notorious scrutiny, I'd recommend seeing this show early and often, just in case. There's even more to be said for this treatise on the brokenness of white American marriage and success when it is delivered in part by a duo whose outsidership and rejection are implied.

Against their better judgement, history professor George (Lewis R. Jones) and wife Martha (Nicholia Q. Aguirre), daughter of the university president, have invited guests home from a faculty party. What begins as a late night entertaining

new professor Nick (Andrew Zaininger) and his wife, Honey (Kate Robison), quickly escalates to a long-simmering battle that George and Martha keep ratcheting up with new tactics like insults and attempts to seduce the guests. And while Nick and Honey may hope to avoid the venom being volleyed about, they don't stand a chance. The game isn't done for anyone until your darkest secret is laid out on the table, naked to the world.

The actors took a moment to find their sea legs on their inaugural performance, but once deep in Albee's dense language, each brought an amazing voice and physicality to their roles. As Honey, Kate Robison is compellingly bored. She may be certain that the conversation is beyond her, but she steals thunder left and right, just by poking around in her purse. Andrew Zaininger comes in as a Nick so assured of his prowess against the heavyweights that he's spectacularly careless. Nicholia Q. Aguirre holds court as Martha, wailing, gnashing and pressing forward. If she is the raging storm above, Lewis R. Jones is the quiet sea below. As George, he is just as powerful and consuming, but in a modest frame, like a conniving sloth.

What comes with a groundbreaking first portrayal of a non-white George and Martha is a new perspective on power dynamics. The privileges that Nick and Honey enjoy—being young, entitled and unbothered with the institutions they participate in—are in starker contrast when you remember these are not necessarily "givens" for their unhinged hosts. You can't help being a monster if you caught in an corrupt machine.

## Siddons Society to honor Baldwin, Shindle

The Sarah Siddons Society of Chicago has announced the 2017 winners of its Actor of the Year Award.

This year there will be two recipients—Kate Baldwin, this year's Tony nominee for Best Supporting Actress; and Kate Shindle, the 1998 Miss America who is the current star of the national tour of *Fun Home*.

They will receive their award at an event on Monday, Sept. 18, taking place at 6:30 p.m. at the Hilton Orrington Hotel, 1710 Orrington Ave., Evanston. Baldwin and Shindle are alumni of the Northwestern University Theatre Program.



Kate Shindle.

PR photo from the Sarah Siddons Society

The Sarah Siddons Society was begun in 1952, with Helen Hayes as the first recipient of this prestigious award.

Event tickets are \$225 each; visit SarahSiddonsSociety.org or call 312-527-7750.

## George Takei in Chicago on Sept. 7

In conjunction with its first original exhibition "Then They Came for Me: Incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII and the Demise of Civil Liberties," Alphawood Gallery is presenting "An Evening with George Takei" at the Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport Ave., on Thursday, Sept. 7, at 7 p.m.

When he was incarcerated as a child with

his family, Takei lived the story told by "Then They Came for Me," which examines a difficult and painful episode in the history of the United States when the federal government forcibly removed and imprisoned thousands of Japanese-American citizens

With a career spanning five decades, out actor Takei is known for his founding role in the acclaimed television series *Star Trek*, in which he played Hikaru Sulu, helmsman of the *Starship Enterprise*. In 2015, Takei made his Broadway debut in the premiere of his first musical, *Allegiance*; in May 2017, Takei returned to the New York stage to star in a revival of Stephen Sondheim's *Pacific Overtures*.

This program is open to the public; \$15 tickets can be purchased by visiting [www.Alphawood-Gallery.org/Takei-Tickets](http://www.Alphawood-Gallery.org/Takei-Tickets). More than \$10 of each ticket purchased will be donated to the Japanese American Service Committee.

## Sedaris, Ginsburg, Ailey dancers part of Auditorium's season

The Auditorium Theatre announced its 2017-18 season under new Chief Executive Officer Tania Castroverde Moskalenko—along with its new tagline, "The Theatre for the People."

Diverse programming is the hallmark of the upcoming season, with everything from a talk with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's annual visit.

Some of the highlights are as follows:

—"A Conversation with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg" (Sept. 11, 2017): Ginsburg will engage in conversation with Judge Ann Claire Williams of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

—Kathleen Battle: "Underground Railroad—A Spiritual Journey" (Sept. 30, 2017): Legendary soprano and five-time Grammy winner Kathleen Battle makes her Auditorium Theatre debut with a program of songs inspired by the Underground Railroad, the secret network that helped bring 19th-century slaves to freedom.

—David Sedaris (Nov. 1, 2017): Sedaris is the author of the collections of personal essays *Naked*, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*, *When You Are Engulfed in Flames*, *Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk: A Modern Bestiary* and *Let's Explore Diabetes with Owls*.

—"Too Hot to Handel: The Jazz-Gospel Messiah" (Jan. 12-14, 2018): "Too Hot to Handel: The Jazz-Gospel Messiah" will take place for the 13th consecutive year over Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day weekend.

—Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (March 7-11, 2018): The Auditorium Theatre has been the company's Chicago home for nearly half a century.

See [AuditoriumTheatre.org](http://AuditoriumTheatre.org).

## SPOTLIGHT

Enter the dark and twisted world of **Shockheaded Peter**, where a variety of naughty children meet untimely ends. The acclaimed musical is inspired by Heinrich Hoffmann's iconic German text *The Struwwelpeter*, and features a score by The Tiger Lillies. Black Button Eyes Productions' Chicago storefront premiere of *Shockheaded Peter* plays from Friday, Aug. 11, through Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport Ave. Tickets are \$32 and \$17 for students; call 773-935-6875 or visit [AthenaeumTheatre.org](http://AthenaeumTheatre.org).



Caption: Kevin Webb, Gwen Tulin and Caitlin Jackson in a publicity image for Black Button Eyes Productions' Chicago storefront premiere of *Shockheaded Peter*. Photo by Cole Simon



@windycitytimes1



/windycitymediagroup



@windycitytimes

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



# DARE TO LOVE IN FULL COLOR.

**KEEP THE PARTY GOING  
WITH 25% OFF!**

**FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY SAVE 25% ON TICKETS  
AT [BLUEMAN.COM/LOVE](http://BLUEMAN.COM/LOVE) OR 1.800.BLUEMAN  
WITH CODE "LOVE"**

**BRIAR STREET THEATRE**  
3133 N HALSTED

**[BLUEMAN.COM/CHICAGO](http://BLUEMAN.COM/CHICAGO)**  
**773.348.4000**

Subject to availability. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer or on previously purchased tickets. Main floor non-premium seats only. Maximum 9 tickets. Expires 9/30/17.



**BLUE  
MAN  
GROUP**



Kiehl's CEO Chris Salgado (left) and actor Gilles Marini.  
Photos by Andrew Davis

## Kiehl's annual ride helps to raise HIV/AIDS awareness

BY NINA MATTI

Skin-care company Kiehl's hosted its eighth annual LifeRide, a weeklong motorcycle ride across the country to raise money and awareness for HIV/AIDS research. Since it began, participants have ridden more than 12,000 miles and raised more than \$1.7 million for the amFAR Foundation for AIDS Research.

This year's race began July 31 in Minneapolis and journeyed through the Midwest south to Nashville, where the ride concluded Aug. 7. Locally, LifeRide stopped at the Kiehl's store on Michigan Avenue on Aug. 3, complete with an event catered by Bad Hunter Executive Chef Dan Snowden and a meet-and-greet with this year's celebrity riders, including Kiehl's President Chris Salgado and actor Gilles Marini (Switched at Birth; Sex and the City).

Kiehl's has supported HIV/AIDS research since the mid-'80s, Salgado said. He decided to follow his grandmother's advice: "If you can give back, you should give back," and begin LifeRide in 2010.

"We're breaking stigmas and we're educating people," Salgado said. "Because of opioid usage, the rate of HIV in young adults under 24 is ris-

ing. That's crazy because there's a pill you can take. People have to get tested. We're still dealing with this. People have to realize: If you have the health care, if you have the medications, you can manage it. If you don't, it will kill you, plain and simple."

Marini got involved with LifeRide seven years ago, and he thinks AIDS needs more than just treatment; it needs a cure. Who's doing anything for AIDS nowadays?" he said. "We went really really far... and then pharmaceutical companies went, 'It's like herpes. You're going to have to live with it the rest of your lives and pay us.' Where is the cure? You don't live with AIDS, you survive."

Motorcycles have long been a staple in Kiehl's stores across the country. Salgado said they not only symbolize the spirit of adventure within us all, but they also add an unexpected element to HIV/AIDS fundraising.

"There's something about it that's kind of a macho sport," he said. "What I love about it is, you come in and see all these guys on bikes, and then all of a sudden you hit them with the HIV message. It's not what you expect. So you get their attention. Listen, I'll fly a helicopter if it'll get people talking about this disease."



@windycitytimes1



/windycitymediagroup



@windycitytimes

www.windycitymediagroup.com

## CULTURE CLUB

WORLD PREMIERE

# TREVOR THE MUSICAL

BOOK AND LYRICS BY **DAN COLLINS**  
MUSIC BY **JULIANNE WICK DAVIS**  
BASED ON THE ACADEMY AWARD-WINNING FILM **TREVOR**  
ORCHESTRATIONS BY **GREG PLISKA**  
MUSICAL DIRECTION BY **MATT DEITCHMAN**  
CHOREOGRAPHY BY **JOSH PRINCE**  
DIRECTED BY **MARC BRUNI**

**NOW PLAYING**

847-242-6000 | WRITERSTHEATRE.ORG

WT  
WRITERS  
THEATRE

PICTURED: ELLI TOKASH AND SALISHA THOMAS. PHOTO BY SAVERIO TRUGLIA.

