

G
DAYTON
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Volume 24, Issue 2
February 2024

Love

www.GayDayton.org



16th Annual

BOWLING

FOR PRIDE!

Saturday

February 24th

Check-in @ 1 PM

Bowl @ 2 PM

Poelking Lanes

1403 Wilmington Ave.

Dayton, OH 45420

\$25/person

(shoes included)

Pre-Register to guarantee your spot:

WWW.DAYTONLGBTCENTER.ORG

GAME 1: 8 to Eat

GAME 2: Bingo Bowl

GAME 3: Garbage Bowl

RAINBOW
STRIKE
JACKPOT

\$100



FREE ENTRY to MJ's for all bowlers for the afterparty!

An 18+ event

Sponsored By:



OXBALLS

hünkyjunk

HU

Calendar of Events

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Feb. 01, 2024 | First Day Of Black History Month | | |
| Feb. 01, 2024 | 6:00 PM | Center Monthly Board Meeting | Center |
| Feb. 01, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Yoga at the Center | Center |
| Feb. 01, 2024 | 1-5 PM | HIV Testing | Center |
| Feb. 05, 2024 | 7:00 PM | LGBTQ AA Meeting | Center |
| Feb. 05, 2024 | 7:00 PM | SOAR-Survivors Overcoming Assault and Rape | Center |
| Feb. 06, 2024 | 6:00 PM | Men's Dining | Spaghetti Warehouse |
| Feb. 07, 2024 | 7:00 PM | PFLAG Monthly Meeting | |
| Feb. 07, 2024 | 5-7 PM | African American HIV Awareness | Center |
| Feb. 08, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Yoga at the Center | Center |
| Feb. 09, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Religious Trauma Support Group | Center |
| Feb. 10, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Women's "Valentine's Dance" | Center |
| Feb. 12, 2024 | 1-5 PM | HIV Testing | Center |
| Feb. 12, 2024 | 7:00 PM | LGBTQ AA Meeting | Center |
| Feb. 13, 2024 | 5-7 PM | Black History HIV Awareness | Center |
| Feb. 14, 2024 | Happy Valentines Day | | |
| Feb. 14, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Positive Attitudes | Center |
| Feb. 14, 2024 | 6:00 PM | Men's Dining | Spaghetti Warehouse |
| Feb. 15, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Yoga at the Center | Center |
| Feb. 19, 2024 | 7:00 PM | LGBTQ AA Meeting | Center |
| Feb. 20, 2024 | 6:00 PM | Men's Dining | Spaghetti Warehouse |
| Feb. 20, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Gatlyn Dame Group | Center |
| Feb. 22, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Positive Attitudes | Center |
| Feb. 22, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Yoga at the Center | Center |
| Feb. 24, 2024 | 1:00 PM | Bowling For Pride | Poelking Lanes |
| Feb. 25, 2024 | 4:00 PM | "2024 PRIDE Festival" Planning | Center |
| Feb. 26, 2024 | 7:00 PM | LGBTQ AA Meeting | Center |
| Feb. 27, 2024 | 6:00 PM | Men's Dining | Spaghetti Warehouse |

Gay Dayton is published monthly by Gay Dayton®, LLC

Randy Phillips, owner

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Phone: 937-623-1590

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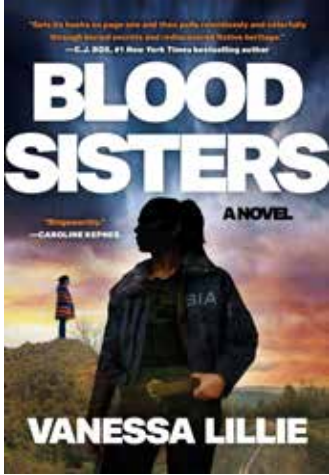
Book Reviews

by: Terri Schlichenmeyer

aka: "The Book Worm"

bookwormsez@yahoo.com

"Blood Sisters" by Vanessa Lillie c.2023, Berkley \$27.00 384 pages



It's the truth. Scout's honor.

