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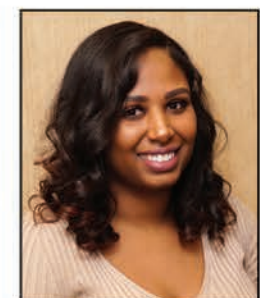
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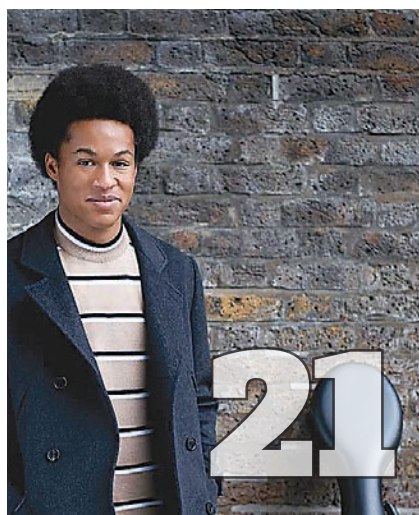


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## Former MSU President Simon to Stand Trial in Nassar Case

BY BTL STAFF

Last month a judge ordered former Michigan State University President Lou Anna K. Simon to stand trial on charges related to the Larry Nassar sexual misconduct case. Simon faces two felony and two misdemeanor charges and is accused of giving false statements to police and impeding the investigation into Nassar's sexual assaults. Simon is the third former MSU



Lou Anna K. Simon

official to be ordered to trial. She had resigned in January of 2018 after testimony from Nassar's victims resulted in a public outcry for her to leave her role.

Authorities said that Simon knew as early as 2014 that Nassar had been accused of molesting a patient at an MSU campus clinic. Simon said that she only knew that a complaint had been filed against a sports doctor. And until

MSU's Title IX investigation of the complaint in 2016, she said she did not know of the substance of the complaint. Eaton County District Judge Julie Reincke found probable cause to send Simon to trial. The Associated Press reported that Reincke said evidence suggests that Simon had discussed the sexual abuse allegations of Amanda Thomashow with a senior adviser Paulette Granberry Russell.

"It is not credible to believe that Simon would have heard even the outline of Thomashow's story and forgotten it," Reincke wrote.

### MSU Trustee Schlichting Resigns

This ruling came on the same day that MSU released that trustee Nancy Schlichting resigned over the governing board's decision to drop an independent review of Nassar's crimes. This was despite the fact that the board voted unanimously in June for the investigation. According to an Associated Press report, in a letter to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Schlichting said her resignation came because four trustees did not share her commitment to a review that would include the release of documents protected by attorney-client privilege. Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel's office is prosecuting Simon. It has called for the university to waive attorney-client privilege and release nearly 6,000 documents.

"I deeply regret that my board service has been so short, but hope that the next appointed trustee will be able to make a greater impact than I have," Schlichting wrote.

Gov. Whitmer will name a replacement to serve out the remainder of the term through 2022 when the seat will be up for election.

A day before the announcement came from Trustees Chairwoman Dianne Byrum that the review wasn't going to happen, the federal government ordered MSU to pay a \$4.5 million fine and make changes across campus as a result of its failure to adequately deal with the Nassar complaints.

## Highlights From the 2019 Municipal Elections: A Look at Openly LGBTQ Winners Jason Hoskins, Mike McFall, Garnet Lewis

BY ELLEN SHANNA KNOPPOW



### Jason Hoskins: "My best intern was my mom."

"I'm so honored that Southfield voters decided to put their trust in me," said Jason Hoskins, who was elected to City Council Nov. 5. Hoskins already works with city officials in his role as legislative director to state Sen. Jeremy Moss, and he said he is now looking forward to working with them as colleagues.

It was a tight race in Southfield where voters cast more than 38,000 ballots. With their choice of up to four candidates

from from a field of eight, Hoskins placed fourth — just 29 votes ahead of his nearest competitor.

"Twenty-nine votes is a very slim margin," Hoskins acknowledged. "I think if I took maybe one or two days off and didn't talk to those voters I might not have won."

Hoskins said he owes his win to speaking with thousands of voters about the issues important to them — rain or shine — and sending out a lot of mail and having the help of a team of volunteers. Above all, he singled out the assistance he received from his mother.

"My best intern was my mom," Hoskins said. "Best unpaid intern I ever had, who did a tremendous amount of work. She helped me put stamps on hundreds of envelopes, she went and put out lawn signs with my dad. She has been a tremendous help to me."

As a council member, Hoskins said his biggest priority will be finding ways to attract people and businesses to the city.

"We have this older population in Southfield, and I'm really gonna be working with my colleagues to think of

ways we can attract people, particularly younger people and younger families to Southfield," Hoskins said. "I'm glad I get to be one of the younger voices on council now to say, 'Here are some of the barriers.'"

Another high priority of his is to ensure that the city is collaborating with the school district.

Hoskins said he was grateful that in a season where several surrounding communities had contentious municipal elections, his competitors remained, in his words, "very collegial."

"Whether I won or lost, the experience was an incredible privilege to be able to talk to so many voters about the issues that they care about, talk about how much we all love our city," Hoskins said.

### Mike McFall: "I think it shows the directions the city is heading."

"The campaign went really well," said

See **Local Elections**, continued on p. 10

## National LGBTQ Election Results

BY LISA KEEN

More than 75 percent of openly LGBTQ candidates running in Tuesday's off-year elections won. The total, 112, 106 Democrats, one Republican, one independent and four with undeclared party affiliations.

It was a happy night for Democrats. Anti-LGBTQ Republican Gov. Matt Bevin of Kentucky was beaten by pro-LGBTQ Democrat Andy Beshear. In 2016, Republican presidential nominee won Kentucky with a 30-point margin over Democrat Hillary Clinton. In Virginia, where gerrymandered districts installed Republican majorities in both the state House and Senate in 2017, courts quashed the map and voters gave Democrats a sizeable majority in both chambers.

All nine openly LGBTQ candidates in Virginia won their races, including five incumbents in the general assembly. Among those five was Danica Roem, a transgender candidate who won a stunning upset victory against an incumbent Republican two years ago for a House seat. Tuesday, she won reelection



against another anti-LGBTQ Republican challenger, with a margin of victory six percentage points larger than in 2017. Roem raised nearly twice as much money as her opponent, Kelly McGinn. McGinn had signed onto a letter calling marriage for same-sex couples "morally repugnant."

Human Rights Campaign President Alphonso David said the results in

Virginia sent "a powerful message that Virginians support a bold, progressive vision for the future of the Commonwealth." David said HRC helped turn out 1.2 million "Equality Voters" in Virginia and spent over \$250,000 to elect "pro-equality candidates across Virginia."

Pennsylvania, a state that President Trump won by less than one percentage point in 2016, experienced a "blue wave" of voter support for Democratic candidates. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, Republican candidates were "fading even on friendly turf." The Keystone State fielded the largest number of LGBTQ candidates than any other state: 14. And 13 of those 14, all Democrats, won, including Jessica Rothchild to the Scranton City Council.

Ohio also voted for Trump in 2016, but Democrats did well this year, and all 12 of Ohio's openly LGBTQ candidates won, including new Toledo City Council member Theresa Gadus.

In Indiana, which gave Trump an almost 20-percentage-point margin over

See **National Elections**, continued on p. 10





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# Free Mom Hugs Rally for Trans Equality at State Capitol Nov. 20

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

begun in 1999 by transgender activist and author Gwendolyn Ann Smith, the Transgender Day of Remembrance is a solemn reminder every Nov. 20 of the continuing violence against the transgender community. And it's certainly still an issue — the Human Rights Campaign reports that this year alone 22 people have been murdered in the U.S. because of transphobia. However, it is heartening that the originally web-based holiday has expanded to an internationally known day of mourning, acknowledgement and support. In fact, this year Michigan's branch of Free Mom Hugs will be holding an event at the state capitol in honor of the day.

“Transgender people are victims of violence in so many different ways, and I said, ‘Wouldn't it be amazing if the capitol wasn't booked on the 20th?’ Because I had just seen an ACLU event where they spoke for the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act,” said Free Mom Hugs Southeast Michigan Chapter Co-Leader Jill Lash. “And I just thought, ‘That would just be amazing and incredible where we do something ... and just speak about how necessary this equality in Michigan [is].’”