## Mirza movie to debut Sept. 28 at Music Box

The lesbian-themed movie *Signature Move*—starring local Pakistani Muslim lesbian actor Fawzia Mirza—will have a special screening at Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave., starting Thursday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. (Co-star Shabana Azmi is slated to appear.)

The official Chicago premiere is Friday, Sept. 29.

*Signature Move* won the Grand Jury Award for Best U.S. Narrative Feature Film in this year's Outfest Los Angeles LGBT Film Festival, according to AfterEllen.

Mirza's relationship with her girlfriend while living in Chicago was her inspiration behind writing the script for the film: "She is now my ex, but don't worry; we're still friends." The movie features Mirza as an attorney—and aspiring *luchadora* (wrestler)—who tries to keep her love life (with Azmi) and wrestling a secret from her mother.

See <https://www.musicboxtheatre.com/>.

## Benefit concert for Russian violinist Aug. 26

Chicago LGBTQ community leaders are hosting a benefit concert for Artem Kolesov, a 23-year-old gay man who caught the world's attention when he came out earlier this year on YouTube as part of a Russian "Children-404" project, which invites teenagers to share their stories and discuss LGBT issues in Russia.

The concert, "From Russia with Love: A benefit concert for Artem Kolesov and other LGBTQ refugees fleeing persecution," will take place Saturday, Aug. 26, at 7 p.m. at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St.

Also, it was recently announced that violinist Rachel Barton-Pine will be a special guest.

Ticket prices start at \$50 each; visit <https://community.centeronhalsted.org/pages/from-russia-with-love>. All proceeds will benefit legal costs associated with Kolesov's pursuit of U.S. citizenship; American Friends of Rainbow Railroad; and Chicago LGBT Asylum Support Program (CLASP).

His story is at [WindyCityMediaGroup.com/lgbt/Russian-born-violinist-makes-waves-after-coming-out/59026.html](http://WindyCityMediaGroup.com/lgbt/Russian-born-violinist-makes-waves-after-coming-out/59026.html).

## MUSIC

# Lollapalooza grows organically in size, diversity

BY JERRY NUNN

Lollapalooza's annual music festival returned to Grant Park Aug. 3-6, complete with the usual unpredictable weather, scantily clad attendees and musicians competing for attention.

This year a new roller rink was revealed, new stylish flushable portable toilets were presented, and arcade games were available to play. Arm-bands could be charged up with funds for cashless transactions and people could pre-order beers for the first time to avoid long lines.

Things started off a little rocky on day one with Oasis singer Liam Gallagher unfortunately frustrating fans by mysteriously leaving after three songs. Crooner George Ezra attempted to make it up to the crowd at the same stage when he followed him. After originally only playing a short acoustic set the first time he was at the festival last year because of weather, Ezra juggled flights and wound up taking a puddle jumper to make his 5:30 p.m. time slot. His small catalog of songs hit the spot for many, leaving a few hungry for the new music on the way.

Lorde and Muse were barely into their set lists Aug. 3 on competing stages when buckets of water rained down. Lorde's manager wouldn't leave her out in the rain so she promised, "I will return soon" and then exited the stage while everyone quickly evacuated.

The next day, lesbian Canadian duo Tegan and Sara commented they would love to bring Lorde back out to finish but they don't know how to accomplish that. Blink-182 closed the night by rocking it with hits for energetic fans on the Bud Light Stage.

Day three (Aug. 5) had a wide variety of acts with folk band The Head and the Heart, "Trainwreck" Banks and a reunited Live from the '90s, with no "Lightning Crashes" this day.

Ending the night with a bang, Chance the Rapper's fireworks packed the crowds, proving he deserved to be the headliner. Electronic group The xx didn't stand a chance competing against him on the opposite end of the music festival, but the band held the attention of all who attended.

Sunday (Aug. 6) had began early, with up-and-coming musician Maggie Rogers the talk of the town for "Alaska."

Charli XCX decorated the Lake Shore Stage with silver and pink platforms. The crowd screamed when she broke into her featured single "I Love It." Glitter was the most popular accessory this year and it rained down during her new single "Boys."

Some political highlights included former First Daughter Malia Obama returning with friends to enjoy the music, Mayor Rahm Emanuel catching UK singer Jacob Banks' performance, and duo Sofi Tukker telling Windy City Times they hate Presi-



Video showing Lorde at Lollapalooza.

dent Trump, inspiring a song about it. Arcade Fire did a little "Dancing Queen" tribute to end the extravaganza.

Many artists spoke backstage to Windy City Times exclusively about their relationship with the LGBT community.

Jonny Pierce, from The Drums, described the relationship with his religious family and how unaccepting they are about him being gay. Out performer Michael Blume said his new single, "I Am Not a Trend (No Rules)," is about each person's uniqueness.

English writer Declan McKenna composed a song, "Paracetamol," on his new album about a trans teenager's life. Soloist Mondo Cozmo released an album the day he sang at Lollapalooza complete with a video for the single "Shine," which features cameos from everyone under the rainbow. In addition, British belter Bishop Briggs stated she is ready to start playing Pride music festivals.

Lollapalooza artists continue to evolve, with many not wanting to be placed in a box in terms of sexuality.

Cage the Elephant's Matt Shultz wore a purple dress and fishnet stockings. He explained, "There is so much hate in this world [and] so much division; we put each other in these categories, and these categories do not exist."

The massive music festival that takes over downtown Chicago knocks down these invisible walls of division every endeavor a little more. This was creator Perry Farrell's whole idea with Lollapalooza in the first place and his vision continues to grow and evolve thanks to the choices of musical acts and the loyal attendees each year.

Visit Lollapalooza.com to score tickets for 2018.

## steppenwolf

### "PARADIGM SHIIIIIFT!"

# HIR

By **Taylor Mac**  
Directed by **Hallie Gordon**

"SURREAL  
survival sitcom"  
- Stage and Cinema



"Exceptionally canny  
and fascinating...  
**IN YOUR FACE,  
ALL THE WAY**"  
- Chicago Tribune

"All four cast members go to  
**UNEXPECTED and  
JUICY PLACES**"  
- Time Out Chicago

**steppenwolf.org** | **312-335-1650**

Hir is supported by a Grant from



Corporate Production Sponsor



JC Brooks (center, wearing hat) and the band.  
Photo by Marisa Klug-Marataya

## NORTHALSTED MARKET DAYS

# JC Brooks lays soul bare with music

BY NINA MATTI

Four years since it released its last album, JC Brooks' indie-soul sound is making a comeback.

The Chicago-based band dropped their fourth album *The Neon Jungle* in April, and since then have been touring the country, sharing their new style with fans everywhere before hitting Northalsted Market Days for a performance on Sunday, Aug. 13.

Windy City Times caught up with the band's leading man, JC Brooks, in the final days of the act's tour.

**Windy City Times: You're almost done with touring! What was your experience like?**

JC Brooks: Yeah, I'm excited to see my dog and sleep in my bed—and see my boyfriend! I should've put that one in there before my dog, but it's great.

I'm so glad to actually be doing more than the "weekend warrior" kind of thing again. I kind of missed this. We've been out of the game for a while; the band almost broke up...

It's a good feeling to not only be done with this album, which has been one of the longest recording times of any of our albums. They usually take about two months, and this one took 18. But also, [it's good] just to be back out on the road and feeling like a working musician again. Our drummer and I work in a tire shop. Being able to make the same amount of money while not being there is glorious. If only I could make more of my life into this.

**WCT: Do you think the album saved the band?**

JC: I do, in a way. It definitely has us working in a more serious way again but I mean what really saved the band was achieving the right mix of personalities. The empathy-to-ego ratio on everyone has finally balanced out.

**WCT: That's important.**

JC: Oh, yeah. When you spend hundreds of hours together in a van, that's so important.

**WCT: Do you think working toward finding that balance of personalities has affected your sound?**

JC: Absolutely. What we're doing here is kind of a weird shot in the dark. I think of it like the Halloween series of horror movies. I think of this album as *Halloween III: Season of the Witch* [which did not have Myers in it]. You've got Michael Myers, weird Halloween masks, Michael Myers, Michael Myers, Michael Myers. We are working on recording the next Michael Myers.

Finding this balance definitely did change our sound. The old version of the band was pretty dictatorial. Our guitarist wrote most of our songs. I wrote the lyrics, but you know there wasn't a lot of room for creative freedom. With this new incarnation it sounds really different because everyone has input and it was the first time we were all writing together.

The stuff we've been writing since is a lot more focused and integrated with elements of our old sound. I don't want to speak of it as a regression, but we definitely did lose a lot of the sound that our fans love and that really worked well for the kind of show that I put on. It is very presentational, very showman-y.

It's kind of hard to reconcile doing more pop tunes with the performance style. I think a lot about the show from a performance standpoint. We tried a couple of variations on it. Right now it sounds like I'm slamming the album. I don't think it's bad. I just think it's wildly different and doesn't sound like what people expect from us.

**WCT: Then as you continue writing together and working on a new album, what should we expect from that?**

JB: Basically, I've been writing a lot more political stuff—more socially aware music. We'll be going into the studio to record the first single

at the end of August. It's called *Anywhere But America*. We might end up doing it at Market Days but it's kind of a downer.

It's about how the American dream is for anybody but Black people. So maybe that won't be Market Days fare. But for the show you can expect our usual high-energy stuff. We'll be playing the "poppier" stuff but we also make it a point to have a healthy helping of our first three albums because that's the stuff that got people in the door. We don't want to abandon them for the sake of playing every song on this new album.

