Different From The Others, Oldest Known Film About LGBT to be screened

Submitted by Provincetown Film Society

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the earliest surviving feature film about LGBT people, the Provincetown Film Society presents a special screening of the recently restored Different From The Others.

Different no more

Still frame from the silent movie ‘Different From the Others’

Buttigieg makes historic surge to top in Iowa polling

By Lisa Keen, Keen News Service

In an historic first, an openly gay presidential candidate for a major party nomination has topped the polling in Iowa, the first state that will select its delegates to the party nominating conventions.

A Des Moines Register-CNN poll of likely Democratic caucus-goers, found 25 percent support South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg, compared to 16 percent for U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, and 15 percent each for U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders and former Vice President Joe Biden.

But it wasn’t just Buttigieg’s first-place polling that snared the headlines.

Whitney Houston comes out posthumously, again

by Rev. Irene Monroe

contributing writer

For years, rumors dogged superstar Whitney Houston as being a closeted lesbian. Now in a moving memoir, “A Song for You: My Life with Whitney Houston,” by Robyn Crawford depicts their friendship and love story.

Seven years after Whitney’s death, Robyn Crawford says, “I’d come to the point where I felt the need to stand up for our friendship. And I felt an urgency to stand up and share the woman behind the incredible talent.”

Nine years ago, on Feb. 11, 2012, Houston was found dead in the bathtub of her Beverly Hilton Hotel room on the eve of the Grammy Awards. Allegations at the time surfaced that pop superstar Whitney Houston was murdered. These allegations flew counter to the Coroner’s Office report that there was no sign of foul play or trauma. The official cause of death months later, according to the toxicology results revealed Houston drowned due to drug intoxication.

While a murder investigation was ramped up in 2012 to ascertain who killed Houston, so, too, should’ve been a probe querying what really killed her before her death. It’s somewhat troubling, however, how homophobia does, too, but my black community see MONROE, page 3

Find Billy Masters on page 11!
### SCHOOL NAME
- **The Rivers School**
- **Boston University Academy**
- **Newton Country Day School**
- **The Newman School**
- **Montrose School**
- **Commonwealth School**
- **BB&N Lower School**
- **BB&N Middle and Upper School**
- **Atrium School**
- **Cambridge Country Day School**
- **Gann Academy**
- **Faye School**
- **The Park School**
- **Dasylva School**
- **The Rivers School**
- **Boston University Academy**
- **Newton Country Day School**
- **The Newman School**
- **Montrose School**
- **Commonwealth School**
- **BB&N Lower School**
- **BB&N Middle and Upper School**
- **Atrium School**
- **Cambridge Country Day School**
- **Gann Academy**
- **Faye School**
- **The Park School**
- **Dasylva School**

### CITY/TOWN
- **Weston**
- **Cambridge**
- **Newton**
- **Boston**
- **Medfield**
- **Weston**
- **Cambridge**
- **Newton**
- **Medfield**
- **Weston**
- **Newton**
- **Weston**
- **Weston**
- **Cambridge**
- **Newton**
- **Weston**

### AGES AND GRADES
- **11-18 years (6-12)**
- **18 mos. to 14 years (T-8)**
- **21 mos. to 14 years (PK-8)**
- **8-12 years (PK-6)**
- **8-12 years (T-8)**
- **2-12 years (7-12)**
- **10-18 years (6-12)**
- **12-16 years (8-12)**
- **15 mos.-14 years (6-12)**
- **14-18 years (9-12)**
- **10-16 years (8-12)**
- **3-12 years (Beginners-6)**
- **10-14 years (8-12)**
- **12-16 years (T-8)**
- **10-14 years (T-8)**

### OPEN HOUSE DATE(S) : TIME(S)
- **Sun., Sept. 22: 1-3:30 pm**
- **Oct. 17: 7-8:30 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 2:30-5:30 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 1-3 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 11:30-12:30 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 1-3 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**
- **Nov. 3: 10-12 pm**

### PHONE
- **781-235-9300**
- **718-354-3880**
- **617-281-8201**
- **781-863-1062**
- **617-327-2522**
- **617-630-2300**
- **617-484-3700**
- **617-734-3800**
- **617-266-8427**
- **617-808-8123**
- **617-969-4488**
- **617-236-7280**
- **617-354-3880**
- **617-327-2522**
- **617-808-8123**
- **617-969-4488**
- **617-354-3880**
- **617-566-4394**
- **617-808-8123**
- **617-969-4488**
- **617-808-8123**
- **617-808-8123**
- **617-808-8123**
- **617-808-8123**

### WEB ADDRESS
- **montroseschool.org**
- **learningproject.org**
- **fayschool.org**
- **bda.org**
- **newtonmontessori.org**
- **bostontrinity.org**
- **charlesriver.org**
- **bostontrinity.org**
- **thamontessori.org**
- **thamontessori.org**
- **newtoncountryday.org**
- **bostontrinity.org**
- **winworth.edu**
- **sageschool.org**
- **newtoncountryday.org**
- **winworth.edu**
- **newtoncountryday.org**
- **thamontessori.org**
- **newtoncountryday.org**
- **financed.org**

**CALL LISTED NUMBERS OR VISIT WEB SITES FOR MORE INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS.**

The schools listed above do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disabilities, sexual orientation, gender identity or family composition in their admissions, financial aid, or in the administration of their educational policies.
Monroe

Continued from page 1

-especially Christian and churched- don't name this killer.