Pinky swear. Spit on your palms or prick your fingers, and shake hands. As a child, you had many ways to show that you intended to keep a promise when you made it and your word was your bond, but you've grown up. Today, you cross your heart but, as in the new novel "**Blood Sisters**" by **Vanessa Lillie**, you hope no one has to die.

She wasn't looking for skeletal remains.

For Bureau of Indian Affairs archaeologist Syd Walker, such a find was very unusual but not unknown. Odd things happen during geological surveys on tribal lands everywhere. Still, the gruesome recovery in Rhode Island wasn't top on Syd's mind.

She'd gotten a call that her sister, Emma Lou, was missing in Oklahoma. Again.

Fifteen years before, as Syd, Emma Lou, and Luna, who they'd considered a sister, were chilling in Luna's family's trailer, a group of men broke in. Wearing masks, the "devils" killed Luna and her parents, and the small town of Picher, was never the same.

Neither were Emma Lou or Syd.

As a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Syd was well aware of the problems near her hometown, the issues Native Americans had there with the BIA, and her own ancestors' efforts to survive on land that was given and then snatched back. She also knew the fact that she had a wife at home in Rhode Island set her apart since she'd left. And drugs – too many people on tribal allotments were getting drugs too easily.

But someone wanted Syd to come home: a female skull was found in the

crook of a tree with her old work badge in its mouth. Despite knowing that Syd had fled Oklahoma on purpose, her new boss at the BIA pulled strings to arrange the trip and assigned her the case.

Years ago, Syd had promised to protect Luna and Emma Lou.

One of them was already dead. The other was missing.

Was the skull a threat – or a warning?

Here is the best advice you're going to get when you grab "Blood Sisters": pay close attention to the minutiae. Without being a spoiler, little things mean a lot.

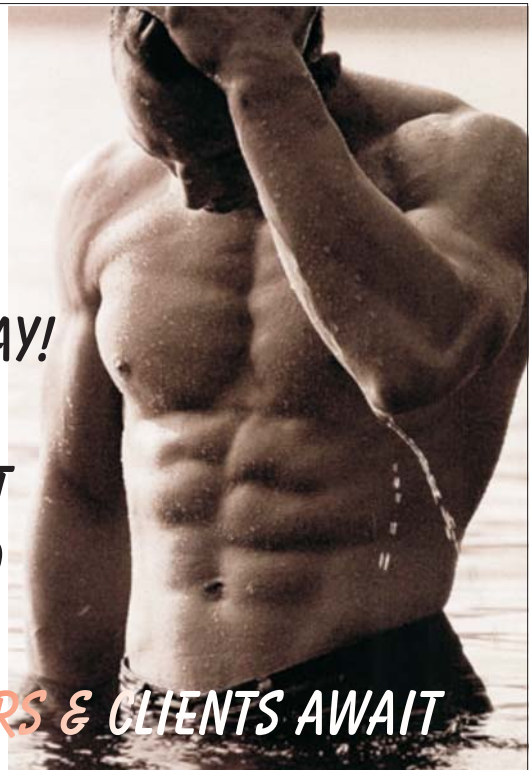
Unless you watch carefully, you'll be cruising along at 200 miles an hour in a screaming run through pages and pages of barely-bearable excitement when suddenly, your brain will make that scratchy sound like a stopped record album. It's there where author Vanessa Lillie drops three tons of TNT, right towards the almost-end of her story and whoa, Nelly. If you're not paying attention, you may have to read the chapter multiple times to cut your "*What the....?*" down to a manageable level.

Yeah, this is that kind of book, the kind that's written with authenticity, an insider's feel, and heightened tension that'll keep you awake. The kind that you think you know how it'll end and you're wrong. For mystery lovers or thriller fans, "Blood Sisters" is the kind of book you should scout out.

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Dear Friends and Allies,

If we look back through history over the past fifty-five years since the Stonewall Riots, we know the LGBTQ+ community is resilient and determined. There's never been a time to be complacent and certainly not now. In this election year, we've already gotten a taste of what could be to come as candidates move to overturn rights, not just for the LGBTQ+ community, but women as well. This year, our transgender siblings and youth are specifically being targeted here in Ohio.