Part of the fun of our shows is reminding people about joy. We were talking about this last night. We're going to have to be very careful about how we structure the set because we want to be able to talk about some heavy shit but not lose that element. We're going to do that by bringing it back around to hope.

**WCT: Northalsted Market Days is such a big LGBT event. What does it mean to you to play it, as a gay artist?**

JB: It's huge. We've been a band for 10 years and we've never had much cachet in the gay community.... I wish that my art was more connected to the community but because of the throwback, soul, hipster space that we occupied before, there was very little intersection. It's exciting for me. It's a little nerve-racking because it's the first time in front of an audience I've wanted to be in front of for a long time.

It's so weird that in this band I'm getting to play for all of these artists that I loved as a teenager. I'm like, "I'm getting to open for 10,000 Maniacs!" That's one of the super-coolest things about doing this.

**For more information about the band, check out JCBrooksBand.com. To stay up to date on the upcoming Northalsted Market Days, go to Northalsted.com/marketdays.**

## Macklemore, others at Sept. 16 festival

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis, Fifth Harmony, Prince Royce, DNCE, Fat Joe, Jeremih, Lupe Fiasco, Carl Thomas and Felix da Housecat are among the musical acts slated to perform at the inaugural all-day Get IN It MusicFest, to be held Sept. 16 at noon-10:30 p.m. at Guaranteed Rate Field, which is the home of the Chicago White Sox play, according to The Chicago Sun-Times.

The festival also promises "special surprise celebrity guests and sports figures."

Thanks in part to its marriage-equality anthem "Same Love" (featuring Mary Lambert), Macklemore and Lewis won three rap categories and was honored as Best New Artist at the Grammys in January 2014. That event had Queen Latifah officiating a group wedding event with 33 couples of various sexual orientations. (Madonna then sang a slowed-down version of her 1980s hit "Open Your Heart.")

Tickets are \$35-\$150, and they go on sale Friday, Aug. 11; visit Ticketmaster.com.

The Sun-Times article is at <http://chicago.suntimes.com/news/macklemore-ryan-lewis-fifth-harmony-headed-to-chicago-for-festival/>. More information about the event is at <https://www.isfaauthority.com/concerts-events/upcoming-events/get-in-it-musicfest/>.

## Pop star Aaron Carter comes out

Pop star Aaron Carter—the 29-year-old brother of Backstreet Boy Nick Carter—came out as bisexual on Twitter, multiple outlets reported.

In a letter posted on Twitter, he said that he was 13 when he "started to find boys and girls attractive. ... It wasn't until I was 17-years-old, after a few relationships with girls, I had an experience with a male that I had an attraction to who I also worked with and grew up with."

Carter concluded with a quote from Boy George: "I've never felt as though I didn't belong, I just acted as though I did."

Carter was currently dating photographer Madison Parker. However, it was reported Aug. 6 that the two have split.

## Pianist returns to Chicago Aug. 25

Jazz pianist Joel Futterman is returning to Chicago for his first concert in nearly 22 years.

The performance (Futterman and longtime collaborator Ike Levin) will take place Friday, Aug. 25, at 8 p.m. at Constellation, 3111 N. Western Ave.

Futterman, originally from Chicago, lives in near-seclusion in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door; see [JoelFutterman.com](http://JoelFutterman.com) and [CharlesLesterMusic.com](http://CharlesLesterMusic.com).

Inaya Day.  
PR photo

NORTHALSTED MARKET DAYS

## Inaya Day to return to Market Days after a decade's absence

BY TARINA HARGRAYS

Singer and songwriter vet Inaya Day is back with a new hit song and will be returning to Chicago for Northalsted Market Days after nearly 10 years. Day has been in the music industry for more than 20 years and has recently come out with a cover of the '70s hit "Love Is in the Air," which is one of the songs she'll be performing at Market Days.

The record "Love Is in the Air" came about one day when producer Joe Gauthreaux and DJ Grind

called Day on the phone and asked if she would sing to their version of the song. Day excitedly agreed.

Day, who has worked with Gauthreaux in the past, told Windy City Times that "Love Is in the Air" is a "feel-good kind of song" and said she, Gauthreaux and DJ Grind "had so much fun" recording it. When talking about what the record means to her, she went on to say, "To me, love is God [and] God is love. When I'm singing it, in my mind and heart, God is in the air. We're in tu-

multuous times and if you don't have some kind of foundation to hold onto you can fall apart." Day said she believes the best part of this song is that "it will bring some light to a lot of people."

When asked how she stays positive and upbeat in her music, Day credited her fans. "The audience knows when you're sincere and being honest and they feel that ... and that's what make them buy your albums," said Day. She went on to say that her vibe affects others: "You have to love and save yourself first—because you can't do anything for anyone if you're not OK yourself."

Day added that even though she thinks the world needs love right now, she believes society is becoming more accepting of the LGBTQ community. According to Day, "People have the right to express themselves now," which she said is one of the greatest weapons they can have. She then added that her hopes for the LGBTQ community is that the demographic "will no longer be a label and we'll all just be people. ... I don't think anybody should be separate."

Day went on to say that the decision to perform at Market Days wasn't a difficult one. "I haven't performed for Market Days since 2008 I believe, and every year in between I was at Chicago Pride, except last year. When they gave me a choice I chose Market Days since I haven't been there in so long and I have such great memories there," she said.

She went on to talk about her favorite Market Days memory: a picture from a Market Days show years ago in which she and a fan were looking at one another, both fascinated. "He was looking at me as if I were a unicorn," said Day, laughing. "It

was flattering."

When asked what fans can expect from her upcoming Market Days performance, Day said that "they can expect my own gospel, booming voice out of this short body." Fans can expect a combination of Day's classic hits such as "Movin' Up" and "You Are My Family" as well as new music. She also said that she might bring her dancers back to perform alongside her.

The festival will be held Aug. 12-13 on North Halsted Street in Boystown. (Day will perform Aug. 12) For more information, visit [Northalsted.com/marketdays](http://Northalsted.com/marketdays).

## Dave Koz show Aug. 11 in Waukegan

Openly gay saxophonist Dave Koz will take his "Side By Side" tour to Waukegan's Genesee Theatre, 203 N. Genesee St., on Friday, Aug. 11, at 8 p.m.

Koz will perform with Larry Graham Jr., longtime bassist for Sly & The Family Stone and founding member of Graham Central Station.

A nine-time Grammy nominee, Dave Koz has charted nine number-one albums on Billboard's Current Contemporary Jazz Album chart, including 2015's Collaborations: 25th Anniversary Collection (Concord Records), which featured duets with artists such as Stevie Nicks, Rod Stewart, Michael McDonald, Barry Manilow and Luther Vandross.



**WIZARDWORLD™ COMIC CON**

**DONALD E. STEPHENS CONVENTION CENTER**  
**AUGUST 24-25-26-27**

**DAVID TENNANT** **ALEX KINGSTON** **JOHN BARROWMAN** **ELIZABETH HENSTRIDGE**

**BUY TICKETS NOW!**  
**WIZARDWORLD.COM**

**KIDS 10 & UNDER FREE!**



**BAFF**  
BLACK ALPHABET FILM FESTIVAL  
**AUGUST 18-19, 2017**  
**RETURN TO THE RAINBOW**

**90 DAYS**  
"FROM THE THIN MALLS OF CHICAGO  
A JIMMY FARRINGTON ADAPTION"

**JEWEL'S CATCH ONE**

**MISSED CONNECTIONS**

**KIKI**

**CHECK IT**

**pronouns**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

HEALTHY CHICAGO | ihi | THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MEDICINE | BOIMAG | Cultour | WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP | BLEU

THE REVA & DAVID LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS | 915 E. 60TH ST. CHICAGO IL 60637  
WWW.BLACKALPHABET.ORG | INFO@BLACKALPHABET.ORG | 872-256-BAFF (2233)

## BOOKS

# Achy Obejas talks 'The Tower of the Antilles'

BY LIZ BAUDLER

Achy Obejas' new collection, *The Tower of the Antilles*, is a definitive introduction to the often poetic Cuban-American writer. Though the stories come from all different places in Obejas' writing career, they are united by their exquisite language and loving exploration of character.

"I've never curated a book quite like I've curated this one," Obejas told Windy City Times. "At some point, I realized that I probably had enough stories for a collection, and hadn't really thought about it. I hadn't been published in a little bit; the novel I've been working on is just kicking my butt. I had gone back to stories as a way to sort of feel a sense of completion about a project, and I was really struck by how some of the stories fit together."

Immediately, Obejas saw a connection between the first and last stories, though they were written years apart. While the *Tower of the Antilles*, the final and title piece, had been previously published, Obejas learned about the inspiration behind the main character of the opening tale, "The Collector," from a student she was advising, and felt compelled to fictionalize him.

"Her thesis project kind of blew me away," Obejas said of her student's work. "It was looking at the aesthetics and the politics of all these vessels that drift on shore, in South Florida, from all the folks escaping not just Cuba, but Haiti and a number of other places. It was crazy to think about this, and she told me about this guy who is trying to get a museum for this thing. I never met him, I never talked to him, but I sort of imagined this story. And I realized as I was writing it that a lot of the rhythm was echoing the *Tower of the Antilles*. So I put those two together, and those became the bookends of the stories, and then the question was, how does this work, what's in the middle, what's the progression? What are the themes I want to touch, what is the flow?"

Obejas had assembled anthologies before, but found arranging her own work quite different.