Free Mom Hugs is a nonprofit organization that focuses on providing emotional support for those in the LGBTQ community who haven't been able to receive it from their own families.



Lash said that Free Mom Hugs standing up for the Trans community at the event not only fit the organization's mission but it was the right thing to do.

“[The reason] ... I joined Free Mom Hugs

was that I have a voice, and my voice isn't a marginalized voice, but I wanted to create the option [for people to be heard],” Lash said. “And so, we got some really good speakers and said, ‘Why not? Let's do it.’”

Planned speakers at this year's event are Free Mom Hugs State Chapter Leader Arleta Greer; Roz Keith, executive director of Stand With Trans; Bri Leakan, the social chair of LGBT+ Michigan, the University of Michigan's LGBTQ student organization; and Josh Farmer, a board member of U.P. Rainbow Pride. The event begins promptly at 11 a.m. and will last until 2 p.m. on the Capitol steps.

Lash said that she realized traveling to the state's Capitol building may not be an easy feat for those in Southeast Michigan, so she made sure to set up buses and carpooling options around Detroit and in Saline.

“There's one [bus] in Detroit and one in Saline [at three] transportation hubs for anyone who may not be able to get there. And we're picking up in Saline, so it's near U of M and then going to Lansing,” Lash said. “So, it turns out that there are a few districts that have no school, and I'm hoping to get some youth [to attend.] I think it would be a really affirming day that would be completely free.”

*Buses will be picking up event attendees at 1990 Bagley in Detroit at 8:15 a.m.; and in Saline at 7000 E. Michigan Ave. at 9:15 a.m. To find out more about the pickup process and registering, visit this link: [gaybe.am/64](http://gaybe.am/64). More information can also be found on the Free Mom Hugs Facebook page.*

## Detroit Cabaret Company Hosts Benefit Show for Immigration Issues

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

Like one would expect, Asherah Serpentine Productions' upcoming evening of burlesque, belly dance and opera is set to be an intimate night of cabaret. But what audiences might not realize is that the show is being put on in an effort to raise money to help immigrants access human rights, legal rights, safety and freedom. The event, titled “This Land Is Our Land: An Intimate Cabaret Benefit,” will take place Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Tangent Gallery & Hastings Street Ballroom. Serpentine said the event is personal for her.

“I grew up the granddaughter of a Holocaust survivor and when I first saw the photos of the undocumented immigrants caged in inhumane conditions in the detention centers, I saw the faces of my recent ancestors looking back at me and I cried,” she said. “I am so appalled and feel so hurt for our country, and especially the immigrant population, that this is a thing that is happening here and now.”

The horrific images, Serpentine said, spurred her into action. She regularly attends protests and marches to fight for rights.

“However, where I really excel, and where my

passion is, is in dance,” she said. “Dance, to me, is an expression of our higher selves. Dance brings together communities. I feel that even if people don't speak the same language linguistically, we all speak the same language when we dance. Something having to do with dance is the space that I felt I would be able to make the greatest contribution.”

So Serpentine put a call out to her friends that she said was “as easy as posting on Facebook.”

“Every one of my performers for this event is excited to be dancing for this worthy cause and I am so honored and thrilled to have their incredible collective talent,” she said.

Starring in “This Land Is Our Land” will be headliner and burlesque star Lottie Ellington. Other performers include Leslie Nave, Ruby La Louche, Riksar, Mona Minx, Delta Van Damn, Tommy Gun, Heather Marie, Natalie Carter, Amanda Sherlock Rimes, Jennifer Bak and Barbara Jean. The evening, which will also feature a 50/50 raffle, will be emceed by Stevie



Nips. A portion of the evening's proceeds will go to Cosecha Detroit to help fund their work in helping the undocumented community and their families via advocacy and activism.

“I would like to maintain awareness of what is happening in our government and at our borders to an underprivileged and underserved population,” Serpentine said. “As of July 2019, 26 people have died during the Trump Administration while in ICE custody. At least eight of these deaths were due to lack of proper medical care. These numbers also do not include those who have died in non-ICE

agencies around the country.

“The fate of the undocumented children is heartrending,” Serpentine continued. “Prior to this administration, families were generally kept together during the deportation process. Since Trump has come into office, children are now routinely being separated from their parents. The number is staggering: 2,814 children have been separated from their families. That is 1,556-plus families that have been torn apart. Since June of 2018, 1,090 children have been separated against a court order to cease this practice. Most of those children are ending up in detention centers that are overcrowded, understaffed and undersupplied. The conditions that have been described are akin to torture such as keeping the lights on 24/7, making the children sleep on the floor without bedding and not providing anywhere near adequate food and medical care.”

*Tangent Gallery and Hastings Street Ballroom is located at which is located at 715 E. Milwaukee St. in Detroit. Tickets for “This Land Is Our Land: An Intimate Cabaret Benefit” range from \$20 – 50 and may be purchased online at [gaybe.am/Qi](http://gaybe.am/Qi).*





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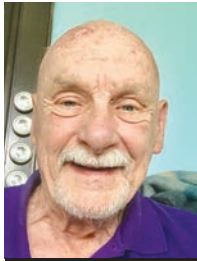
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## Parting Glances

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

### The Age of Treason? Perhaps

First published in 2013 and again in December 2016, one month after the election Donald J. Trump President of the United States

If one person can be truly said to have single-handedly pushed this country into a War of Independence from England, it was patriot and pamphleteer Thomas Paine (1737-1809).

His book "Common Sense" provided a clarion call to open rebellion. When it appeared in January 1776 it sold 500,000 copies. One copy for every eight persons. Its stirring prose and cogent reasoning motivated Americans to defy King George III. We chose to fight for freedom.

Paine's second book (1784), "The Age of Reason" – a well-crafted Bible sandblasting - rebuffs today's Reibibican fundamentalists who, in their misguided zeal, would have us believe America's founding fathers were gung-ho for making this a Christian Nation and to hell with separation of church and state.

The main reason Paine's name is drool on the parched and cracked lips of the biblical boob-ocrats is because Paine was a sharp-honed skeptic.

"Every national Church or religion has established itself by pretending some special mission from God," he wrote. "Each accuses the other of unbelief; and for my own part, I disbelieve them all. If someone claims to hear the voice of God, it is a revelation to that person only. When he tells it to a second person it becomes hearsay; and consequently no one is obligated to believe it."

Paine also questioned important Christian religious doctrines.

"It appears that (Doubting) Thomas did not believe in the resurrection (of Jesus) and would not believe without ocular and manual proof himself," he wrote. "So neither will I: and the reason is equally good for me and every other person as for Thomas."

Paine identified himself as a Deist. He found God was revealed in Nature; Jesus was human not God; both the Old and New Testaments were replete with myths, contradictions and errors. In the "Age of Reason," he gave many examples to prove it.