While family, friends, and fans blamed Whit- ney's colossal downfall on drugs and Boston's bad boy Bobby Brown, both functioned to mask her sexuality.

In Brown's second memoir, "Every Little Step," he writes that Houston's lesbianism was "an open secret."

"They couldn't let Whitney live the life she wanted to live; they insisted that she be perfect, that she be someone she wasn't," Mr. Brown writes. "That's why they wanted Robyn out."

The Daily Mail reported that Houston's sister-in-law, Tina Brown, and her ex-bodyguard, Kevin Ammons, both believed Houston might have been a lesbian because she "had wild sex sessions with women while out of her mind on crack co-
caine."

"We never talked about labels, like lesbian or gay," writes Crawford. "We just lived our lives and I hoped it could go on that way forever."

Compulsive heterosexism takes you down paths you don't want to go.

However, it was her ex-spouse, Brown, who, over time, came to believe Whitney married him with an ulterior motive.

"I believe her agenda was to clean up her image, while mine was to be loved and have children. The media was accusing her of having a bi-sexual relationship with her assistant, Robin [sic] Crawford. Since she was the American Sweetheart and all, that didn't go too well with her image ... In Whitney's situation, the only solution was to get married and have kids. That would kill all speculation, whether it was true or not," Brown penned in his 2007 tell-all book "Bobby Brown: The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing But..."

"The freest Houston may have been expressing her sexuality without being dragged out of her mind might have been in 1999 at the 13th Annu-
alf New York City Lesbian and Gay Pride Dance. Houston that year flew in for a special surprise guest appearance where she performed her then two most recent hits, "It's Not Right, But It's Okay," and "Heartbreak Hotel."

Houston's mother, Cissy, a devout Christian, and homophobe, never accepted her daughter's homophobic feelings for Robyn Crawford. In her 2103 memoir “Remembering Whitney,” Cissy wrote unabashedly of her disdain for Crawford. Oprah, that same year, in an interview with Cissy asked: "Would it have bothered you if your daughter was gay?" Absolutely," Cissy snapped back. "You wouldn't have condoned it?" contin-
ued an incredulous Oprah. "Not at all."

The homophobic constraints of career and family expectations no doubt contribute to the stressors in Whitney's "down low" life, but so, too, the church, even at her "home-going" (fu-
netal) service.

Whitney ended her relationship with Robin immediately upon signing with Arista Records in 1982 with Clive Davis, who later comes out him-
selves as bisexual in 2013. Whitney gave Crawford a gift of a slate blue Bible. "She said we shouldn't be physical anymore," writes Crawford, "because it would make our journey even more difficult."

With homophobes as family friends like Pastor Donnie McClurkin, the poster boy for African American "ex-gay" ministries, self-righteously de-
nouncing LGBTQ people, and singing at Whit-
ney's funeral only a "down-low" existence was possible for her.

"I really feel that if Robyn was accepted into Whitney's life, Whitney would still be alive to-
day," Brown told Us Weekly magazine. I do too! We may never know all the demons that took this international renown pop star diva down a torturous and troubling road of self-destruction, but one demon not mentioned is homophobia.

Says Crawford: "I wanted to lift her legacy, give her respect and share the story of who she was before the fame, and in that, to embrace our friendship."

BGMC

Continued from page 1

I've been good, bring me a cute boy," it lives up to its super gay title.

The show opens with “Funky That Hall,” which is a variation of “Deck the Halls” inspired by RuPaul’s “Sissy That Walk.” It includes rau-
cious holiday pop favorites such as “Jingle Bell Rock,” “Up On The Housetop,” and “Mistletoe and Holly” as well as the Christmas classics “Here

We Come A Wassailing,” “The First Noel,” and “Alleluia.”

The concert will also feature “Silent Night” performed in American Sign Language by the Chorus in honor of long-time interpreter Le-
Wana Clark, Ph.D, who is marking her 30th an-
iversary with the Chorus this year.

“If you’re not in the Christmas spirit at the start of the show, you will be by the end,” said BGMC Music Director Reuben M. Reynolds, III. “We’re going to have so much fun with all of the classics be they camp, pop, or traditional. This show has something for everyone.”

“Super Gay Christmas” features more than 200 Chorus members, 16 dancers, twinkling lights, and “A Disco Santa,” the Village People’s version of “Noel.”

“A Super Gay Christmas celebrates the fun of the season and really does put the merry and gay in Christmas,” said BGMC Executive Director Craig Coogan.

Provincetown Town Hall, Provincetown Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019 at 8:30 p.m.

Ticket sales managed by Provincetown Business

New England Conservatory’s Jordan Hall 30 Gainsborough St., Boston, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, 2019 at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, 2019 at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019 at 8 p.m.

To purchase tickets visit www.bgmc.org or call 617-542-SING (7464)

Richard Silverman, M.D.

25 minutes, 25% less fat!