In the spirit of activism, this year's theme for Dayton Pride 2024 is:
Strength of the Gem: Encourage, Empower, Embrace

We hope that you will join us this year on Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1, 2024 as we kick off Pride Month in a brand new location. That's right, we've outgrown Courthouse Square, so we're taking to the streets, Saint Clair Street, to be specific. Friday night's "Affair on The Square" will now be "The Affair on Saint Clair". We'll have Saint Clair Street closed between First and Second Streets right in front of the new Greater Dayton LGBT Center for on-stage entertainment, food trucks and beer. This year we will also feature the Todd Crawford Beer Garden, to honor the longtime community volunteer, Todd Crawford. Inside The Center, "Faces of Pride" exhibit will be on display. This is a portrait photography exhibit featuring faces that celebrate the diversity of our LGBTQ+ community. The exhibit will remain open for the entire month of June.

Saturday will kick off with a parade that also takes a new route! This year's parade will line up on Jefferson Street, next to The Right Corner, MJs on Jefferson and the Stage Door. The parade kicks off as it begins on Second Street heading towards Main Street, where it will turn right, passing the Schuster Center and Victoria Theatre and then turning right again down First Street where it will pass CareSource and end up at the Main Stage on Saint Clair.

As the parade ends, the festival kicks off on Saint Clair, where we've added an extra block. During the festival Saint Clair will be closed from First Street to Third Street, allowing so much more space for food, vendors, beer, fun and entertainment. That space includes Cooper Park so folks can find some shade a little green space when the temperatures rise.

In addition to the new location, we have other new things in store. We're launching a new Dayton Pride website and a digital Pride Guide that will give you information about all kinds of activities happening in Pride month around the area. There will be more information on that soon.

With all that being said, Pride costs money and that's why we're asking for your support in the form of sponsorship. Your sponsorship will help cover the costs of a stage, tables, chairs, entertainment, trash removal, street closures, a police presence, a clean up crew, and all the things that go into having a large event such as this.

Please join us this year as we show Ohio and the country how the Gem City does Pride! Let's encourage our community to stand up, empower our voices to be heard, and embrace our differences so we can come together as one community.

Paige Kostoff
Robert-Wayne Waldron
Dayton Pride 2024 Co-Chairs



Local Transgender Advocate Runs For Ohio State House

By Randy Phillips

With many of the attacks against our transgender brothers and sisters all across the U.S. and specifically here in Ohio, one local transgender individual has stood up to run as a candidate for Ohio House of Representative for their district in Preble County, Bobbie Brooke Arnold.

We reached out to Bobbie and asked why she decided to run for office. She



replied: “I decided to run for State Representative because our republican controlled legislature is targeting transgender people while ignoring the real issues that affect us all. If they are going to be making decisions about our rights, we deserve to have a spot at the table. In a time where the cost of living is exponentially rising, we need to create or improve upon programs that help lower income families meet their needs. Things like childcare, transportation and unmet medical needs often become barriers to maintaining employment and becoming self sufficient.

While our public schools are underfunded and teachers are underpaid, the GOP has expanded the EdChoice eligibility to cover tuition to private schools, who have no accountability to the public. We need to find ways to meet the needs of our already strained public school systems, not add to them.

Q: Why should I vote for you? A: If elected I will fight for the underprivileged, the working class and our marginalized communities. I will be focused on things like:

- Strengthening our Unions
- Lower energy costs
- Promoting social programs
- Disability rights
- Racial and LGBTQ equality
- Environmental protection
- Criminal justice reform
- Bodily autonomy

I know you had to go through a review for your candidacy and right to be on the ballot, what was that all about?