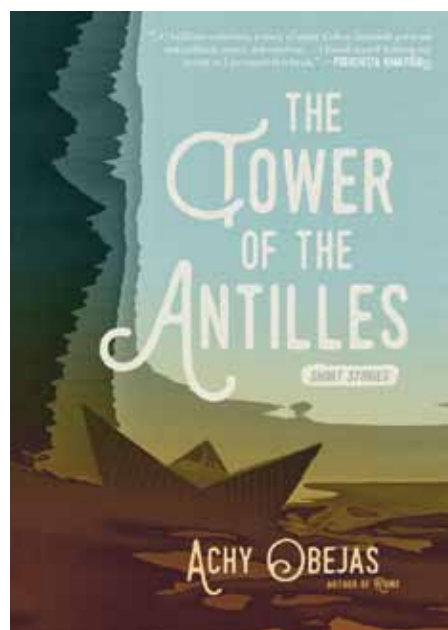
"You are so much more objective about others than about your own stuff," she explained. "You're much freer when you don't have a connection to the creative process, in the process of curating or editing. You can be both more ruthless and more generous."

Tracking Obejas' writing through time is to observe substantial evolution. First-person novels like *Memory Mambo*, featuring a young lesbian navigating complicated family dynamics in Chicago, are now supplanted by the complicated *Ruins*, which follows a 54-year old man in his struggle to survive and make sense of his life in Cuba. The stories of *The Tower of the Antilles* are

a mix of these styles, often narrated by queer women, but occasionally slipping into more omniscient perspectives. For her part, Obejas thinks she understands more about story structure now and can therefore be less concerned with it, but she acknowledges this shift in focus.

"In my 20s and my 30s, I wrote very much in a first person narrative, that in fact, was often confused as autobiographical," Obejas recalled. "It wasn't very often autobiographical, but I mean, I still remember a review from *Publisher's Weekly* that said, 'It reads like autobiography.' Or all the reviews that came in on my first book of stories that people assumed were first-person stories. Often the narrators seemed, at least on the surface, similar to me. Usually Cuban American, usually lesbian, oftentimes imagined ... thinner than myself."

Obejas sees a readership used to memoir being eager to look for threads of her experiences in her fiction. "I never was offended by it or anything, I was more amused. Often at readings when people were asking about character they would say, 'but then you did this,' and I would say, 'but I didn't do that.' When I tell people the work isn't necessarily or even all that much autobiographical, I either get a bit of surprise, or I get this wink, wink. And I'm like, no really, I've never had an



Achy Obejas.

PR photo

18-inch dick. It's obvious it's not autobiographical."

Yet Obejas still uses details from her life in her work: It's just both more deliberate and less obvious than readers might expect.

"There's a story in the collection called 'The Sound Catalog,' which I wrote very much when I was starting to contend with my hearing loss," she said. "I had a real hyperawareness of all sorts of things that I now don't even think about. There was a time where I would get up in the morning and the house would be completely silent. And I had no idea if it was completely silent because I couldn't hear anything. I'd be rattling things and tapping things and making noises and snapping my gums, and anything, you know, to make noise, to see what I could and couldn't hear."

"I don't do that anymore, because I'm fairly confident about where my hearing levels are at. But at the time I remember being aware of it, and being very conscious of the fact that this moment would pass. That, at some point, this would not be new or interesting or scary to me. And that I wanted to remember that it had been new, and important, and most of all, scary to me. Because I know it will be scary to other people, and I want to be able to be in that space when someone says it happened to them, and I'll say, 'It will pass.'"

"You use personal experience. It doesn't mean

you write autobiography. That's the thing that people confused. I write about Cuba because I know it really well. It doesn't mean that every story I tell about Cuba is something I did in Cuba."

Place has always figured strongly in Obejas' work, whether it's a character's current location or the absence of an imagined homeland. Obejas desires a deep intimacy with place before she puts it into story, and Chicago rivals Cuba in terms of how often it appears in her work. Though Obejas now lives in the Bay Area, and has for nearly five years, that intimacy still hasn't quite developed enough for her to write about her new home.

"Whatever I wrote about it would be touristic, so I'm disinclined to write about it, even though I'm obviously not a tourist, I know quite a bit about where I live," Obejas said. "But I'm very aware of the fact that other people know it so much better than I do, and that's there a story here that I'm probably missing, and I don't want to be a dope about it. The places that I end up writing about are places that don't just grab my imagination, but also that I fall in love with. I was in love with Chicago the whole time I was living there. I loved all the weird idiosyncrasies about it; all the things I hated I also loved. They're part of the story that you tell about the city. You don't just say, 'It's a beautiful city.' Of course, I say it's a beautiful city, but you also talk about the things that frustrate you and drive you nuts."

As she added the finishing touches on *The Tower of the Antilles* late last year, Obejas couldn't help but to be conscious of the shifting political climate, both as an individual and as a writer whose work often invokes, if not often centralizes, marginalized identity.

"There's certain aspects of my being which had become not particularly interesting under the Obama administration," Obejas said. "I think I can say that on a day to day basis I did not think of myself as a refugee or an immigrant. I'm well aware of the fact that I'm Latino, and that comes into play all the time, but that's a little different. And in certain circles, being queer was the most boring thing in the world, like, 'oh big fucking deal'. And now, I feel like I'm a refugee every damn day, and I'm an immigrant every damn day."

Regardless of these new pressures, Obejas finds it vital to continue to write and share stories like the ones she creates.

"This is an important and critical time for writers, especially queer writers of color, to tell our stories," Obejas said. "Otherwise, we will be erased. We will be made invisible, and once we're made invisible, people will not understand that we're also part of the fabric of humanity and that our issues are real."

"It's so important to tell these stories in which we're queer people of color, queer parents of color, queer kids of color, in which we are immigrant kids, in which we are refugee kids, in which we are queer refugee or immigrant kids. I do really believe that familiarity does not breed contempt. What it breeds is sympathy, empathy, love ... and I honestly believe that when we tell these stories, they're a political act. They are important because they are getting the word out about who we are. I honestly really believe that."



@windycitytimes1



/windycitymediagroup



@windycitytimes

www.windycitymediagroup.com



THE WINDY CITY TIMES ANNUAL

# WERQ! CHICAGO

## LGBTQ JOB FAIR!

**Friday, Sept. 29, 2017** NEW DATE

**11 am - 4 pm**

**Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted**



Special workshop presentations. Plus business and nonprofits will have booths seeking employees, interns and students.

Free and open to all members of the community, with a special focus on LGBTQ youth, seniors and transgender adults.



**We are seeking businesses, nonprofits and schools to participate in this job fair, bringing with them a range of job offerings, from entry-level to more experienced individuals.**

EVENT  
SPONSORS



**Booth costs: \$95 for businesses; \$75 for nonprofits**

**DEADLINE: Sept. 1, 2017**

Email to: [editor@windycitymediagroup.com](mailto:editor@windycitymediagroup.com) for application

Please make checks payable to Windy City Times, send to Windy City Times, 5315 N. Clark St., #192, Chicago, IL 60640.

Or you can pay via paypal, [terri@windycitymediagroup.com](mailto:terri@windycitymediagroup.com), or credit card, contact [editor@windycitymediagroup.com](mailto:editor@windycitymediagroup.com).

### PARTNERS



## BOOKS

# Riki Wilchins discusses trans movement memoir

BY SARAH TOCE

Riki Wilchins founded the first national transgender advocacy group GenderPAC in 1996. She is currently the executive director of the True Child organization, a philanthropic effort leading the way in gender studies and trainings. The 65-year-old Lambda Literary Award winner may be a leader in transactivism now, but it didn't start out that way.

Wilchins was in search of transactivism stories to line her bookshelf and couldn't find any—so she understood what needed to be done. She began chronicling her story—and the stories of her friends and peers—so that current and future



Riki Wilchins.

PR photo

generations would have insight and history to explore, remember and share with their networks, too. For this reason alone, the book *TRANS/gressive: How Transgender Activists Took on Gay Rights, Feminism, the Media & Congress ... and Won!* makes Wilchins' memoir a timely addition to the transactivism fold.

"I think it's generally accepted that transactivism is established, and in many ways is changing how the world thinks about gender," Wilchins said. "But I couldn't find any books that told the

inside story of how it all started. There are several academic historical books, but nothing on those critical few years in the 1990s when it all came together and the movement really took off. Back when gay rights was still LGB, but not T. And that's the untold story I wanted to tell, from the inside perspective of those of us who were there."

In the early years, Wilchins worked on Wall Street and didn't involve herself in transactivism protests—until something changed the course of her life.

"Right after my first book, *Read My Lips*, was published, Nancy Burkholder got thrown out of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival," Wilchins said. "They just dumped her alone, on a dirt road in the middle of the night, miles from anywhere. That just hit me like a punch in the stomach. I'd always thought of attending, but chickened out. I knew that should have been me. It was so cold and brutal and totally unapologetic. So when I was invited to speak at the protest that grew into Camp Trans, there was no way to say 'No.' And then activism just kind of ate the next 20 years of my life."

In fact, the author and activist shared: "Looking back through the events of *TRANS/gressive: How Transgender Activists Took on Gay Rights, Feminism, the Media & Congress...and Won!* in those first years of transactivism, I can't ever imagine this was where I would end up!"

Stone Butch Blues author Leslie Feinberg is heavily featured in Wilchins' book.

Leslie seemed willing to be everywhere we needed a charismatic speaker to make our case and bring a crowd," Wilchins said. "For instance, Leslie spoke at Camp Trans and then inside the Festival to the Lesbian Avengers, and also before at the vigil we held outside the murder trial for Brandon Teena's killers in Falls City, Nebraska."