- PDA-deemed laser treatment for non-invasive fat removal from abdomen and flanks
- Treated patients saw up to 25% fat reduction with our treatment

Visit http://www.cynosure.com/product/sculpSure/

Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery

Offices in Newton and Boston 617-965-9500 • www.ricksilverman.com

Certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery

Debra A. Neiman, CFP®

Fee-Only Holistic Financial Planning • Registered Investment Advisor Financial Consulting • Wealth Management • Tax Preparation and Planning

781.641.5700

www.neimanonline.com

22 Mill Street, Suite 303 • Arlington, MA 02476
The lady vanquishes
Career Foreign Service witness proves unimpeachable
by Richard J. Rosendall | rrosendall@starpower.net
contributing writer

The Republicans in Congress have climbed so far up Donald Trump’s posterior that they may never find their way out again. Last week’s first public impeachment hearings by the House Intelligence Committee made it evident that members of the career Foreign Service are not inclined to follow their example.

Diplomats William Taylor and George Kent were unflappable on November 13 as they showed their expertise and refused to be drawn into partisan exchanges. If anything, they were outdone on November 15 when former ambassador to Ukraine Marie “Masha” Yovanovitch displayed her thirty-three years of experience with quiet resolve in the face of a president who, in his July 25 phone call with Ukrainian President Zelensky, dismissed her as “the woman,” called her “bad news,” and said ominously that “she’s going to go through some things.”

Questioned about this, Yovanovitch said, “It sounded like a threat.” Trump, tampering with a witness on the same day that his advisor Roger Stone was convicted of witness tampering, live-tweeted an attack on Yovanovitch as she sat in the witness chair:

“Everywhere Marie Yovanovitch went turned bad. She started off in Somalia, how did that go? Then fast forward to Ukraine, where the new Ukrainian President spoke unfavorably about her in my second phone call with him. It is a U.S. President’s absolute right to appoint ambassadors.”

Trump’s ability to pack so much dishonesty into a single tweet shows a real, if malign, gift. First, he absurdly blamed the ambassador for the collapse of Somalia. As she said after committee chair Adam Schiff read to her the president’s tweet, she doesn’t have such powers.

Second, a foreign head of state who depends on military aid to defend his country against an aggressor has no incentive to argue with his American patron. Of course Zelensky told Trump what he wanted to hear.

Third, as Yovanovitch said, after acknowledging that the president had the authority to dismiss her at will, “I do wonder why it was necessary to smear my reputation.” This illustrates how to project strength without a lot of swaggering. Her brief, straightforward responses to Trump’s mobster-like innuendo, in public, not by text, and by coming across not as a partisan but as the dedicated diplomat she was.

By contrast, the committee’s Republicans, having chosen to hold unaccountable a man friendlier to foreign despots than to his own country or its loyal servants, reverted to raising dilatory points of order.

Schiff, himself a frequent target of Trump’s attacks, remained calm and steady and firmly wielded his gavel to prevent would-be disruptors like Jim Jordan, smirking and striking an aggressive pose in his shirtsleeves, from hijacking the hearing.

Ranking Member Devin Nunes thought to give his Buttigieg
Continued from page 1
He’s done that before. It was the fact that his support in Iowa constituted a 16-point leap in less than two months that drew notice.

“This is a real surge,” said an article in the conservative Washington Post. “This is a real surge,” said an article in the conservative New York Post.

In addition to the general public’s feelings about gay people, Buttigieg has had to overcome other hurdles: being essentially unknown to most voters nationwide, being the mayor of a small city from the Midwest, and carrying a hard-to-pronounce name into the public arena. But Buttigieg has polled and fundraised well enough to stay on the national debate stage and as a steady contender when better known Democrats have had to bow out (like U.S. Rep. Beto O’Rourke and U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand) or have failed to break into the top five in a field of about 20 candidates (U.S. Senators Cory Booker and Amy Klobuchar).

The Des Moines Register-CNN poll released November 16 came just two days before a CBS poll found Buttigieg essentially tied with Biden and Bernie Sanders. A Monmouth University poll two days before that showed him in the lead, but by only three points that the margin of error essentially defined.

The Des Moines Register and CNN called 2012 “active registered voters,” including 500 “likely Democratic caucgoeters.” The survey was conducted between November 8 and 15 and has a margin of error of plus-or-minus 4.4 points in the Democratic sample. So, Buttigieg’s nine-point lead is significant.

The Iowa poll immediately increased the amount of media attention and consideration being given to Buttigieg’s bid for president, as well as tough scrutiny. The Washington Post did an article noting that a “stock” photo used as an illustration for Buttigieg’s “Douglass Plan for Black America” was a photo of a Kenyan woman. The Associated Press examined whether Buttigieg might be “overstating” his military service in Afghanistan. The New York Post reported criticism of a photo of Buttigieg in front of a Holocaust memorial. And NBC did a story saying Buttigieg was “struggling with black voters.”

Speaking of black voters, a poll released Monday of “likely voters” in South Carolina, which has a much greater percentage of black voters than Iowa or New Hampshire, showed Buttigieg stalled at six percent, compared to previous polls. Buttigieg came in a distant fourth among the candidates with all South Carolina voters; Biden took 33 percent, Warren 13 percent, and Sanders 11 percent. And Buttigieg garnered less than one percent of the vote among black voters specifically.