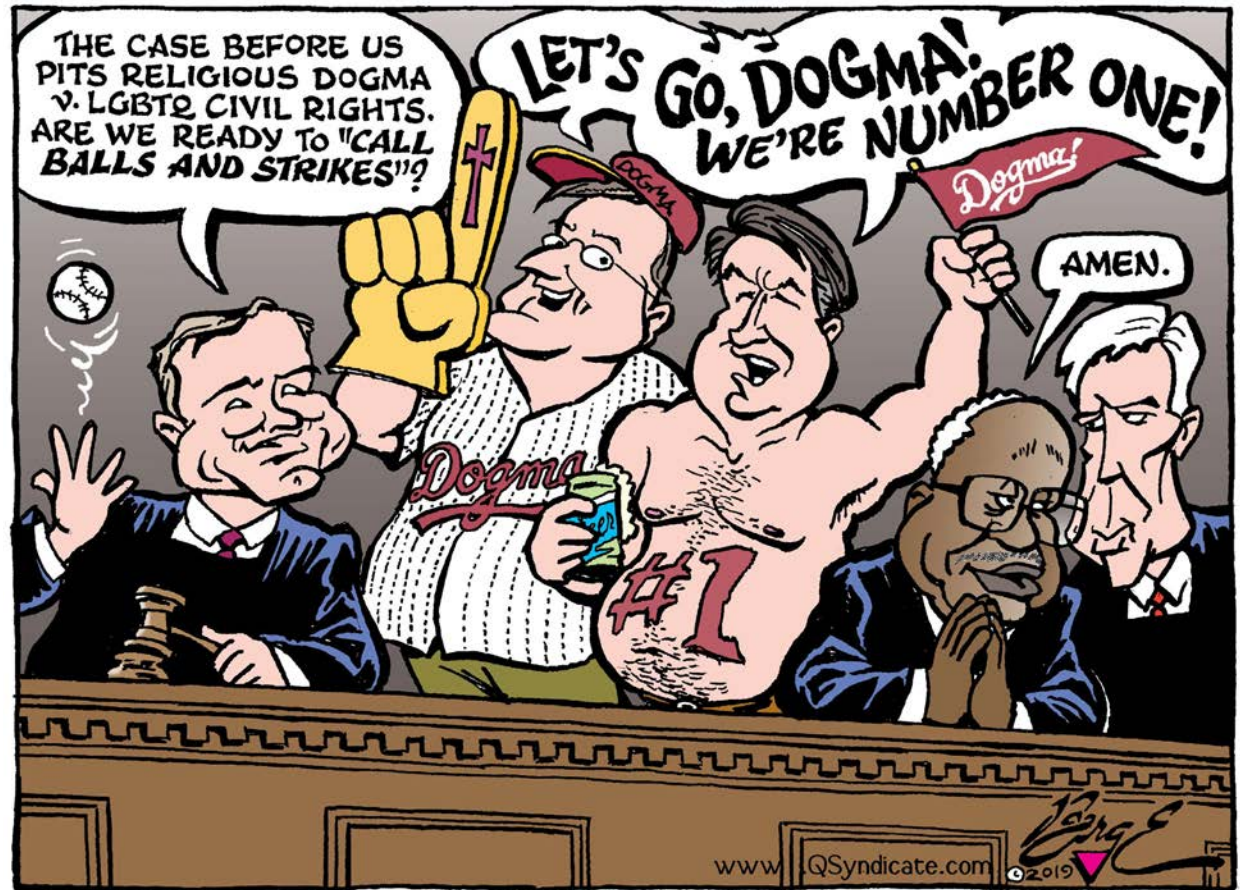
Other important American patriots also challenged established Christian sovereignty. John Adams was a Unitarian (and you know what they're like!) as was son, John Quincy. Thomas Jefferson put together his own version of the New Testament, editing out mythology and doctrine in favor of ethical content.

Jefferson urged his nephew to "question with boldness even the existence of God." (Would that he had said the same of slavery, as he owned slaves and fathered children by one.)

James Madison was jailed for criticizing the Episcopal Church when it was Virginia's established religion. Benjamin Franklin, another freethinker, was a Mason and a Rosicrucian occultist. He told many a true believer of his day to go fly a kite.

George Washington, nominally an Episcopalian, rarely attended church, although he spoke of the importance of religion

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## Viewpoint

### Connect, Support and Volunteer During the Holiday Season

BY BTL STAFF

During this divisive political era it sometimes seems like everyone has taken sides in a never-ending fight. That's why preparing for the upcoming winter holidays can feel like the perfect way to try to temporarily forget about online and personal political arguments. And while this attempt to spend time with loved ones in a non-judgemental way doesn't always work out, it's valuable and necessary to take time to decompress. However, it's vital to bear in mind that not everyone has the ability to do so. For those experiencing homelessness or poverty, the holidays aren't a respite. In fact, they can pose an added financial or mental burden. The Human Rights Campaign reported in 2017 that the LGBTQ community experiences homelessness at a rate 120 percent higher than those who are heterosexual and cisgender.

"LGBTQ youth aren't the only population that disproportionately experience homelessness," said a recent

HRC report. "Other young adult populations experiencing disproportionate rates of homelessness include Black and African-American youth, Hispanic non-white youth, unmarried parenting youth, youth with less than a high school diploma or GED certificate and youth reporting annual household income of less than \$24,000."

That's why it's imperative for everyone who is able to take the time during this year's holiday rush to pause for a moment and give back. A small gesture like donating canned food, an afternoon at a soup kitchen or even decorating a community center can do wonders for the morale and well-being of many in Southeast Michigan and beyond. For those who don't know where to start, here's a list of 6 ways, big and small, that you can spread holiday cheer to those in need around the community.

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# Creep Of The Week

## Paul S. Morton Sr.

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

It's been a hell of a week for Pete Buttigieg. The fact that he's polling so high is amazing and it makes me proud that an openly gay man is doing so well. He's not my pick (Elizabeth Warren is far more qualified), but his campaign is historic and I love it.

Not so lovable is what Buttigieg was quoted as saying, but in reality didn't say, about President Obama. In the LA Times Buttigieg was quoted lamenting the "failures of the Obama era." What he actually said, according to the person who interviewed him and wrote the story, was "failures of the old normal."

What do they say? A lie can make it around the world before the truth even gets its boots on? Well, the correction to Buttigieg's Obama remark was, how should I put this? Have you ever watched a toddler try to pull his pants off while still wearing shoes? It was doing that while the quote went viral.

Democratic candidate for president Julián Castro jumped on the quote Tweeting to Buttigieg that he misspelled "Mitch McConnell." Castro deleted the Tweet after the correction was made. But the damage was done.

I've listened to the now-released audio that the writer transcribed. Buttigieg clearly says "the old normal." While some people are saying this is still blaming Obama in a backhanded way, I would like to point out that there were a lot of other presidents who came before him. I would also like to point out that it isn't sacrilegious to criticize Obama. But it also wouldn't be super smart in the Democratic primary, especially for a candidate like Buttigieg who is polling in the single digits with black voters.

There are many theories about why this is. You can read countless think pieces about whether or not it has to do with Buttigieg being gay. In a Democratic field this large and in a political climate so fraught there are many reasons why an unconventional candidate like Buttigieg might not be doing well here: he's young, he's gay, he's inexperienced, he's [fill in the blank].

But for some folks, it's definitely the gay part. For example, take Bishop Paul S. Morton Sr., founder of the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International.

"Dems I pray U will use wisdom in voting. Being too liberal will not win," Morton tweeted Nov. 2. "I am not Homophobic. But it is definitely not the time 4 POTUS 2b a man with his husband up there by his side. There are those of us who love everybody But we believe in the Biblical Definition of Marriage."

Folks on Twitter piled on with the obvious, many of them pointing out that the only people who say, "I'm not homophobic, but..." are homophobes. Many others said this is why they stopped going to church. Scrolling through replies are saw very few in support of Morton's

**"Dems I pray U will use wisdom in voting. Being too liberal will not win," Morton tweeted Nov. 2. "I am not Homophobic. But it is definitely not the time 4 POTUS 2b a man with his husband up there by his side. There are those of us who love everybody But we believe in the Biblical Definition of Marriage."**

ideas.

I can understand that folks are concerned about the electability of whatever candidate the Democrats ultimately nominate. But Morton's reason for being anti-Buttigieg is absolutely homophobic.

Morton doesn't want "a man with his husband up there by his side" to be the nominee. Have you seen Chasten and Pete Buttigieg? They are an absolutely beautiful couple with a marriage that, by all public appearances, seems very solid and healthy. To treat Chasten like he's a liability is hateful and wrong.

Morton claims to "love everybody." Well, actually he claims to "love everybody BUT..."

"But we believe in the Biblical Definition of Marriage," he wrote.

Love can take many forms and be expressed in many different ways, but I call bullshit on any love that comes with denial of my right to marry the person I love.

Morton defended himself by pointing out that Obama said in 2008 that he believed that marriage was between one man and one woman and he "never was called homophobic."

Let me be clear: Obama's position on marriage then was, indeed, homophobic. But he grew and changed, as Morton acknowledges.

Morton tweeted: "But the Bible has not changed. Me either. So I'm not homophobic I'm Biblical."

Bible-based rejection of the equality of LGBTQ people is still homophobic no matter how many times Morton claims he isn't on Twitter.

Morton does not support Trump. "Goal is 2 get #45 out," he tweeted. He writes that it will be hard for "not only a Gay" but also a liberal, "even Black," to win.

"2020 Trump will get back in without wisdom," he wrote. "That's not homophobic it's truth."

But he didn't call Buttigieg out for being liberal. He called Buttigieg out for being gay.