Activist Nancy Nangeroni and trans cop Tony Barreto-Neto are also woven throughout the real-life story. Nangeroni and Barreto-Neto "helped form the core of folks that planned and carried out many of our activities," Wilchins said.

Caitlyn Jenner's celebrity brought a certain spotlight to the transgender community—arguably not an always a positive one.

"Cait has been a double-edged sword," Wilchins said. "She's been incredibly brave in sharing her own struggle, and has become truly iconic. At the same time, the views of wealthy Republican transpeople don't exactly mirror those of many in the community. It's been interesting watching her educate herself and grow her political awareness. Hopefully this will continue, because she can also be such an asset. I also think she's the first of many—eventually we're going to see a lot of other celebrities come out as trans. Sometimes



Trans-rights leader Jamison Green, as shown in the book *TRANS/gressive*.

PR photo

I wish Michael Jackson was still alive because I'm sure he would have been next."

It's worth noting that the worlds of feminism and transgender rights often intersect, but that doesn't mean they always necessarily get along.

"Both [feminism and transgender rights] seek to overturn the effects of the [gender-binary] system, so we should be natural political allies," Wilchins said. "However, that's never happened. Many early transfolks supported pretty rigid and even regressive boy/girl gender ideals. And many mainstream feminists were visibly uncomfortable with crossdressers, transsexuals and drag people. It's always been a mystery that we don't get beyond this and join forces."

Can anything fix the discord?

"I think it will take a younger and more aware generation to heal this breach," Wilchins said. "I also look to the nonbinary movement to push us past some of these political divisions and into new territory."

Wilchins also shared, "To change things you have to take risks. You have to step into that icky place that feels unsure, unsafe and exposed; where you seem to be the only one. It's that place that makes you feel a little sick to your stomach. As an activist, that's exactly where you should be. Because that's the feeling when you're doing something new and entirely necessary. Looking back, I wish I had known that. It's how I felt nearly every time we tried something new. And unfortunately, often it made me back off a bit. Now I know the right response is to close your eyes, buckle up and put your foot on the gas."

Now that we have the gas, where are we headed?

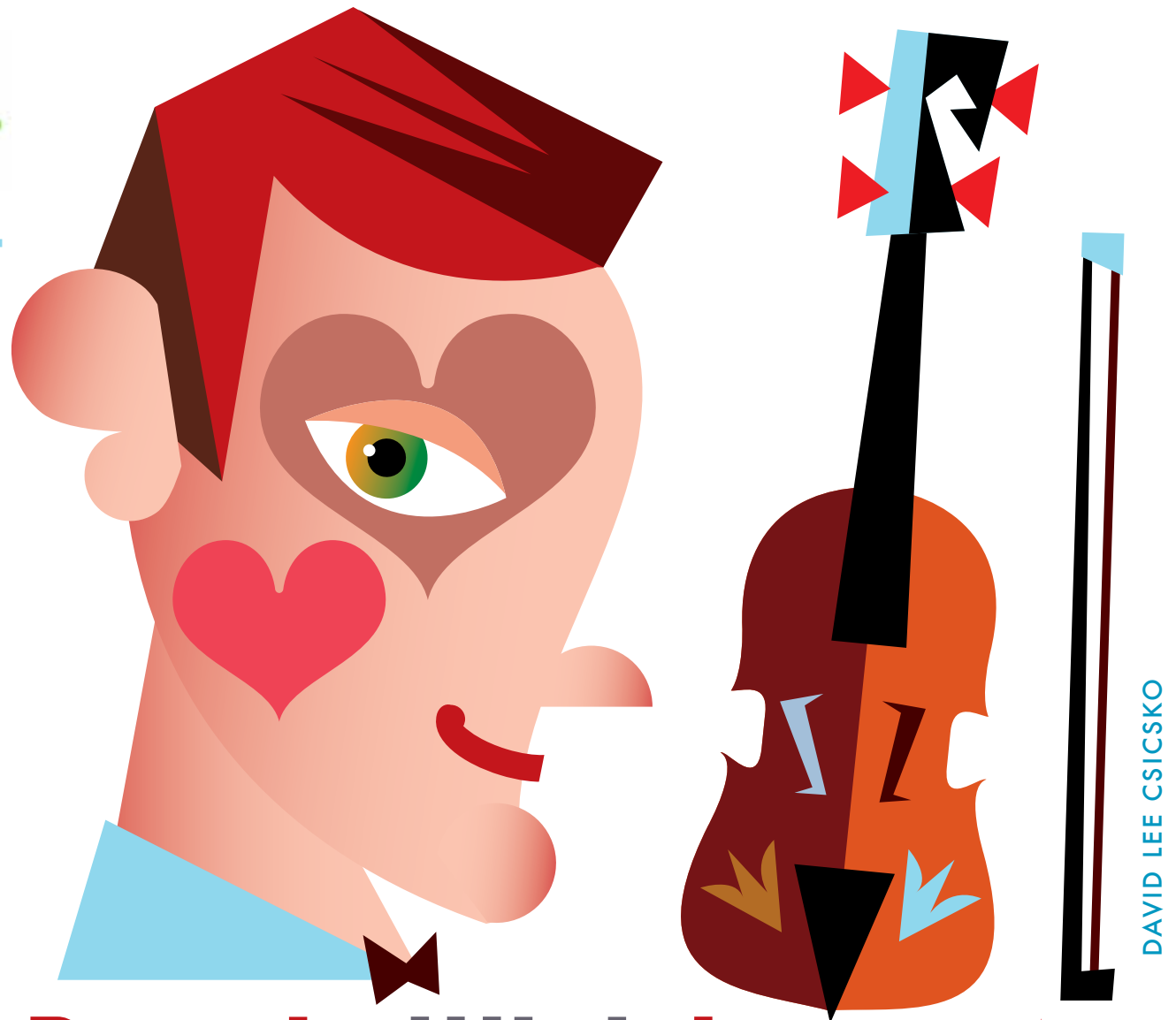
"The gay-rights movement has had amazing success in promoting forward sexual orientation rights, but it's done miserably—almost nothing—on gender rights," Wilchins shared. "For instance, the gender concerns of stone butch girls and fairy boys are still entirely neglected. No one even talks about the problem. If you think of Will and Grace, we've made it okay to be Will—who is relatively straight looking and acting—but still not Jack, who is the real 'fag.' Effeminacy in boys and masculinity in girls is still widely despised. This is something we've never discussed with the American people, in fact, we've avoided. So although the embrace of trans rights may have started with the a discussion of the right to change sexes, I think increasingly it's going to draw us into this long-neglected territory about the right to cross gender lines, to be genderqueer, to be nonbinary. Effeminate boys and masculine girls need to be loved and accepted, too. It's time we started talking about them instead of pretending either they don't exist or their only problem is their sexual orientation."

**Wilchins writes regularly for the Advocate on current trans politics. Riverdale Books is releasing an anthology of her early work this winter called "Burn the Binary!" She splits her time between Washington, D.C. and South Beach, Florida with her partner Gina and daughter DJ. Learn more about the author and activist here: <https://www.facebook.com/riki.wilchins>.**



CENTER  
ON **3656 N.**  
HALSTED

ARTEM  
KOLESOV



# ★ From Russia With Love ★

A benefit concert for **Artem Kolesov**  
and other **LGBTQ Refugees** fleeing persecution

Saturday, August 26, 2017 **7 p.m. Concert** 8:30 p.m. VIP Reception

Limited number of tickets available. Tickets start at \$50.

➔ Purchase tickets at <https://community.centeronhalsted.org/pages/from-russia-with-love>

Hoover-Leppen Theatre | Center on Halsted 3656 N. Halsted, Chicago, IL 60613

Rising star Artem Kolesov is a 23 year-old gay Russian violinist who can never return home after courageously coming out against Russia's persecution of its LGBTQ citizens. Artem will perform with the YAS Quartet and other notable artists in this one-night only benefit concert helping him and others secure safety and citizenship.

For more information, see Facebook page "From Russia with Love – Chicago".

## MOVIES

# Filmmakers discuss documentary about Ferguson uprising

BY JERRY NUNN

Whose Streets? is a powerful documentary about the Ferguson, Missouri, uprising, as told by activists of the movement. An unarmed teenager named Michael Brown is killed by police and left in the street for hours in St. Louis, Missouri. Residents—such as lesbian Brittany Farrell—react and protest along with people from around the country.

Filmmakers Sabaah Folayan and Damon Davis chronicle the story. Folayan is the director and producer from South Central, LA; she has a history in theater and attended the Lee Strasberg Institute of Theatre and Film. Davis' background includes music, film and public art; he is the co-director and producer for Whose Streets?

**Windy City Times: How did Whose Streets come together?**

Sabaah Folayan: I was going to a school in New York when my friend was killed. I was going to apply to medical school and was deciding if this was what I wanted to do so I went to St. Louis.

I was getting a lot of feedback on social media for things I was posting. I thought it was something I should continue writing about. I wanted to add to the conversation and bring it back to my community.

Once we got the story, it organically started to form. We wanted to work with someone from the community. Damon already wanted to make a film. People connected us together.

Damon Davis: Now we are here.

**WCT: When did you start on the project?**

SF: December of 2014.

**WCT: I read you have a permanent collection in the Smithsonian. That must be an honor.**

DD: Yes. That actually happened during Ferguson. The pieces they took were around the protest and the movement.

**WCT: Was this the first time you did a documentary, Damon?**

DD: I did one prior to this, but it was not that good.