Voters saying they didn’t know who they would vote for accounted for 18 percent of those surveyed in South Carolina. The Quinnipiac University poll surveyed 768 likely Democratic primary voters; the margin of error was 4.8 percent.

Buttigieg’s performance in both the Iowa and South Carolina polls could well be topics for increased discussion at the next national Democratic presidential debate, Wednesday, November 20.

The top 10 Democratic presidential candidates face off for their fifth nationally televised debate, this time on NBC, with openly lesbian political commentator Rachel Maddow and three other reporters asking the questions.

Two new Democratic candidates — former Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick and former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg — have joined the field in the past week, but they will not be on the stage. They have not yet collected the necessary number of contributors, dollars, and polling numbers required by the Democratic party for participation in the debates.

Meanwhile, the latest national poll, released Monday, shows Buttigieg hanging onto fourth place, with about seven percent of the vote, well behind front-runner Biden (with 30 percent), Warren (with 18), and Sanders (with 15).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIQUOR</th>
<th>CORDIALS &amp; LIQUEURS</th>
<th>WINE &amp; SPARKLING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JACK DANIELS 1.75L</td>
<td>BAILEYS IRISH CREAM 750ML $19.99</td>
<td>MEIOMI PINOT NOIR 750ML $16.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHNNIE WALKER BLACK 1.75L</td>
<td>OLD NEW ENGLAND EGG NOG 1.75L $12.99</td>
<td>RELAX RIESLING 750ML $7.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEWAR’S WHITE LABEL 1.75L</td>
<td>HPNOTIC 750ML $13.99</td>
<td>LEITZ DRAGONSTONE RIESLING 750ML $11.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANQUERAY GIN 1.75L</td>
<td>KAHLUAA COFFEE 750ML $18.99</td>
<td>PIGHIN PINOT GRIGIO 750ML $11.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMIRNOFF 80° &amp; FL 1.75L</td>
<td>AMARETTO DISARONNO 750ML $22.99</td>
<td>APOTHIC (EXCLUDES INFERNO) 750ML $7.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BACARDI LIGHT &amp; DARK 1.75L</td>
<td>ROMANA SAMBUCA 750ML $23.99</td>
<td>SANTA MARGHERITA PINOT GRIGIO 750ML $17.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPTAIN MORGAN 1.75L</td>
<td>FRANGETICO 750ML $21.99</td>
<td>BOGLE PHANTOM RED 750ML $12.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TITO’S 1.75L</td>
<td>GRAND MARNIER 750ML $25.99</td>
<td>JOSH CABERNET 750ML $10.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTEL CORDON BLUET 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>KIM CRAWFORD SAUV BLANC 750ML $11.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATRON SILVER 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>KENDALL JACKSON VTR'S CHARD 750ML $10.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JIM BEAM 1.75L</td>
<td></td>
<td>OYSTER BAY SAUV BLANC 750ML $9.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KETEL ONE 1.75L</td>
<td></td>
<td>BOTA ALL 3L BOX $15.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REMY MARTIN VSOP 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>YELLOW TAIL ALL 1.5L $9.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHNIE WALKER GOLD RES. 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>BAREFOOT ALL 1.5L $9.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALWHINNIE 15YR 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 DEADLY ZINS 750ML $10.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCENY BOURBON 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>RUFFINO PROSECCO 750ML $9.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAGAVULIN 16YR 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>KORBEL ALL 750ML $9.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEYRAT PINEAU CHARRENTES 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>LUC BELAIR ALL SPARKLING 750ML $23.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOB CREEK BOURBON 750ML</td>
<td></td>
<td>MOET IMPERIAL 750ML $39.99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BEER</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAM ADAMS 12PK BTLS.</td>
<td>$13.99+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLUE MOON 12PK BTLS.</td>
<td>$13.99+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARPOON 12PK BTLS.</td>
<td>$13.99+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STELLA ARTOIS 12PK BTLS</td>
<td>$13.99+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORONA REG &amp; LT 24PK BTLS</td>
<td>$25.99+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEINEKEN REG &amp; LT 24 LOOSE PK BTLS</td>
<td>$25.99+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COORS LIGHT 30PK CANS</td>
<td>$22.99+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUD &amp; BUD LIGHT 30PK CANS</td>
<td>$22.99+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* DEPOSIT
VISA • MC • DISCOVER • AMEX • ATM ACCEPTED 617-445-0560
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS
The Bitter and the Sweet

by Judah Leblang | www.JudahLeblang.com
contributing writer

I just got back from a quick trip to Cleveland, my hometown, the city (or suburbs nearby) where I grew up. This time I wasn’t going back for an emergency, or due to a sense of obligation, since my mother is doing well. “Doing well” is relative—my mom, at 91 is small, frail, and weighs all of 100 pounds. I worry about her appetite, her unreliable short-term memory, her tendency to become winded due to COPD.

On this trip, I was promoting my new book, Echoes of Jerry, participating in a day-long writing conference at Case-Western Reserve University and teaching a short workshop at the college on Saturday, and then speaking on a local (Cleveland State and teaching a short workshop at the college in her assisted living facility, where I scanned the paper and Mom read one of a series of novels she picks up from their one-room library.