And that is definitely homophobic.

### ► Viewpoint

Continued from p. 8

**1 Start a fundraiser for a local charity.** Collecting charity donations via a quick yard sale or even knocking on a few doors in the community doesn't have to take longer than an afternoon, and it could ensure that someone has a hot meal this holiday season. There are also a myriad of online options to raise much-needed funds.

**2 Donate canned goods.** If fundraisers aren't your thing, consider cleaning out the cabinets of extra canned goods or picking up a few extra boxes of your regular non-perishables items while on a grocery run to donate.

**3 Spend time at a senior center.** A University of California, San Francisco study found that 40 percent of seniors regularly experience loneliness. Help to combat that by spending time at your local senior center.

**4 Donate gently worn clothing.** Studies show that not only do most people not wear most of their clothes but they aren't aware of how much space those unworn items are taking up in their closets. On your next laundry day do yourself a favor, and take a few minutes

to separate out those shirts and pants you only wore once. Donating them to someone who needs clothing will not only make you feel good but you'll make space for the items you actually like to wear.

**5 Tutor a student.** For the 2.5 million homeless children in America school can be a last priority. However, a great avenue to breaking the cycle of homelessness can be education. Take an hour or two out of your week to help out kids in need at your local school or library.

**6 Volunteer at a hospital.** Hospitals are constantly flooded with patients and can use any and every able-bodied person's help to make hospital stays better.

In this issue of BTL we highlight four LGBTQ-specific organizations that need volunteer support. There are hundreds more listed in the Pride Source Magazine in print and online at [www.pridesource.com/psyp](http://www.pridesource.com/psyp). We encourage readers to consider donating some time and energy to any one of these groups. Giving time, talent or treasure is a rewarding way to connect and support others who may be in more need than ourselves. It is also the true essence of the holiday season.

separation.

I personally belong to the Fraternal Order of Rainbow Rebels myself. Or, is it the Lambda Outback of Older Odd Fellows Outspoken?

*Charles Alexander is prolific both as a BTL columnist (700-plus columns) and as a well-known LGBT community artist (1000 Facebook images). He is a Spirit of Detroit Award recipient and an Affirmations LGBT CENTER Jan Stevenson awardee. Connect with him at [Charles@pridesource.com](mailto:Charles@pridesource.com).*

### ► Parting Glances

Continued from p. 8

in the life of the newly independent nation. Our first president was also a Mason, as were some 26 signers of the U.S. Constitution.

Come to think of it, instead of being a Christian Theocratic Nation as political right-wingers like to claim these days, we are actually by heritage a Masonic Nation – with not six, but 32 degrees of



## ► Local Election Results

Continued from p. 4



Mike McFall, newly elected to Hazel Park City Council. McFall ran alongside Andy LeCureaux to help with LeCureaux's reelection, which was also successful.

"We knocked on doors and connected with neighbors," he said. "We kept it positive, didn't go negative at all. I'm pretty happy with the positive campaign that we did."

McFall wants to focus on bringing new business to Hazel Park.

"We're trying to build a downtown along the John R corridor with the street diet that's occurring, including bike lanes," McFall said. "What we want to do next is make sure we're drawing in businesses to fill in a lot of the empty buildings that are along that corridor."

As a member of the Downtown Development Authority, McFall already has ideas and plans underway. In recognition of being the first openly LGBTQ member of Hazel Park City Council, McFall said, "I think it shows the

direction that the city is heading. I'm pretty excited about it."

He'd like to plan future Pride flag-raising ceremonies, as he did in June of this year. But don't look for a Hazel Park Pride festival any time soon.

"I don't want to compete with next door," he said, in reference to Ferndale Pride.

"The support of the gay community in Hazel Park was overwhelming," McFall said. "Tim, the manager at Menjo's, actually lives in Hazel Park and he's the one that connected me to people that I didn't even realize lived in Hazel Park. I knew that we had a growing gay community, but he helped expand my knowledge of people that have been there for a long time."

McFall also mentioned his endorsement by the LGBTQ Victory Fund. And along with thanking state Sen. Jeremy Moss and state Rep. Robert Wittenberg for their help, he said that "the campaign was kind of stressful, so I'd definitely like to thank my husband."

### Garnet Lewis: "It's a nice relief that I could actually win an election."

"For me it was pretty exciting, certainly a great victory," said Garnet Lewis, of her election to Saugatuck City Council. "It was really particularly wonderful here in Saugatuck because we elected three women, which now moves the city council from predominantly male to predominantly female."

Of six candidates, three men were also on

the ballot.

"It's a nice relief that I could actually win an



election," said Lewis, who has run three times, unsuccessfully, for the state legislature, most recently for the 26th state Senate district last year. This time, the election returns reflect what could be characterized as a mandate: with an overwhelming turnout for a municipal election — nearly 50 percent — Lewis was by far the top vote-getter.

And the fact that Lewis won't be working in Lansing or that Saugatuck is a small town does not mean she is taking her new position any less seriously.

"I had a good conversation with a friend of mine this morning, who said, 'Garn, don't let anybody tell you that it doesn't matter or it's not as important as being on a city council in Grand Rapids or Traverse City.'" Lewis recalled. "'You're still dealing with a huge budget, you're still dealing with taxes, appropriating funds. ...' It is a good a reminder that there is quite a bit

of education that needs to happen on my part in order to do the job well."

Lewis suggested part of the previously mentioned "mandate" of her election, which also included electing likewise progressive Holly Leo, is a trend toward less conservatism on the council.

"Folks here want to see a different kind of council. They want to see a council that makes decisions and doesn't put up roadblocks to things getting completed," Lewis said, perhaps in reference to an issue Saugatuck is facing with completing a non-motorized trail project, which Lewis said "history and personal baggage" have stalled.

Another priority for Lewis is finding solutions to flooding and other concerns related to Kalamazoo Lake. She'd also like to see the communities of Saugatuck City, Saugatuck Township and Douglas collaborate better. However, "My first goal is to update this freakin' charter so it's not gender-specific, as in 'he,'" Lewis said. "The old city charter still has, 'when he is elected,' and, 'he will be sworn in.' That's gotta change."

Finally, in addition to thanking her spouse, Vicki, for all her support over Lewis several candidacies, Lewis wanted to give a shoutout to her friend and fellow Saugatuck resident Mark LaChey, first vice chair of the Michigan Democratic Party and former chair of the LGBT & Allies Caucus "... who has for years been kind of quietly behind the scenes helping LGBTQ candidates. He deserves a lot of recognition for that."

## ► National Election Results

Continued from p. 4

Clinton in 2016, the 25-member Indianapolis City Council picked up three new openly LGBTQ City Council members to join another who won reelection Tuesday night. Alison "Ali" Brown, Keith Potts and Ethan Evans will now join Zach Adamson on the capital city's governing board. Brown and Evans are openly bisexual and married to spouses of the opposite sex. Evans and Potts both beat Republican incumbents.

Among the more stinging of the 21 LGBTQ losses Tuesday was Telluride, Colorado, Mayor Sean Murphy, who lost his bid for reelection to a second term. Telluride was among only five incumbent LGBTQ candidates who lost their reelection bids. In Houston, where five openly LGBTQ candidates were running as Democrats for City Council, only two won.

Outside Atlanta, in Doraville, Georgia, an openly gay City Councilman, Joseph Geierman, didn't win enough votes to capture the mayor's office, but he did win the most in a four-person field and garnered enough to force a December 3 run-off against the incumbent mayor.

Of the 112 openly LGBTQ candidates, 105 were running for local office. The field included 67 men, 44 women and one non-binary candidate.

The national Victory Fund said 80 of the candidates it endorsed won Tuesday night. The organization said it directed more than \$420,000 to its endorsed candidates.

"We are building a pipeline of out LGBTQ leaders at every level of government," said Annise Parker, president of the LGBTQ Victory Fund and former mayor of Houston.

### Other highlights among Tuesday's results:

- In a Seattle City Council race, openly gay candidate Egan Orion appears to have beaten an incumbent in District 3. Orion, a gay activist and former organizer of Seattle's Pride parades, told local news outlets that he was "really frustrated" that the corporate giant Amazon supported his campaign through a political action committee that gave half a million dollars to his bid.