I won an Emmy for one that was done about me, but this was the first time of working with a co-director, with any budget, and making a full-fledged movie.

**WCT: Where did the footage come from?**

DD: We shot a lot of it.

We had an archival producer that was amazing, and also some community members got us footage, too.

SF: We shot most of it with over 30 archival sources used in the film. Our editor Christopher McNabb did a really great job of bringing all of that material from citizen journalists into a cohesive world to create a moment. It was a team effort.

A lot of local journalists who were on the ground there filming were able to help us, and share their footage with us as well.

**WCT: What can you tell our readers about Whose Streets?**

SF: They might come in with certain expectations about activists, but we really wanted to make this a work of art, something creative that got to the truth of the matter underneath the facts and journalistic reporting.

People should know that this film is meant to be a work of art. It is a tribute to Black people and Black resistance, really a representation of what St. Louis is like—what the people of St. Louis lived through at that time, and what their



Brittany Farrell.  
Courtesy of  
Magnolia Pictures.

truth was.

It is not an activist film, and not prescriptive. It is not telling anybody what to do, what to believe, or how to act. We are just offering people opportunities to see what this was really like for the people who lived it.

DD: I would like to add that we are showing the negative space that never gets seen when you look at activists. You see them activated, but you don't see them at home, and being human beings with their family.

We really worked hard to show the duality of being a Black person in America. The fact is most of us have to be activists because of our survival.

I think we worked really hard to show these people as human beings and not just caricatures of what people who are yelling in the street act like.

**WCT: You chose to focus on a lesbian named Brittany Farrell in the storyline. Where did you find her?**

SF: When people see the film, they can feel the energy and power she has coming through the screen. When we got out there she was one of the first people we approached just because of all of the energy around her.

I asked her, "What would you say to women that want to become activists and part of the movement? How do they find their place?" She said, "You don't wait for anyone to give you a place. You take your place."

That really changed my life personally just hearing that. I knew from the first interview that she was the person we needed to stick with.

Her relationship with Alexis Templeton just happened. Gay marriage was legalized while we were in production. They were some of the first people to take advantage of that in St. Louis.

**WCT: They will always have that moment captured on film. Do you still keep in touch with Brittany?**

DD: We both do.

**WCT: What do you hope to accomplish with Whose Streets?**

DD: For Black people, specifically, [the goal is for them] to see the majesty and beauty in themselves. I hope they see themselves represented in a holistic way, especially for those who are very active in this movement.

When you turn on the TV you only see yourself portrayed in one way usually. I think that is something both of us really wanted to capture, to show how beautiful, strong, and resilient Black people are every day.

There is normality in just being

you. Everything is being emphasized with people being superhuman or subhuman, again there is a negative space, and a gray area with being a human being. I think we captured that at least a little bit.

SF: I hope the film can be as transformative to people to see it as the experience was. I think it has that power. I don't think so far we haven't seen people of color who have lived through these experiences in these towns who are activists and part of movements go through these things, and never see it represented. I think there is a catharsis when you see your own experience. We tried to make sense of that experience, and place it in the context of something positive and hopeful.

I think people who feel that they are outsiders, who didn't know this happened, and it is new to them, have a catharsis also. They can finally understand why people are so frustrated and where this energy is coming from.

What we see after the film is ended and after the Q&As is people are ready to act. They wanted to get involved and asked what to do. I don't have the answer to that question. That answer is different for everybody, depending on skills, and access. Asking that question is a really important step in society. I hope it continues to have that impact. I want people to see the power that nonfiction storytelling can have, how it can be viable and engaging. It can be consumed on a mainstream level just like narrative stories.

**Whose Streets? will be released Friday, Aug. 11, at select theaters, including AMC River East, 322 East Illinois St. Go to WhoseStreets.com to sign up for the newsletter or to donate to the impact campaign.**



Whose Streets? filmmakers Damon Davis and Sabaah Folayan.

Photo by Jerry Nunn

## The Law Office of Roger V. McCaffrey-Boss, P.C.



*When experience counts...  
In service to the community  
for over 35 years.*

- Business Organization
- Wills, Trusts & Probate
- Real Estate Closings
- Premarital Agreements

33 N. Dearborn St., Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60602

**312-263-8800** **RVMLAWYER@AOL.COM**

# Market Days talent unveiled

## Saturday, Aug. 12

### Bud Light North Stage (at Addison)

3:45 p.m.: Prince Poppycock  
4:45 p.m.: Inaya Day  
7:45 p.m.: Linda Clifford  
8:45 p.m.: Jody Watley

### Hydrate Dance Stage (at Cornelia)

Noon-5:30 p.m.: DJ Laura B  
1:30-4:30 p.m.: Drag Show  
5:30 p.m.: DJ Cindel  
7:30 p.m.: DJ Nina Flowers

### Nissan's Celebrate Equality Stage (at Roscoe)

2 p.m.: Steve Grand  
3:15 p.m.: Tiffany  
4:45 p.m.: Brian Justin Crum  
7 p.m.: Robin S  
9 p.m.: Maxine Nightengale

### Capital One Jazz Stage (at Aldine)

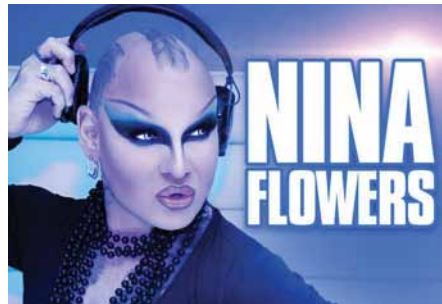
1:30 p.m.: Joe Poliscastro Trio  
3:30 p.m.: Whiskey and Cherries  
5:30 p.m.: BMR4



Steve Grand.  
Photo from  
Facebook

### Bud Light South Stage (at Belmont)

2 p.m.: KC Ortiz  
3:30 p.m.: Michael McBride & Friends  
5:30 p.m.: Wedding Banned  
7:45 p.m.: Satisfaction



## Sunday, Aug. 13

### Bud Light North Stage (at Addison)

3:15 p.m.: Big Freedia  
6:15 p.m.: Rod Tuffcurls  
8:35 p.m.: Purple Experience

### Hydrate Dance Stage (at Cornelia)

Noon-5:30 p.m.: DJ Laura B  
1-3 p.m.: Drag Show  
5:30 p.m.: DJ Alex Acosta  
7:30 p.m.: DJ Ralph Rosario

### Nissan's Celebrate Equality Stage (at Roscoe)

1:15 p.m.: Chicago Gay Men's Chorus  
2:15 p.m.: Don't Speak  
4 p.m.: JC Brooks  
6 p.m.: 10,000 Maniacs  
7:50 p.m.: 16 Candles

### Capital One Jazz Stage (at Aldine)

1:30 p.m.: The Winchester Sound  
3:30 p.m.: The Flat Cats  
6:15 p.m.: Branden & James

The following day has these stars, among others: Big Freedia; CeCe Peniston; JC Brooks; Frenchie Davis and more

There is a \$10 suggested donation to Market Days. Visit [Northalsted.com](http://Northalsted.com).

Following is a full schedule of entertainment.

### Bud Light South Stage (at Belmont)

12:30 p.m.: Girl Power Night  
3:15 p.m.: CeCe Peniston  
4:15 p.m.: Frenchie Davis  
6 p.m.: Boy Band Review  
8:15 p.m.: Catfight

### Big Freedia.

PR photo



**SPECIAL SALES**  
**THROUGHOUT THE STORE!** **OPEN LATE**  
STOP BY TODAY OR SHOP WITH US ONLINE!

**LEATHER64TEN**  
CHICAGO

6410 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60626  
773.508.0900  
f t i /leather64ten  
[www.leather64ten.com](http://www.leather64ten.com)

**SQUIRT**.org

The  
hookup site  
**TOO HOT**  
for the  
app store

# the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in  
WINDY CITY TIMES

## SAVOR

### Maple & Ash brunch; Epic Burger

BY ANDREW DAVIS

**Maple & Ash** (8 W. Maple St.; <https://www.mapleandash.com/>) certainly isn't perfect, although there is much over which to fawn.

However, I'll say this much about brunch at the Gold Coast spot: It's one of the most enjoyable experiences I've had at a restaurant on a Sunday morning (and brunch is strictly on Sunday at 10 a.m.-2 p.m.).

The experience was for several reasons, including my dining companion. However, company aside, Maple & Ash has several aspects that merit



Seafood tower at Maple & Ash brunch.

Photo by Andrew Davis

mentioning.

Start with the elegant decor itself, which incorporates light and shadows as well as sweeping drapes and seating that allows practically everyone to see and/or be seen. In addition, the guests we saw on this particular Sunday were among the most smartly dressed I've seen at a brunch: attractive women with low-cut maxi dresses, and good-looking men in button-down shirts and conservative shorts. (People can also sit outside in a lovely setting; however, with the heat beating down that day, we sought the in-

doors.)

And then there's the food. A line-up of stations and smiling employees awaits to provide such items as fontina cheese market omelets with black truffle; filet mignon with a variety of available toppings, including beef butter and smoked salmon capers.

There's also a sweets table with items like brioche French toast, mini-coconut cakes and slivers of rich brownies. And if all that's not enough, offerings such as housemade agnolotti, succulent fried chicken and a seafood tower (with the largest shrimp I've seen in recent memory) are served tableside.

And I have to give shout-outs to the DJ who played a slew of '80s and '90s music from acts like The Jets (remember them?); and general manager David, who was extremely helpful—and seemed at several points like he wanted to hit a dance floor himself.