My mother’s short-term memory is weak at best; at times she’ll retain a moment, a factoid like her current weight or blood pressure from her weekly visits to the nurse, but the recent past — from a few hours to a few years is vague, and subject to erasure like the Etch-A-Sketch my parents got me when I was confined to the hospital as a young boy. And so she reads, uncritically, getting the gist of the page while reading, and forgetting the details immediately after. Still, it keeps her engaged, and as her memory fades she has less to say, and reading is something we can do together, or side by side.

On Friday night, I took Mom out to a local Chinese restaurant, not because the food is good (it isn’t) but because there was covered parking near the back entrance, no stairs, and easy access to the restaurant. On Saturday, we went to brunch at a local deli, also designed for and filled with leftovers — like my mother—of the greatest brunch at a local deli, also designed for and filled with leftovers — like my mother—of the greatest Chinese restaurant, not because the food is good (it isn’t) but because there was covered parking near the back entrance, no stairs, and easy access to the restaurant. On Saturday, we went to brunch at a local deli, also designed for and filled with leftovers — like my mother—of the greatest Chinese restaurant, not because the food is good (it isn’t) but because there was covered parking near the back entrance, no stairs, and easy access to the restaurant.

My mother’s short-term memory is weak at best; at times she’ll retain a moment, a factoid like her current weight or blood pressure from her weekly visits to the nurse, but the recent past — from a few hours to a few years is vague, and subject to erasure like the Etch-A-Sketch my parents got me when I was confined to the hospital as a young boy. And so she reads, uncritically, getting the gist of the page while reading, and forgetting the details immediately after. Still, it keeps her engaged, and as her memory fades she has less to say, and reading is something we can do together, or side by side.

When I go “home,” (as I still think of Cleveland though I’ve lived in Boston far longer than the 20 years I lived in Northeast Ohio), I plan an outing, often to the movies, since that involves little walking, and something my mom and I can experience in real time. On Sunday, we went to a movie. I double parked in a fire lane, guided my mother into the expansive lobby, and then parked the car. She managed the three stairs to the ticket booth with difficulty, and I procured two seats near the theater entrance, on the main floor. After the show, we reversed our path and made it back to my rental car, where my mother caught her breath; she tires even after short excursions.

A few hours later, when I left her apartment to head across town to Cleveland Hopkins Airport for my flight back to Boston, I felt an internal split, a mix of sorrow (her life is getting smaller) and relief (I’m getting away, back to my daily life). In those moments when I’m with her, I feel another split — the young boy who still wants his mom — and despite feeling scared and inadequate to the task, the late-middle aged man who needs to advocate for her needs, the grownup who tries to make sure she eats enough, and has some quality of life in her declining years.

As I drive across town, I feel both grateful that she is still here, and anxious for what’s to come, a mix of the bitter and the sweet.

Judah Leblang is a Boston-based writer, teacher and storyteller. He will be reading from his new memoir, Echoes of Jerry, with poet Ben Berman on Sunday November 24 at 2pm at the Beacon Hill Friends House, 6 Chestnut Street in Boston. Suggested donation $10 at door/pay what you can. More info at judahleblang.com

Where will you live until you can call this ‘Home’ again? Your association policy won’t cover your additional living expenses. Condo owners NEED Personal Condominium Insurance for that. Aside from replacing your personal property, it will help you with rent, while you’re still paying your mortgage. Contact us.
father is confined to a wheelchair and won’t leave his room. Evasive prose and a big dose of family love.

Caldecott Honor and Ezra Jack Keats Honor winner Bao Phi’s In My Footprints, illustrated by Bia Tran (Capstone), tells of a Vietnamese American girl who gets teased by classmates about her two moms and told to “go back where I come from.” She finds solace in imitating wild creatures and her moms draw on their own cultural identities (Vietnamese American and Hindu) to help her pretend. A lyrical tale about finding strength in imagination, family, and heritage.

Ghost’s Journey: A Refugee Story, by Robin Stevenson (Rebel Mountain Press), is based on the true story of a same-sex couple who fled from Indonesia to Canada from fear of persecution. Stevenson tells the tale from the perspective of their cat, Ghost, and her thoughtful prose captures the family’s journey with just the right amount of detail for young readers.

I Am Perfectly Designed, by Queer Eye star Karamo Brown and his grown son Janson “Rachel” Brown, with illustrations by Anooosh Syed, gives us a gentle yet affirming conversation between a young Black boy and his father about their life together, as they walk through their vibrant, multicultural, queer-inclusive neighborhood.

Maiden & Princess, by Daniel Haack and Isabel Galupo, with illustrations by Becca Human (Little Bee), tells of a maiden who falls in love with a princess at a multi-racial royal court. A welcome addition to the genre of LGBTQ-inclusive fairy tales and books about women in control of their lives and loves.

Love Makes a Family, by Sophie Beer (Dial Books), is a chewy board book in the vein of many others that showcase family diversity, but stands out for the fun, dynamic, and gently humorous illustrations. (Published in the last week of 2018, too late for my gift guide last year.)