- In the Texas House district outside

**The Victory Fund estimates there are 765 openly LGBTQ elected officials nationwide. Parker said, "Americans are understandably focused on the 2020 presidential and congressional elections, but the LGBTQ candidates who won tonight will arguably have a greater impact on the everyday lives of their constituents."**

Houston, lesbian Eliz Markowitz was the top vote-getter among six candidates and the only Democrat. But now she'll have to run against just one of those Republicans for the heavily Republican 28th District seat. The runoff will take place in December.

- Former Florida State Rep. David Richardson will meet and opponent in a runoff for a seat on the Miami Beach Commission. Richardson came up just one point short of reaching enough votes to win the seat on Tuesday. Richardson

won 49 percent of the vote; his runoff opponent won 38 percent.

- In tiny Carrboro, North Carolina, openly lesbian Mayor Lydia Lavelle won reelection unopposed and openly gay newcomer Damon Seils won one of three seats on the town's Board of Aldermen — coming in second out of five candidates. In nearby Hillsborough, openly gay incumbent Matt Hughes came in first out of four candidates running for three seats on the Board of Commissioners.

- In Newton, Massachusetts, transgender candidate Holly Ryan was unopposed for a seat on the City Council, making her the first transgender woman to win election to public office in the 11th most populated city in the state. Prior to running for office, Ryan served as the LGBTQ liaison for two mayors.

The Victory Fund estimates there are 765 openly LGBTQ elected officials nationwide. Parker said, "Americans are understandably focused on the 2020 presidential and congressional elections, but the LGBTQ candidates who won tonight will arguably have a greater impact on the everyday lives of their constituents."



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# Giving the Gift of Giving

## BTL Local Volunteering Guide

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

With fewer than two months left until the winter holidays, gift-giving, and subsequently gift-shopping, season is in full swing. However, as magical as it can be to find the perfect gift for a loved one or to receive a longtime wishlist item, sometimes



the holidays run the risk of transforming into a purely material exchange. That's why, for those interested in giving the gift of their time this year, BTL has highlighted these four nonprofit organizations who need holiday volunteering help and who provide multiple ways to contribute.

Hundreds of other nonprofits serving the LGBTQ community are also listed in the Pride Source Magazine and online at [PrideSource.com/psyp](http://PrideSource.com/psyp).

### Affirmations

Affirmations is an LGBTQ community center in Ferndale that has been a part of Southeast Michigan for 30 years. Beyond serving as a social hub for LGBTQ people, the center joins people together from all parts of the LGBTQ community with everything from social advocacy clubs and groups to fully fledged internships. Kyle Taylor is the center's development and community relations manager and deals directly with all new volunteers. He said that Affirmations is always looking for help and that applicants have the ability to be flexible with what they choose to do.

"They would have to fill out a form online at [goaffirmations.org](http://goaffirmations.org), and then we run a

background check on them," Taylor said. "Then we let them know when that's all good through an email and then they attend a training and they can do whatever they'd like to do. But the front desk is presented taking shifts in that aspect of the training and the drop-in center is presented as well."

Taylor said that the next big event for which volunteers should gear up is the Teen Lock-In happening on Saturday, Dec. 14. Because training is required for all volunteers, potential participants would have to attend the next available training on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m. Taylor said that volunteers interested in helping out even beyond the holiday season should look into becoming an elite volunteer.

"That's opening and closing the building, setting the alarm, making sure everyone's in and out — all that kind of stuff,"

he said. "And then we have a separate training that Ian [Unger, youth and education manager] runs, but you also have to go through the volunteer training to be included in this. And it would be a group facilitator training — that's if they want to start a group here."

Volunteers are also welcome to join the Affirmations Advocacy Committee or the Entertainment Committee. Both provide valuable services that are tailored to either community engagement or entertainment. For those who aren't able to spare their time this year, Affirmations is also developing a holiday wish list to be released the week before Thanksgiving.

Affirmations  
290 W Nine Mile Road, Ferndale.  
248-398-7105  
[goaffirmations.org](http://goaffirmations.org)

### Ruth Ellis Center

Whether it's hosting a holiday party, holding a warm clothing drive, gathering canned goods or simply decorating to bring some holiday cheer, The Ruth Ellis Center is always looking for help. A nonprofit dedicated to aiding homeless and at-risk LGBTQ youth in the

city of Detroit, REC is dedicated to making the holiday season of each one of its kids as good as possible. I'Sha R. Schultz-Spradlin is a development associate at REC. She said that those interested in volunteering should start by contacting her directly, and online is one of the easiest ways to do this.

"If they go on our website and look at ways to get involved, click 'get involved' and then 'volunteer,' my contact information would be underneath that," she said. "And there will be a whole bunch of information for you."

Applicants will get information about the vetting process, how to sign up for different events and creative ways to offer their services. When asked what she feels new helpers should know before they begin their work, Schultz-Spradlin said that being mindful of the community being served is always helpful.

"Whether it's something you're donating or whether you're doing a project here, I



always say, 'How would you want this project done?' Or, 'What kind of items would you want donated?' Keep that in mind, because our people experiencing homelessness don't want jeans with holes in them," she said. "So, just being mindful that the stuff that we're donating is not just junk stuff, but it's stuff that can actually be used. Because especially when it comes to clothing, and especially around these winter months, our clothing closet is super important for our young people."

Schultz-Spradlin added that volunteers will be able to sign up for REC's unique volunteer portal by visiting the online site. This allows for some customization in the preferences of volunteers.

"And from there I'll post different volunteer projects, whether it's hosting a meal, doing drop-in in the drop-in center or if it's, 'Hey, we need some help moving into the new building,'" she said. "I'll post onto our portal and you'll get notifications based on what your interests are."

Ruth Ellis Center  
77 Victor St., Highland Park  
313-252-1950  
[ruthelliscenter.org](http://ruthelliscenter.org)

### Ozone House

Based in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, Ozone House is a nonprofit that is dedicated to helping homeless, runaway and at-risk youth. Their services can help those who need emergency and transitional housing, counseling and case management, and LGBTQ-specific services. Marketing and Communications

Manager Heidi Ruud said that "donations are the fuel for all of these programs," citing that while 75 percent of Ozone House's budget is federal, the monetary and in-kind donations support every one of Ozone House's programs.

"In our housing programs, your in-kind donations provide things like a welcome basket

when young people arrive unsure of their futures. Clothing when young people come to us with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Bags for transporting belongings from place to place. A warm blanket to take home. A piece of inspirational art they made that they can take with them to inspire them in times of uncertainty. Games to be used in tactical or experiential therapy and so much more," Ruud said.

When asked how volunteers could get involved in helping Ozone House regularly, Ruud suggested using this online link to get started: [gaybe.am/Iq](http://gaybe.am/Iq)

"Because we work with minors in crisis in our homes, we offer regular volunteer opportunities through The Education Project,





Courtesy of Ozone House

which is a program we run out of the WISD off of Wagner Road. ... With our new home opening in January/February we hope to offer new volunteer opportunities,” she said. “We will also have a few volunteer opportunities at our Home Sweet Home event on Feb. 13. This is an event we host each year specifically to raise awareness and funds around LGBTQ services that we provide since 40 percent of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ. To be notified of volunteer opportunities, sign up for our Volunteer Newsletter here: [gaybe.am/sD](http://gaybe.am/sD).”

Ozone House Ann Arbor  
1705 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor  
734-662-2222  
[ozonehouse.org](http://ozonehouse.org)

Ozone House Ypsilanti  
102 N Hamilton St., Ypsilanti  
734-485-2222  
[ozonehouse.org](http://ozonehouse.org)

## LGBT Detroit

LGBT Detroit has been serving Detroit’s LGBTQ community for decades, but it has been at its #SafeBraveSpace in the Murray Hill neighborhood since 2016. Offering services that increase “awareness of the intricacies of the LGBT culture through education, cohesion and advocacy,” LGBT Detroit is always hosting

or planning community-involved events and looking for volunteer help. Perhaps most notably, it puts on Hotter Than July, the world’s second oldest Black Pride celebration. Evan Killingsworth is project coordinator at the center. He said that anyone who may be hesitant to volunteer should know that their efforts benefit the entire community.

“You are not just supporting the LGBTQ+ community, you are supporting Detroit and all the businesses that partner with us,” he said. “... Volunteering is a great way to find new people, test out different careers and make a positive impact in the world. Be ready for different experiences and wonderful people.”