A: “At the beginning of the year my petitions were certified by the Montgomery County Board of Elections. A few days later I was informed that there was going to be reviewed for not including my dead name on them. In Ohio, there is a law that requires any candidate who has changed their name within the last 5 years to include their former name following their current name on the petitions and Declaration of Candidacy. This law, intended to keep nefarious individuals from changing their name to run for office, is not mentioned in the candidate guide nor was there enough space on the petitions to include both current and former names. It is so obscure that not even the Board of Elections was aware until after another transgender candidate in Ohio was disqualified for not including her dead name. On January 16, 2024 the Montgomery County Board of Elections determined that due to the obscurity of this law and the fact that I did not attempt to deceive anyone about who I am or the office I am running for, that they would take no action against the certification of my petitions.”

Bobbie Brooke Arnold will appear on the ballot on March 19, 2024 as the democratic candidate for the Ohio House District 40.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

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Women's
VALENTINE'S DANCE



SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 10TH
7PM - 1130PM

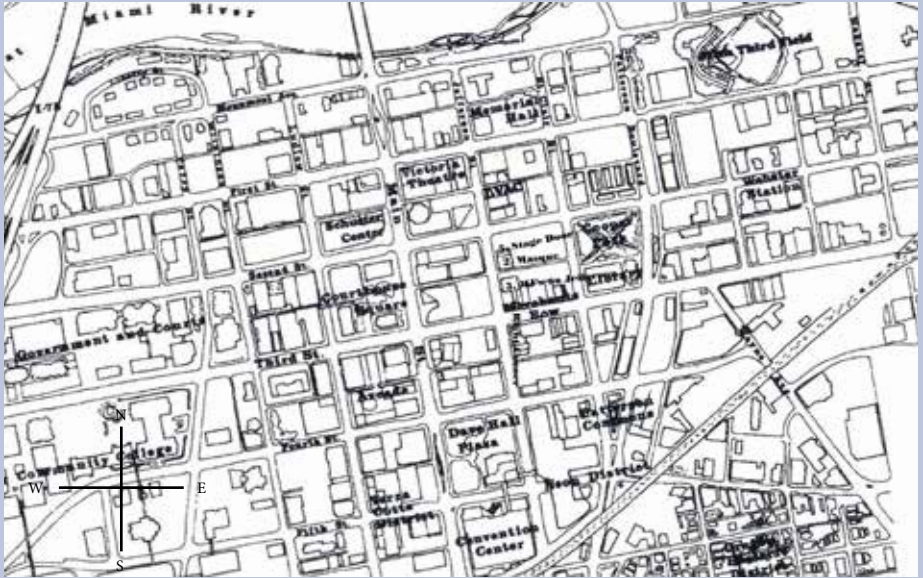
WITH FOOD, CASH BAR, & MUSIC FROM DJ V12



Greater Dayton LGBT Center
136 North Saint Clair St.
Dayton, OH 45402

\$15 Members | \$20 Non-Members

GayDaytonMap



| | | | | | |
|------|-------------|-----|---------------------|-----|--------------|
| 18 + | 18 and Up | E | Other Entertainment | N/H | Neighborhood |
| A | Alternative | F | Food | S | Strippers |
| AH | After Hours | G/S | Gay/Straight | T | Mature |
| C | Country | K | Karaoke | V | Video |
| D | Dance | L | Leather | W | Women |
| DG | Drag | M | Men | Y | Young |

1. Argo's, 301 Mabel Street 252-2976 (M,L,E,S)
2. MJ's on Jefferson, 20 N. Jefferson 223-7340 (F,M,D,S,E,DG,V,K)
3. Right Corner, 105 E. Third St 228-2033 (NH,M,T,E)
4. Stage Door, 44 N. Jefferson St 223-7418 (M,L,C,K,T,NH,E)
5. Natalie Clifford Barney Historical Marker
6. The Greater Dayton LGBT Center, 136 N. St Clair 274-1776

www.GayDayton.org

mjsonjefferson.com

MJ's
on jefferson

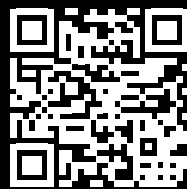


20 N Jefferson St - Dayton, OH - 45402
Phone (937) 223-7340

Open Daily @ 3 pm ~ 2:30 am



Beer Menu



Bourbon Menu