My Two Moms and Me and My Two Dads and Me, by Michael Joosten and illustrator Izak Zenou (Doubleday), are board books that depict the everyday lives of children with same-sex parents. While they stick with a formula used in two previous LGBTQ-inclusive board book pairs (one by Lesléa Newman and the other by Stacey Bromberg and Joe Taravella), they are up-beat and stylish.

Spring Cleaning

For All Seasons

- Trustworthy cleaning services to meet your needs
- Houses, apartments and commercial
- Schedule that works best for you, weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly
- All routine housework, plus special clean-up jobs
- Owners supervised cleaning crew and ensures quality
- Excellent references and competitive rates

Cleaning by Judy
617-501-9645

Joseph J. Bennett
November 29, 2009

Like the perennial flower that may go dormant from time to time and springs back into bloom

As the tearful memories make way to happier ones

Memories of you remind us that love once it takes root will always reappear.

Gary

Like the perennial flower that may go dormant from time to time and springs back into bloom

As the tearful memories make way to happier ones

Memories of you remind us that love once it takes root will always reappear.

Gary
destroyed by the Nazis, however a surviving copy was located during the collapse of the Soviet Union and was later restored by the UCLA Film and Television Archive.

The Provincetown Film Society offered a screening of the film earlier this year as part of the Provincetown Film Festival in June and it played to a sold-out house with rave reviews.

Different From The Others (Anders als die Andern) tells a compelling story of secrecy and oppression that continues to play out in today’s world. The film stars Conrad Veidt (the somnambulist in The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari and Colonel Strasser in Casablanca) as Paul Körner, a violinist whose romance with a talented male student is thwarted when a blackmailer threatens to expose the relationship and Körner’s homosexuality, then a crime under Germany’s notorious Paragraph 175.

The story was co-written by Richard Oswald and Magnus Hirschfeld, who also had a small part in the film and partially funded the production through his Institute for Sexual Science. The film was intended as a polemic against the then-current laws under Germany’s Paragraph 175, which made homosexuality a criminal offense. It is believed to be the first pro-gay film in the world.

Provincetown Film Society CEO Christine Walker said, “It is important to bring this film to the greater Boston community so more people can have the opportunity to see it. It’s remarkable how well the message plays 100 years later in today’s world. The film provides a good reminder about how much progress has been made for LGBT people over the past century, but we also know there is much work still to be done.”

Different From The Others will be shown on Thursday, December 5 at the Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road in Dorchester. Well-known Provincetown musician Billy Hough will perform an original score for the silent film with the collaboration of a vocal ensemble including Grammy-winning tenor Jason McStoots.

The film screening and live performance begins at 7:00 pm. General Admission tickets are $25 per person. A limited number of VIP tickets are available for $75 and include a reception featuring the different flavors and tastings of Dorchester, preferred seating at the Strand Theatre and a meet & greet with Billy Hough.

The VIP Event begins at 5:30 pm. Following the film, there will be a discussion with Q&A and an additional performance by Billy Hough.

Tickets are available at: www.provincetownfilm.org. A portion of the proceeds from the screening will benefit The Provincetown Film Society and The Trevor Project. There will be an earlier screening of the film on October 24, 2019 at the Provincetown Theater.
Panel brings transgender issues to light, opens dialogue

By SUSAN SHIBUT
Capital News Service

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—"Guess what? I am a transgender woman and I am just like everybody else."

Keri Abrams was addressing an audience of about 35 people at the "Ask a Trans Person" panel at Chesterfield Central Library earlier this week. Equality Virginia -- an advocacy organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Virginians -- hosted the event to facilitate transgender visibility and inspire community building by inviting questions from the audience.

The discussion included inquiries about how to gain confidence being trans, choosing a gender-affirming name and how family and friends can offer support. The panelists discussed their different experiences, including coming out and transitioning. The audience was first encouraged to write anonymous questions on notecards and later to ask questions in front of the group. Most of the questions were about opportunities to support the transgender community or questions regarding the panelists’ personal experiences.

A recurring topic was the lack of legal protections for transgender people in Virginia. In January 2018 Gov. Ralph Northam signed into effect Executive Order Number One to ensure equal opportunity in state government. The order prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, political affiliation or against persons with disabilities.

This year several nondiscrimination bills failed to pass the General Assembly. These included HB 2067, which would have prohibited discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in public employment, and SB 1109, which would have categorized discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity as an unlawful housing practice.

"A lot of people don’t know that we are not protected," Abrams said. "They assume that, you know, everybody else is protected. But we’re not. We can lose jobs, we can be denied jobs, we can be denied housing, we can be thrown out of housing, and we won’t even get in to homeless shelters."

Panelist Zakia McKensey said she experienced discrimination while trying to find an office space for Nationz Foundation, a nonprofit organization she founded to help the LGBTQ community have access to health resources and education. She said her inquiries into available spaces were repeatedly denied without an explanation after visiting.

"We should be protected, we should have the same rights, same opportunities," McKensey said.

Panelist Andrew, who asked to be referred to only by his first name because he fears being fired, said he wants more protection in university housing, more inclusive high school sports policies and recognition of the significance of pronouns.

"Imagine being in a lecture hall of 250 people and the professor calls you by the wrong pronoun in front of all your classmates," Andrew said.