To begin helping the organization, Killingsworth suggests visiting the LGBT Detroit website and clicking the “get involved” tab. There, users will find not only a list of some of the organization’s groups — like Brother to Brother, Woman 2 Woman and its healing and support services — but a volunteer application. Those interested in donating to LGBT Detroit should visit [lgbtdetroit.org/give](http://lgbtdetroit.org/give).

LGBT Detroit  
20025 Greenfield Road, Detroit  
313-397-2127  
[lgbtdetroit.org](http://lgbtdetroit.org)



LGBT Detroit volunteers.

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

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The 7th Flint Print Fair features several print dealers presenting a wide range of prints and drawings. This year focuses heavily on contemporary printmaking, with works ranging in price from \$500 to several thousand dollars. This is an ideal opportunity for novice collectors to start a collection and for connoisseurs to add works to existing collections.

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# The Annual HoliGay Gift & Giving Guide



BY BTL STAFF

Shopping for the holidays is an annual tradition that for most, whether they love or hate it, starts in November and lasts all the way through the end of December. But

even if it's a necessity, it's not always easy to find the items on everyone's wish list. That's why this year, Between The Lines has put together a list of stores across Detroit, Ann Arbor and Lansing that'll satisfy even the pickiest of gift-getters.

## Detroit

### 1. City Bird

Founded by siblings Andy and Emily Linn in 2005, City Bird was a way for the duo to “merge their mutual love for design with their admiration for their city and region.” The shop showcases art, design and handmade goods from over 200 artists from the Great Lakes region. Shoppers can pick up a destination greeting card, browse through a selection of local jewelry, home goods, accessories and more.

460 W Canfield St.  
citybirddetroit.com  
313-831-9146

### 2. John K. King Used & Rare Books

John K. King started his shop after his high school guidance counselor advised him to follow his passion of buying and selling used books and antiques. Today, King's wares fill the four-story Advance Glove factory building. Visit to search through books on topics from Americana to World War history, while browsing through a unique selection of furniture and antiques.

901 W Lafayette Blvd.  
rarebooklink.com  
313-961-0622



City Bird

### 3. Savvy Chic

Located in Detroit's Eastern Market, Savvy Chic is a lifestyle boutique that sells a variety of luxurious stock from French linens and gourmet foods to candles and greeting cards. This store “with a Parisian flare” holds the perfect gifts for anyone looking to make a style statement.

2712 Riopelle St.  
savvychictrends.com  
313-833-8769

### 4. Eldorado General Store

Named after the famed city of gold, “Eldorado represents the relentless search for true love, heaven and happiness,” write shop owners. This vintage general store is stocked with “one-of-a-kind trinkets and treasures” that includes clothing, handcrafted accessories, locally made goods and more.

1700 Michigan Ave.  
eldoradogeneralstore.com  
313-784-9220

### 5. Nora Detroit

Nora is a curated shop of uniquely designed items fit for anyone looking to make a house a home. Whether looking for bath or kitchen accessories, jewelry or office supplies, Nora has a wide selection of items available for gifting.

4240 Cass Ave.  
noramodern.com  
313-831-4845

See **HoliGay Gift Guide**, continued on p. 16





## Adventure Awaits

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## ► Gift Guide

Continued from p. 14

### 6. Shinola Detroit Store

Taking its name from the long-defunct shoe polish company, Shinola has built its reputation as a quality retailer of luxury leather good, watches and bicycles since 2011. Gift-givers should consider Shinola for anyone who loves accessories.

441 W Canfield St.  
shinola.com  
313-285-2390

### 7. Hugh

Hugh is a design and lifestyle store based out of Detroit with a mid-century modern focus. Those looking for the perfect piece to accent their bar, office or kitchen can find a variety of goods at various price points.

4240 Cass Ave.  
thankhugh.com  
313-831-4844



Pure Detroit

### 8. Carhartt

A fifth-generation family-owned company, Carhartt is a clothing company that specializes in outerwear, accessories and work clothing. Whether it's a gift for someone who makes their living in the outdoors or simply someone looking well-made, locally owned gear Carhartt is a great choice.

5800 Cass Ave.  
carhartt.com  
800-833-3118

### 9. Pure Detroit

Pure Detroit is a great way for those new to the area to familiarize themselves with Detroit's sights, offering tours of the Packard Plant, Fisher Building, Guardian Building, Detroit Skyscraper and a walking tour. And for those looking for a way to remember the city even once they've left, Pure Detroit sells Detroit-focused apparel and hand-made goods.

3011 W Grand Blvd., #101  
puredetroit.com  
313-873-7873

### 10. The D Shop

For rabid Tigers fans, a gift from The D Shop is a must. Everything from hats, jerseys, pants and swimming gear can be found at this shop located at Comerica Park in the heart of the city.

2100 Woodward Ave.  
mlb.com/tigers/fans/team-store  
313-471-2673

## Ann Arbor

### 1. Cherry Republic

Complete with a wine and soda pop tasting counter, Cherry Republic has a collection of cherry-themed salsas, candies, baked goods, gift boxes, chocolates and snacks for the gourmet in your family.

223 S Main St.  
cherryrepublic.com  
734-585-5231

### 2. Vault of Midnight

A collection of comics, board games, Dungeons & Dragons dice and "all things geeky," finding a gift at Vault of Midnight is perfect for the entertainment junkie in your family.

219 S Main St.  
vaultofmidnight.com  
734-998-1413

### 3. Rock Paper Scissors Stationary

The holiday season always brings with it a need for cards, invitations and decorations for all sorts of celebration. Located just a few blocks from The University of Michigan, Rock Paper Scissors Stationary can help you decorate your gift or find its perfect final touch.

216 S Main St.  
rockpaperscissorsshop.com  
734-531-6264



Rock Paper Scissors

### 4. The Dawn Treader Book Store

Avid readers will rejoice to receive a book from one of the over 70,000 titles found at Ann Arbor's The Dawn Treader Book Shop. The shop also caters to collectors, as it sells "rare and antiquarian" maps and prints.

514 E Liberty St.  
dawnreaderbooks.com  
734-995-1008

### 5. Nickels Arcade

Though Nickels Arcade isn't a standalone store, it houses a collection of shops and services that'll inspire any holiday gift-buyers. It's home to a barber, antique shop, several clothing stores and much more.

326 S State St.  
734-769-0941

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See **HoliGay Gift Guide**, continued on p. 18



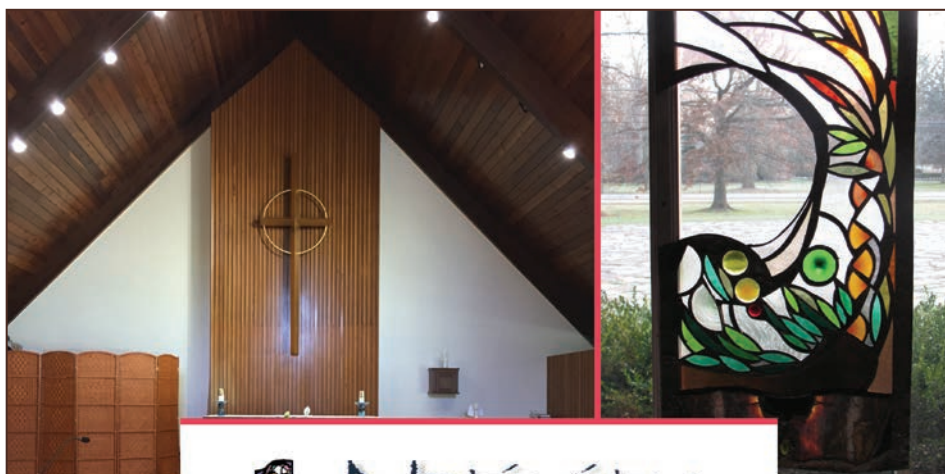


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Sunday, December 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd at 9:30 AM - Advent Services  
Tuesday, December 24th at 5:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service  
Sunday, December 29th at 9:30 AM - Lessons and Carols

Weekly Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. | Food and Fellowship 10:30 a.m.  
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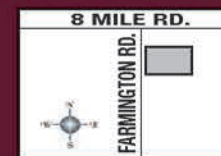


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## ► Gift Guide

Continued from p. 16



16 Hands

### 8. Unicorn Feed & Supply

Whether your presents are for someone who likes stuffed animals, plants, stickers or is looking to expand their selection of Pride items, Unicorn Feed & Supply has exactly what you need.