#### An "Epic" stop

**Epic Burger** (various locations; <http://epic-burger.com/>) doesn't quite live up to its name—but the items are certainly above most fare people will find at fast-casual restaurants.

There's no shortage of options there, as a guest can order everything from a regular burger to a

grilled-cheese sandwich to the Beyond Burger, which is a vegetarian-friendly item with a protein-packed, plant-based patty. (There's also an impressive list of toppings, including avocado and fried egg.)

Get fries (regular or sweet potato) and a shake/malt, and you're good to go. By the way, I highly recommend the Skinny Shake, which incorporates frozen yogurt (resulting in a lot fewer calories) and is just as tasty as a regular shake.

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



Turkey burger from Epic Burger.

Photo by Andrew Davis



## BERLIN

8th annual Lollapalooza Sideshow party, Thu., August 3.

Photos by Kirk Williamson

## LOLLAPALOOZA '17

Chicago's annual music (and fashion) festival in Grant Park, August 3-6.

Photos by Jerry Nunn



## BILLY Masters

*“So You Think You Can Dance” Winner Gets A Year In Jail*—Industry trade headline. What did the runner-up get?

There are no accidents. I believe that as much as I believe I will once again fit into my size 30 skinny jeans! Days ago, **Caitlyn Jenner** was seen wearing a red cap emblazoned with the phrase “Make America Great Again.” For someone who has publicly decried Donald Trump, this was a questionable fashion choice. Jenner says she accidentally grabbed the hat when rushing out for a golf game. It’s bad enough to be seen in the cap, but she was photographed wearing it—in a convertible! Jenner tweeted, “I apologize to all of the trans community. I made a mistake.” Caitlyn is considering signing the hat and auctioning it off for charity. Just when you thought it was impossible to devalue Trump memorabilia.

**Aaron Carter** is making lots of announcements for someone with virtually no career. A few weeks ago, he tearfully told Entertainment Tonight he has an eating disorder and actually gets fillers in his face—and if that’s what he looks like with fillers, it must be REALLY bad. He said, “I have a hiatal hernia. I have a stress condition it’s an eating disorder. ... How would you feel every two seconds seeing a tweet, ‘You have AIDS. Go die. Oh, look at this meth head. Oh, meth kills. Crack kills.’ I’m not a methhead. I’ve never touched it in my life.”

Then this week, there was another revelation—he’s bisexual. He might have considered revealing this when he headlined LA Pride in June! He posted, “I grew up in this entertainment industry at a very young age and when I was around 13-years-old I started to find boys and girls attractive. There were years that went by that I thought about it, but it wasn’t until I was 17-years-old, after a few relationships with girls, I had an experience with a male that I had an attraction to who I also worked with and grew up with.” Let the guessing game begin. My money’s on someone with the initials PS.

The legal proceedings against **Rentboy.com** have come to a close. While charges against former employees were dropped since the raid two years ago, CEO Jeffrey Hurant’s sentencing loomed. Judge Margo Brodie considered all the factors—including the scholarship fund Hurant set up for sex workers: “I am convinced you started this site for a good purpose. I struggled with sentencing of this case. It kept me up at night.” She also had to take into account that Hurant already pled guilty to promoting prostitution and money laundering through his company, Easy Rent Systems. With her hands tied, the judge sentenced Hurant to six months in prison.

The line between porn and prostitution is fuzzy, to say the least. While porn great **Benjamin Bradley** was not a rent boy, a transition is a transition. Benji—for whom I have enormous affection—needs our help. He has non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma and is undergoing treatment to shrink a metastatic tumor in his neck that makes it



**It’s been a week of revelations for Aaron Carter, Billy says.**

PR photo

difficult for him to ... well, to do pretty much anything. He’s maxed out his credit cards and exhausted all resources that could assist him in paying for treatment. Friends set up a YouCaring.com fund under his real name (Benjamin Lemke). If you are so inclined—and I hope many of you are—give what you can. There but for the grace of God...

Last week, the **Will & Grace** creators and stars met with the critics to discuss the show’s return. While they didn’t get into specifics, they basically said we have to pretend the entire last season (and, specifically, the finale) never happened. They said, “When the decision was made to bring the series back, we were like, well, we left them with kids, right? And if they have children, then it has to be about them being parents, ‘cause presumably it would be a priority in their lives. And if it wasn’t a priority in their lives, then they’re still parents, they’re just bad parents, right? We frankly did not want to see them being either good parents or bad parents. We wanted them to be Will and Grace.” So, like Bobby Ewing in the shower, it was just a bad dream! They must be doing something right—Will & Grace has already been picked up for a second season.

Many of you have asked how long **Bette Midler** will stay in Hello, Dolly! We now have an answer—until Jan. 14, 2018. What will happen after she leaves the show is unknown. It could stay open with a replacement. Here’s my recommendation—**Dolly Parton**! Will the show tour? Joy Behar let it be known on The View that producers asked if she would be interested in headlining a national tour. While they noted Joy’s resemblance to Midler, they did not realize the similarity did not include singing, dancing or acting. Thus far, the only definite is that the only known footage of Bette playing Dolly can be found on BillyMasters.com.



Speaking of footage, several of you asked the same “Ask Billy” question. The first one was from George in Florida. “Loved watching part one of Angels in America with **Nathan Lane**. But do you have part two?”

It took a while, but we finally got our hands on both parts of Angels in America from the National Theatre in London—starring Nathan Lane, **Andrew Garfield** and **Russell Tovey**. You can see them on BillyMasters.com.

When I’m eagerly awaiting Aaron Carter’s next revelation, it’s definitely time to end yet another column. Did I mention Carter and girlfriend Madison Parker just broke up? These things happen when you announce you’re bisexual—which, as we all know, tends to be a brief stepping stone on the way to proclaiming you’re gay. You’ll find many more revelations on BillyMasters.com—the site that never holds anything back. Of course, keep sending your questions to me at Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before Caitlyn Jenner replaces Bette Midler in “Dolly!” So, until next time, remember: One man’s filth is another man’s bible.





# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Wed., Aug. 9

**Andersonville Dinner Crawl** Two curated dining routes-the Silver Spoon and vegetarian-friendly Golden Fork-each featuring 11 small-plate stops during this year's crawl. Some of the restaurants participating in the crawl include Andies, TrueNorth Cafe, Replay Andersonville, Pork Shoppe, Candyality and Jerry's. \$30 in advance and \$35 the week of. 6:00pm - 9:00pm Full list on site <http://Andersonville.org/events/andersonville-dinner-crawl/>.

**Evening on Lesbian Pregnancy** Hosted by Path2Parenthood. A doctor, an attorney, and a sperm bank representative will discuss everything you need to know about working with sperm donors; legal safeguards for LGBT families during the Trump era; and medical procedures, like insemination and in vitro fertilization. Free. 7:00pm Women & Children First Bookstore 5233 N Clark St Chicago <http://www.womenandchildrenfirst.com/event/gay-womens-gathering-hosted-path2parenthood>

## Thursday, Aug. 10

**Our Voices** Join Chicago House as the



## I WAS FRAMED Aug. 12-13

Thousands are slated to attend Northalsted Market Days this weekend.

Photo by Paul Hirsch

youth of the Family Support Program put on their annual show. Free. 6:30pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.chicagohouse.org>

**PFLAG Parents of Transgender Monthly Meeting** Support and fellowship. 7:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.pflagillinois.org/pflag-parents-of-transgender-chicago-monthly-meeting-thursday-august-10th-at-7-pm/>

go-monthly-meeting-thursday-august-10th-at-7-pm/

## Friday, Aug. 11

**Materialkink** Curated by Chicago-based artist Jose Santiago Perez and featuring artworks by local, national and global artists in erotic art using rope, nylon, wax, rubber, fabric, furniture and leather to show the body and its erotic engagement with the substances of kinky sexualities. Through Jan. 14, 2018. 12:00pm Leather Archives & Museum 6418 N Greenview Ave Chicago <http://leatherarchives.org>

**Trauma Work in the LGBTQ and GNC communities** Presented by the Chicago LGBTQ Behavioral Health Training Consortium. A free panel discussion and interactive workshop followed by a networking luncheon. Hayley Beth Van Serke, PsyD. Cuyana Davis-Carter, LPC. Rosey Puloka, LPC, R-DMT, GLCMA, RYT. Jaqueline Boyd, founder of The Care Plan. John Sykes, LCSW. RSVP by August 9. For more information, contact Ing Swenson, ext. 267 or [iswenson@centeronhalsted.org](mailto:iswenson@centeronhalsted.org). 10:30am - 2:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N. Halsted St.