In 2014 the Virginia High School League approved participation in public school sports by transgender athletes, but they would be required to have undergone sex reassignment surgery and hormone therapy. VHSL has since updated the policy to allow transgender athletes who have verified medical documentation as having a consistent identity different than the gender listed on their birth certificate or school registration to participate.

Andrew said the VHSL almost prevented him from playing sports in high school.

All three panelists also said that health care is a difficult system for transgender people to navigate.

"So many times we go into places needing health-related services, and we end up teaching medical practitioners what we need," McKensey said.

Health care access, workplace protections and housing protections are all on Equality Virginia’s "checklist" of important issues to address for the LGBTQ community. The list also includes inclusive schools, public accommodations and a conversion therapy ban.

Conversion therapy, the practice of trying to change an individual’s sexual orientation, is still legal in Virginia, though there have been attempts to limit the practice. Three Virginia boards that advise mental health professions -- the Board of Psychology, Board of Counseling and Board of Social Work -- all voted to prohibit the practice on minors. These boards do not need legislative approval to create regulation and take disciplinary action against offending practices.

According to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 16% of Americans say they know someone who is transgender. Equality Virginia Program Coordinator Thalia Hernandez said she hopes the panel gave attendees who might not know a transgender person a greater understanding of the issues that face the community.

see NATIONAL, page 10
Continued from page 9

“We’re making that larger social change as well in these everyday interactions, and so the small things can really build a world of difference,” Hernandez said.

Equality Virginia will host more “Ask a Trans Person” panels on Nov. 21 and Dec. 17 at Hampton Public Library in Hampton, on Dec. 10 at the East Suffolk Recreation Center in Suffolk and on Dec. 12 at First Congregational Christian Church in Chesterfield.

Missouri police officer agrees to mediation after $20M award

CLAYTON, Mo. (AP)—A St. Louis County police officer has agreed to mediation to reach a settlement and avoid court appeals, weeks after a jury awarded him $20 million to resolve his lawsuit alleging he suffered discrimination because he is gay.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported Friday that both sides have incentives to settle. The county hopes to reduce its liability. Sgt. Keith Wildhaber could keep a larger percentage of the award if he settles.

Wildhaber’s lawsuit alleged that he had been passed over for a promotion 23 times and was told to “tone down your gayness.”

Missouri law requires defendants to give half of punitive damages awarded to the state’s Tort Crime Victim’s Compensation Fund. Punitive damages in Wildhaber’s case amounted to $17 million of the $20 million award.

Information from: St. Louis Post-Dispatch, http://www.stltoday.com
Many people view impeachment as nothing more than "political theatre," President Donald Trump’s impeachment inquiry was the stage for some actual theatre when into the hearing strode a drag queen! No, I’m not talking about Rudy Giuliani: I’m talking about a buxom blonde vixen who shayed with all the panache of a young Ivana Trump. Images went viral of the dame being wanded by security (I was once wanded by security...but that’s another story). The mysterious tuxedo turnabout to be Pissi Myles, drag artist extraordinaire from New Jersey. She told NBC News, “It was a crazy day in Washington! I felt a very high energy proceedings today. Tensions are high, and the bar for who’s allowed in the Longworth House is very, very low.” Pissi Tweeted from the hearings with her cell phone and selfie stick for Happs, described as “the first open-source live news network.”

I don’t care why she was there—I just love that she was.

Rumors abound that Mr. Trump and Mark Burnett are in discussions to reunite once Donald leaves office for “The Apprentice: The Big House”. First things first—let’s hope Donald is free to do this gig in just over a year. Second, do they allow inmates to host reality shows? Third, they may want to rename it “The Apprentice: The Big House”!

I love that people want to sue Madonna for showing up late for gigs. I have no strong feelings one way or the other for Madge. I’m somewhat apathetic toward her postmenopausal warblings. But once Convin Law announced they would take on the proposed class action suit, my ears perked up. The main argument appears to be that the Material Girl is in breach of contract her long relationship with Whitney (the 2003 radio interview is required listening). That Robyn went on the show was staggering, particularly since she reiterated that Whitney wanted to meet Wendy back in 2003. “Our plan was to go down to Hudson Street...wait for you right outside.” When Wendy explained, “Robyn, I can’t even fight...I would’ve run”, Robyn added, “We weren’t going to fight you. We just wanted to see you face-to-face and have a chat.” If you’ve ever tangled with someone from Jersey, you know what kinda “chat” it would have been.

Over the years, Tamar Braxton has kept herself in the spotlight by saying all of the wrong things. Last week, she posted what has been described as an anti-gay rant. She gave this advice to her female followers on Instagram: “If he lays with you for 3, 4, 10 days and he doesn’t touch u, it’s NOT YOU! HE WANT A MAN! And that’s on my momma.” So maybe we should be mad at Momma Braxton’ Tamar continued. “Truth is ladies that dudes dote out here really do be gay! It ain’t enough money, beauty, hair, babies in the world to keep them! They want DICK! Period!” You could look at this as a positive message. If you’re a woman dating a gay guy, nothing you do will get him. After all the hoopla (a word I like to work into every dozen or so columns), Tamar said, “I shouldn’t have been in my feelings & ranted on social media based off a conversation with my friends,” which begs the question...who are her friends? She then posted a screenshot of the original rant, crossed it out, and scrawled, “We all say stupid shit.” True—but she said more than she should.