114 W Michigan Ave.  
unicornfeedsupply.com  
734-961-8610

### 9. Salt City Antiques

Finding that perfect piece to tie everything in the living together can be tricky, but Salt City Antiques is a great place to start — for the living room, or any other place in the house.

115 W Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti  
saltcityantiquespsi.com  
734-487-1259

### 10. 16 Hands

Located in The Kerrytown Market & Shops, 16 Hands is a locally owned Ann Arbor business that specializes in handcrafted objects, artwork and gifts of “uncommon beauty and character.”

407 N 5th Ave., Ypsilanti  
16handsannarbor.com  
734-761-1110

### 6. Found Gallery

Featuring the work of Michigan artists who use recycled materials in their handcrafted works, Found Gallery carries home goods, jewelry and gifts.

415 N 5th Ave.  
foundgallery.com  
734-302-3060

### 7. Catching Fireflies

Known as a “whimsical gift gallery,” the Catching Fireflies crew is dedicated to “finding whimsical goodies that’ll brighten your day.”

419 Detroit St.  
catchingfireflies.com  
734-531-6293

## Lansing

### 1. Bad Annie’s Swearly Goods

This shop is for those looking to revamp their wardrobe with a statement — literally. Bad Annie’s Swearly Goods has a huge selection of cards, stationary, clothes, drinkware and more, all with a variety of choice words printed on.

1209 Turner Road  
swearlygoods.com  
517-927-8293

### 2. Country Stiches

For those in your life who love sewing, quilting and everything in-between, Country Stiches has repair services, sewing gear and even classes.

2200 Coolidge Road, East Lansing  
countrystiches.com  
517-351-2416

### 3. Kellie’s Consignments

Described as a retail and consignment store, a charity operation and gathering place, Kellie’s Consignments encourages customers to come in and donate unused items. While they’re downsizing, they’re invited to take a look at the upscale stock that’ll fit in any stocking.

1212 Turner Road  
motherandearth.com  
517-721-1868



Old Town General Store

5000 Marsh Road  
kelliesconsignments.com  
517-574-4523

### 4. Mother & Earth Baby Boutique

Even the most prepared of new parents find themselves missing an item or two from time to time. Those looking for a gift for their own child or that of a friend or family member will find hundreds of options and Mother & Earth Baby Boutique.

See **HoliGay Gift Guide**, continued on p. 20

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## ► Gift Guide

Continued from p. 18

### 5. Old Town General Store

This shop specializes in Michigan-made and Michigan-themed gifts that include ornaments, clothing, glassware and much more. And for those who don't have the time to put together a ready-made gift-basket, Old Town General Store will do it for you.

408 E César E. Chávez Ave.  
oldtown-generalstore.com  
517-487-6847

### 6. The Peanut Shop

The Peanut Shop is the perfect stop for everyone on the list with a sweet tooth. Shoppers can pick up dozens of varieties of hand-crafted candy and snacks.

117 S Washington Square  
517-374-0008



### 7. Pruess Pets

Not only does Pruess Pets have a huge selection of pet products and playthings, it's filled with a variety of classic and unique pets, too.

1127 N Cedar St.  
preusspets.com  
517-339-1762

### 8. SPIN Bicycle Shop

Both the occasional and frequent biker will find what they're looking for here, SPIN Bicycle Shop is a full-service shop that carries a variety of interesting brands.

spinbicycleshop.com  
206 E Grand River Ave.  
517-372-3000

### 9. Metro Retro

This vintage store has classic looks and then some. At Metro Retro shoppers can find the perfect leather jacket right alongside some feather boas and a jumpsuit or two.

304 E Grand River Ave.  
517-220-4951

### 10. Retail Therapy

This womenswear boutique focuses on giving shoppers an "experience rooted in sustainability, craftsmanship and luxury." All the clothing, jewelry, accessories and gifts here are designed to be fashionable with a flair.

204 E César E. Chávez Ave.  
iloveretailtherapy.com  
517-574-4427

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## 2019 Holiday Events Around Metro Detroit

BY BTL STAFF

### Detroit Cocktail Camp: International Holiday Drinks — Nov. 17

Take a trip around the world, learning how to make a variety of holiday drinks with the experts at Two James. This event starts at 1 p.m. and lasts until 3 p.m. and costs \$59.

Two James Spirits  
2445 Michigan Ave., Corktown  
313-964-4800

### Make Your Own Holiday Wreath - Nov. 18

Decorate your home for the holidays with a unique hand-made craft of your own. This free event lasts from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Detroit Public Library- Edison Branch  
18400 Joy Road, Detroit



### Dr. Suess' 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical' — Nov. 20-23

Watch this box office record-breaking production of the classic Christmas tale at the Fox Theatre. Tickets start at \$40. The event starts at 7 p.m.

Fox Theatre  
2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit  
313presents.com

See **Events**, continued on p. 22

## Detroit Opera House's Annual 'Too Hot to Handel' Performance Dec. 14

BY BTL STAFF

The Detroit rendition of Handel's "Messiah" is a unique jazz-infused version of the holiday classic that this year will return to the Detroit Opera House on Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m.

"This soul stirring, toe-tapping rendition of Handel's 'Messiah' never fails to bring audiences to their feet," said event organizers. "It's an exhilarating fusion of gospel, jazz and classical music performed by the Rackham Symphony Choir, the Too Hot Orchestra and an all-star cast of soloists. This is a celebration unlike any other."

The performance will feature renowned musicians Rodrick Dixon, Alfreda Burke,



Karen Marie Richardson, Marion Hayden,  
Alvin Waddles and Dave Taylor.

For more information about the event and

showtimes, go online to [rackhamchoir.org](http://rackhamchoir.org)  
or call 313-404-0222. The Detroit Opera  
House is located at 1526 Broadway St.,  
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## ► Events

Continued from p. 21

### Detroit Tree Lighting Ceremony - Nov. 22

guests can watch a live stream of Detroit's Tree Lighting and enjoy live performances inside the heated Winter Lodge tent, along with much more.

Campus Martius Park  
800 Woodward Ave., Detroit  
littleguidedetroit.com

### The SHOP-Holiday Edition

Lasting from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., shoppers can visit TechTown's retail pop-up shop with goods from local vendors.

TechTown

440 Burroughs St., Detroit  
Find out more online at Facebook.com.

### Holiday Cards in Detroit — Nov. 23

During this one-day workshop participants will learn how to create and print their own holiday cards. This event starts at 10 a.m.

Signal-Return

1345 Division St., Detroit, detroit.eventful.com

### Downtown Holiday Lights Segway Tour — Nov. 24

Zip up and down Detroit landmarks on this holiday Segway tour. The tour begins at 4 p.m. and costs \$65.

Detroit Segway

2934 Russell St., Detroit  
Find out more online at Facebook.com.

## Cello Phenom Sheku Kanneh-Mason Comes to Ann Arbor

BY BTL STAFF

One of the most exciting young stars on the classical music scene, Sheku Kanneh-Mason became a household name worldwide in May 2018 after performing at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at Windsor Castle.

His performance was greeted with universal excitement after being watched by nearly 2 billion people globally. The winner of the 2016 BBC Young Musician competition, Kanneh-Mason comes to Ann Arbor twice this season: once in this solo recital with his older sister, Isata, at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 10 at Rackham Auditorium, the night before his Carnegie Hall debut, and again in April 2020 with the Chineke! Orchestra in Hill Auditorium. Tickets at ums.org



### Holiday Markets — Dec. 1

In addition to the year-round Saturday Market, six additional ones have been added for holiday-shopping needs.

Eastern Market  
2934 Russell St., Detroit  
313-833-9300

### Holiday Nights in Greenfield Village — Dec. 5

For yuletide fun visit Greenfield Village this December to enjoy carolers, fiddlers, sleigh bells and much more. This event lasts from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The Henry Ford Museum  
20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn  
visitdetroit.com

### Indian Village Holiday Home VIP Tour — Dec. 7

This annual event allows visitors to tour the holiday-decorated homes of the historical Indian Village neighborhood. Proceeds go to benefit the Artelia Bowne Court Scholarship fund. Tickets start at \$125.