## Saturday, Aug. 12

**The Bud Billiken Day Parade** Annual parade held since 1929 in Bronzeville/Washington, the largest African-American parade in the nation. 10:00am <http://www.budbillikenparade.org>

**Northalsted Market Days** Five stages of entertainment, bazaar of shopping and food options. Continues Aug. 13. 11:00am - 10:00pm Halsted Street in Boystown <http://www.northalsted.com>

**Grandma D's Puppet Playdate: trans youth reading group** Saturdays and Sundays in August, Chicago Pride Films and Theatres new Transgender youth reading group 2-8 or older, inclusive to the LGBT community. Reading with puppets stories like "I am Jazz" 2:00pm Chicago Pride Films and Theatres, 4139 N. Broadway <http://TristanTomDesigns.weebly.com>

**Bowling with Chicago Gender Society and friends** Chicago Gender Society is a transsocial and educational group for those exploring sexual identity. \$16 for two hours. Arrive early for set up. Questions to [chigendersoc.com](http://chigendersoc.com). 7:00pm - 9:00pm Elk Grove Bowl, Arlington Heights and Higgins Rd. <http://www.chicagogender.com>

## Sunday, Aug. 13

**The Kiki - Queer Comedy with Variety** Monthly show, second Sunday of every month, will feature video clips, audience interaction, games, and, of course, comedy. Doors 4pm. 5:00pm The Laugh Factory Chicago 3175 N Broadway, Chicago <http://www.LaughFactory.com>

## Monday, Aug. 14

**TransSafe: Weekly Transgender Care**

**Services** TransSafe is a once weekly service for transgender and gender non-conforming (GNC) individuals age 18 and up, providing a safe and trans affirming space where trans and GNC individuals can access referral and linkage to housing, medical, legal, employment, and HIV services. 2:00pm - 5:30pm Heartland Health Outreach Clinic, 4750 N. Sheridan Rd, 5th floor <http://www.chicagohouse.org/transsafe-4/>

**Open Mike** Each Monday with Kat Fitzgerald Kat@WindyCityOpenMike.com 7:00pm Hamburger Mary's, 155 S. Oak park Ave., Oak Park <http://www.facebook.com/MarysOakPark/>

## Tuesday, Aug. 15

**Game Night at Gerber/Hart Library** Bring yourself, some friends, and a board game to share. There is a TV available for anyone who prefers video games. Just bring your own system, games, controllers, etc. This event is free and open to people of all ages. Limited free parking is available in the parking lot on the north side of the building. 6:00pm - 9:00pm Gerber Hart Library and Archives 6500 N Clark St Chicago <http://tinyurl.com/y74d2tv9>

# CLASSIFIEDS

## ANTIQUES

### ZURKO PROMOTIONS

**ANTIQUE  
VINTAGE FLEA MARKET**  
August 12th & 13th  
Sat. 9am - 4pm / Sun. 9am-3pm / \$7

**Plus! VINTAGE GUITARS,  
AMPS, VINYL RECORDS,  
ROCK N ROLL MEMORABILIA**

Lake County Fairgrounds  
GREYSLAKE (1060 E. Peterson)

**ALL NIGHT FLEA MARKET**  
Saturday, Aug 19th  
3PM - 3AM / \$7

DuPage County Fairgrounds  
Wheaton, IL

Meet Butch Patrick - Eddie Muster!

**ZURKO PROMOTIONS**  
715-526-9769  
[www.zurkopromotions.com](http://www.zurkopromotions.com)

## CLEANING SERVICES

**CHESTNUT CLEANING SERVICES:** We're a house cleaning service for homes, small businesses and small buildings. We also have fabulous organizational skills (a separate function at a separate cost that utilizes your assistance) for what hasn't been cleaned in many months or years due to long-term illness, depression, physical/mental challenges, for the elderly, if you have downsized and more. Depressed about going home to chaos? We can organize your chaos, straighten out your chaos, help you make sense of your chaos and finally clean what is no longer chaos. Can we help you? Bonded and insured. **Chestnut Cleaning Service: 312-332-5575. [www.ChestnutCleaning.com](http://www.ChestnutCleaning.com) (11/23/17-52)**

## COUNSELING & PSYCHOTHERAPY

**ARE YOU GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME?** Feeling overwhelmed, anxious or depressed? Is your relationship struggling? I can help you better understand these situations and create solutions for them. My practical approach entails a therapeutic alliance that is affirming, empathic, and interactive. **Michael J. Bland, Psy.D., LCPC. Northside location. 773-404-8161. [Michael@BlandTherapy.com](mailto:Michael@BlandTherapy.com) / [www.BlandTherapy.com](http://www.BlandTherapy.com) (9/28/17-52)**

## HELP WANTED

**ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRITS WANTED.** Achieve Personal & Financial FREEDOM. Help us help you help others. It's what we do. Earn while you learn to invest VERY PROFITABLY in Real Estate. **For a brief online overview, call or text your name to 708-292-8778. (8/30/17-4)**

## HOME IMPROVEMENT & PAINTING

**MAKE YOUR DECK LOOK FABULOUS!** Get on our schedule to have your deck cleaned and sealed. We also do Remodeling, Carpentry, Drywall Repairs, Painting. "A+" with BBB. Licensed-Bonded-Insured, One year Warranty. **Free Estimates! Andy OnCall 847-328-3100 [www.andyoncallchicago.com](http://www.andyoncallchicago.com) (2/15/18-60)**

with BBB. Licensed-Bonded-Insured, One year Warranty. **Free Estimates! Andy OnCall 847-328-3100 [www.andyoncallchicago.com](http://www.andyoncallchicago.com) (2/15/18-60)**

## MASSAGE

**RAINBOW THAI BODYWORK ALEX.** Thai bodywork for gay only by Russian Alex. Petite but strong! Northbrook studio or housecalls. Expensive and worth it. **From Russia with love! (847) 868-0110 (8/16/17-4)**

## THE LYSER FIRM ATTORNEYS CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS Serving the LGBT Community for Over 30 Years

**TOUGH, EXPERIENCED AND DEDICATED**  
312-855-0875 | 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL  
[LysterFirm@aol.com](mailto:LysterFirm@aol.com)  
24/7 Emergency Phone: 847-309-7777

- State & Federal Courts
- Felonies & Misdemeanors
- Internet & White-Collar Crime
- All Drug Charges
- Sex Offenses
- Weapon & Gun Charges
- All Serious Traffic Offenses
- Drunk Driving
- Orders of Protection
- Expungements

Speak to an experienced attorney within minutes who will fight for you



# CONNEXIONS

MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

**B** BETANCOURT  
REALTY #betrealty



PROUD TO BE PART OF THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

**Celebrating 20 Years — Founded 1996**  
(773) 342-7211 • 2041 W Division St.  
BETANCOURTREALTY.COM

**WEDDING OFFICIANT**  
**JUDGE JAMES A. SHAPIRO (RET.)**  
*Specializing in Same-Sex Weddings*  
*In English and/or Spanish*  
*Starting at \$300*

Judge Shapiro actively supported same-sex weddings ...  
**now he gets to officiate them!**

**TEXT OR CALL: (312) 782-4615**

JudgeShapiro@gmail.com  
JudgeShapiroLaw.com

180 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 3700, Chicago, IL 60601

**Professional Condo/Coop  
Property Management at an  
Affordable Rate**

**Dedicated to Achieving  
100% Customer Satisfaction**

**Kane Property  
Management Corp.**

**773-472-2300**

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



**ACHILLE BENKO & DUVALL**  
BUSINESS SERVICES and CPAs

SERVING: ARTISTS  
PROFESSIONALS  
BUSINESS OWNERS

[www.abd-cpas.com](http://www.abd-cpas.com) • (847) 257-7330

**PAUL DAVID WADLER, PH.D.**  
LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

*Enhance your life and  
your relationships*

Specializing in individual, couples and family therapy.  
With over 20 years of experience as a marriage and  
family therapist, among his areas of expertise are LGBT  
individuals, couples, people with HIV/AIDS, and people  
who want to develop their spiritual life.

100 N. MICHIGAN AVE., SUITE 1620  
773-936-3222  
[www.drpdwadler.com](http://www.drpdwadler.com)

**ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON**

CAR ACCIDENT, WORK INJURY OR ORTHOPAEDIC INJURY

- BACK
- SHOULDER
- ELBOW
- WRIST
- HAND
- HIP
- KNEE
- ANKLE
- FOOT



**GOLD COAST ORTHOPAEDIC SPINE AND HAND SURGERY**  
**ROBERT JAMES FINK, M.D.**

Conveniently located at 7200 N. Western Ave., 2nd Floor

**312-654-8800**

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

¡Se habla Español!

**Mulryan  
& York**

Attorneys At Law

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

**Family Law**  
**Donald B. Boyd, Jr.**

• Pre-Marital Agreements •

LGBT Issues • Divorce/Wills/Trusts • Real Estate Closings  
Custody Violation • Child Support

Free Initial Consultation  
**708-848-1005**

113 South Marion St., Ste. 100, Oak Park, Ill., 60302



Evening & Weekend  
Appointments Available  
Major Credit Cards Accepted



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

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



- Probate
- Trusts
- Guardianship
- Estate Planning
- Elder Law

Clark Hill is an entrepreneurial, full service law firm that provides  
business legal services, government & public affairs, and personal  
legal services to our clients throughout the country. With offices  
in Arizona, Delaware, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania,  
Washington, D.C. and West Virginia, Clark Hill has more than 300  
attorneys and professionals.

312.985.5938 | [rkoenig@clarkhill.com](mailto:rkoenig@clarkhill.com)

[clarkhill.com](http://clarkhill.com)

CLARK HILL

# ★ AMERICA'S ★

## ORIGINAL CRAFT VODKA®



My American vodka beats  
the giant imports every day.

Try American! It's better.



*Tito*

### WINE ENTHUSIAST RATINGS

SCORE OUT OF 100 POINTS

**TITO'S®** **95** USA PTS  
HANDMADE VODKA

<b>Ketel One®</b> HOLLAND	<b>89</b> <small>PTS</small>	<b>Belvedere®</b> POLAND	<b>84</b> <small>PTS</small>
<b>Absolut®</b> SWEDEN	<b>88</b> <small>PTS</small>	<b>Grey Goose®</b> FRANCE	<b>84</b> <small>PTS</small>



“Smooth, I mean  
really smooth!”

CNN

★★★★

Spirit Journal



★ **TitosVodka.com** ★  
Handcrafted to be savored responsibly

DISTILLED & BOTTLED BY FIFTH GENERATION, INC. 40% ALC./VOL. © 2017 TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA.