Speaking of stupid shit, an openly gay radio host nobody ever heard of tried to pull a Jessie Smollett—and we all know how that turned out. Seth Dunlap hosts “The Last Lap” on radio station WWL—the official station of the New Orleans Saints. He posted an open letter voicing his frustration with football player Drew Brees’ involvement with an anti-LGBTQ group. Days later, the radio station’s own Twitter account featured a profile calling Dunlap a “fag.” (I say it with cause...well, just cause.) It was taken down, but screenshots have popped up all over social media. The police obtained a search warrant to check Dunlap’s phone after rumors claimed he wrote the homophobic post himself. Allegedly the IP address assigned to Dunlap’s phone is the same IP address used to post the nasty comment. It’s also said that Dunlap attempted to extort $1.8 million from his employers for the emotional stress the “T-word” has caused him. For now, Dunlap is off the air and no richer. On the positive side, I don’t see any jacked up Nigerians sniffing around. Or maybe that’s a negative.

If my dating life is any indication, you know that I’m drawn to complicated relationships. I have a gift for seeing the connection between implausible people. For instance, Ellen DeGeneres will be given the Carol Burnett Award at the 2020 Golden Globes. Carol Burnett will receive the 2020 Stephen Sondheim Award from Virginia’s Signature Theatre. This winter, Stephen Sondheim’s musical “Company” returns to Broadway courtesy of the Bernard B. Jacobs Theatre. And Bernard B. Jacobs...well, he’s dead. Look, I didn’t say it was a perfect science.

Let’s try another one. Earlier this month, a revival of the musical “Mary Poppins” hits London’s West End. It stars Charlie Stemp in the role of Bert. Charlie was last seen on Broadway playing Barnaby in the revival of “Hello, Dolly!” In that production, his partner in crime was Gavin Creel as Cornelius. And back in 2006, Gavin Creel made his West End debut playing Bert in “Mary Poppins”. See? That one works—and nobody died (yet).

It was just announced that the Broadway musical of "Tootsie" will be closing on January 5th. This does not bode well for the recently announced musical based on "Mrs. Doubtfire", which is set to begin previews on Broadway. Perhaps two high-profile musicals led by men in drag cannot co-exist on Broadway. BTW, “Mrs. Doubtfire” will play the Stephen Sondheim Theatre, which...I can’t even go there. But it does bear mentioning that the lead in “Tootsie” is played by Santino Fontana, who replaced Gavin Creel in “Hello, Dolly!” and for a time played opposite Charlie Stemp.

Kate Beckinsale has shot down rumors that she is dating Jamie Foxx. “If that’s true, I’ve got a hell of a problem.” Perhaps the media cannot tell the difference between Kate Beckinsale and Katie Holmes—neither of whom have appeared in drag or in a Sondheim musical.

Our “Ask Billy” question from Karl in Chicago got me to put on my investigative reporter hat...while our subject, ironically, took everything off: “What do you know about KJ Apa? Is he gay? Is he as but tacked as I think?”

For the edification of those of you not watching “Riverdale”, KJ plays Archie Andrews. In 2017, he appeared in “A Dog’s Purpose” and his wife was played by Brit Robertson. Allegedly, the two have been dating on and off since—for we will skip the predictable doggie style jokes. Now, onto KJ’s body. The current issue of “Rollacoaster” magazine (which has already sold out) has quite a provocative spread of the limber, lanky lad. And he’s clearly not averse to showing some skin, which reminded me of a story regarding a mysterious dick pic. Rumor has it the dick in the pic belongs to KJ. I hasten to add it’s just a disembodied penis. But given the girth of KJ’s body of work, I’m leaning towards it being legit. Check it out on BillyMasters.com, and see what you think.

When KJ has you reaching for KY, it’s definitely time to end yet another column. Since we’re fast approaching Thanksgiving, I’m dashing off to the East Coast...and hopefully not rushing through the snow. You know what I’ll be thankful for? The end of these impeachment hearings. Not only do they pre-empt my shows, but I keep remembering that Bill Clinton enjoyed his highest approval ratings AFTER he was impeached. Food for thought. For the rest of your cravings, check out www.BillyMasters.com—the site that’ll stuff more than just your turkey. Obviously I can take whatever you dish out. So inbox me at Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before Madonna shows up on time for a gig. Until next time, remember, one man’s filth is another man’s bible.
Bravery reflected.

On X1, it’s Pride all year, only with Xfinity. For some, showing the world who they truly are is a courageous act. That’s why Xfinity created the largest first-of-its-kind community endorsed LGBTQ Film & TV Collection. Enjoy thousands of TV shows and movies at home and on-the-go with Xfinity On Demand. Just say, “LGBTQ” into the X1 Voice Remote to discover brave and powerful stories that reflect your life. Simple, easy, awesome.

Find yourself at xfinity.com/LGBTQ

Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. No celebrity endorsement implied. © 2019 Comcast. All rights reserved. NPA228077-0001

NED LG Q4 BAU V8