The location of the event will be mailed to those who register online at eventbrite.com.



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## Country Queen on Being a 'Very Proud' LGBTQ Ally, Crying at Pride With Her Gay Brother & Her Queer-Loving God

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

In June, the queen of modern country music, Miranda Lambert, stood alongside her gay brother, Luke, his husband and her own cop-husband, Brendan McLoughlin, at WorldPride in New York City. She beamed as brightly as the rainbow-colored "PRIDE" lettering on her neon green cap. In another pic, Lambert smirked, appearing delighted as her hand proudly called attention to a fella's shirt that read, "We should all be Mirandas," a nod to two very gay-loved things: Lambert and "Sex and the City." The photos, which she hashtagged "ally" and "family," were posted to her social media feed with the caption, "Happy Pride y'all!"

Picture a name like Miranda Lambert, as pure country as country artists are in the genre's modern era, documenting their immersive Pride adventures for all the world to see. Picture it 15 years ago. Picture it five years ago. Can't? That's because it wasn't happening.

The 36-year-old Texas native is as country-bred and country-honored as they come, with 13 Country Music Association Awards and 33 Academy of Country Music Awards, more than any artist in the award show's 54-year history. Seven solo albums in – and 10 altogether, counting the three she recorded as part of girl-

group Pistol Annies – Lambert's music still packs a sassy, emotional, freewheeling punch on her latest, "Wildcard."

After releasing one of the best albums of 2016, her double-disc divorce opus "The Weight of These Wings," Lambert lets her hair down on "Wildcard," turning the page on a rough patch. With newfound hope, she sings sweetly about the "bluebird in my heart," and with fellow country artist Maren Morris, ultimately decides it's best they let a hitman handle the cheating man they want to murder because "the way those jumpsuits wash us out, we're way too pretty for prison." Since her 2005 debut album "Kerosene," and much like the LGBTQ allyship that has crept into her lyrics, Lambert has let her homespun ruminations on heartbreak, booze and setting things ablaze speak for themselves.

But on a recent call, Lambert opened up about the emotional experience she shared with her brother at her first Pride, wishing she had spoken up for the LGBTQ community sooner and how leaving her small Texas town opened her mind. Also, an epiphany: the country superstar has realized that, compared to a drag queen, she's actually got it pretty damn easy.

**What was special to you about being at WorldPride?**

It was the happiest day. I've never seen that many people in that great of a mood in one

place in my life. It was so cool, and there was glitter and rainbows everywhere. It was kind of like a little fantasyland, and I got to watch the parade with the NYPD from the best view ever behind a barricade, so I felt really special doin' that (laughs). It was just lighthearted. Everybody had wings that day and I loved it.

**Had you ever been to a Pride event before WorldPride?**

I'd never before. It was my first time. And in New York City! So I did it big. And it was WorldPride too (laughs), and I just went straight for it. It was like, go outside and laugh and look at people and be happy, then go drink and then go back outside and laugh and look at people be happy. Then go drink. One of those days. (Laughs.)

**You also partied at the New York City gay country bar Flaming Saddles Saloon.**

I love Flaming Saddles. It's one of my favorite places. (Laughs.)

**Had you thrown back a few at gay bars before Flaming Saddles?**

No, that was my first real experience, and actually my hairstylist told me about it. I walked in the first time and they were doing a dance to "Only Prettier" on the bar and they didn't know I was coming or anything (laughs). It was a

coincidence and I was like, "Yes, I like this place. It's awesome."

**You chronicled your day at Pride and Flaming Saddles on your social media, which still, in 2019, feels like a statement, especially when it's coming from a major country artist like yourself. Why was it important to show your support for the LGBTQ community?**

I didn't even realize it was making a statement 'cause I just thought it was normal, and I guess what I mean by that is, I didn't think it was stepping out of bounds or anything because to me it's all the same, it doesn't matter. And I was just there celebrating with my brother and his husband and having a great time. But if it makes somebody happy that I'm a supporter, I'm glad.

I didn't realize it was that big of a deal, but I am glad that hopefully that made some people's day 'cause like I said earlier, it was one of the happiest days. Almost every single person just felt like being exactly who they were and I felt comfortable. In a city full of strangers, it was like this community bond, and I've never experienced anything like that.

**Some people's comments on your posts said they were no longer fans because you pledged**



## your LGBTQ support.

I feel like the people who commented negatively weren't my followers. When people say "unfollow," they weren't following me to begin with. (Laughs.) Also, I don't understand why people have time to get on social media and be negative. I think they should get a hobby or a job, or both. So I just don't let those affect me. But I also know that if you're polarizing, you must have an impact. Can't be loved by everybody. So I try to take the good and run with that.

**I can tell you that as a gay country music fan who grew up with very few artists in the country community who acknowledged our community, even though you may not realize it, you did make a statement.**

Well, I'm glad. And I'll make it every day. I have no shame about that. I'm very proud of it.

**Why didn't you declare solidarity earlier in your career? Was it just that you hadn't had the experience?**

Yeah. And I didn't *not* declare it, you know what I mean? (Laughs.) I guess I didn't think it would matter that much if I did or not. But I also recorded a song called "All Kinds of Kinds" that was a single and there was a person (named Thomas in the song) who was a cross-dresser, so I kind of did but I just didn't stand on a pedestal and wave a flag. I just kind of am who I am and sang about it. I didn't get backlash for that either, because that song is amazing and it's about anyone being whoever they wanna be.

**That's the first time I thought you might be an ally, but still, it's sometimes hard to know which country artists are on our side.**

It kind of makes me sad that I didn't (speak up) earlier if that's how people feel. I just didn't know that it was that big of a deal. But I'm glad to know that, hearing that from you.

**Did having "All Kinds of Kinds" on the radio feel like LGBTQ progress was being made in country music?**

To me, that was me making a huge statement but doing it through music, which is kind of how I make all my statements throughout my whole life and career. I kind of just tell everybody my truth through the lyrics, so I guess in a way "All Kinds of Kinds" was my way of stepping out and saying what I needed to say.

**You sing the line, "Some point the finger and let ignorance linger." What kind of ignorance were you referring to?**

Oh, just judgy people (laughs). You know, with your community, the LB... I can't ever say all the letters. I always mess it up. (Laughs.)

**Ha! It's LGBTQ.**

LGBTQ! (Laughs.) Everybody has a judgment. I grew up in the Bible Belt in a small town in

east Texas, and I grew up in church, but the second I started to sing country music I was kind of shunned for doing secular music. So, to me, that song kind of encompassed all of that: circus freaks, or what some people call "freaks." But they were just being themselves. And then the cross-dressing congressman. And the girl that failed geometry. It was all of us. (Laughs.) To me, it was just ignorance in any way when people are small-minded and judgy.

**Did you know a Thomas?**

No (laughs). But I want to! I also want to know Phyllis, 'cause she has all the pills.

**Honestly, if you have a Thomas and a Phyllis, who else do you need, really?**

Exactly. Just the circus people. We're good.

**"All Kinds of Kinds" was released in 2011. I would like to think that now Thomas might be out and proud and wouldn't have to live with, as the song's lyrics go, "closets full of skeletons."**

I would hope you were right. And I hope for anyone who reads this interview maybe it'll set 'em free because me and you are talking about it freely and happily. You know, I read about this guy somewhere that he was on the corner and had a (shirt) that said "Free Dad Hugs" for anyone whose dad won't hug them during Pride week and 700-and-something people hugged this guy. When I was reading about it, I was crying. I thought it was the coolest thing I'd ever heard.

**Growing up in Lindale, Texas, in a conservative, Baptist community, did you have any LGBTQ friends?**

I guess I did and I didn't, because everybody was still afraid at that time. I mean, I'm 36 now, so in that town in that time frame it was still not the best, and the few kids I did know would confide in my mom, because my mom worked in our youth group and she was a really cool mom. You could kind of tell her everything.

But they weren't really out about it yet, except for some of the kids in drama, which was my first experience with the absolute sweetest, coolest, most creative people who were a couple of the gay guys in drama. I was kind of a band nerd and drama nerd. I didn't make cheerleader, so I was kind of in that group, which I'm thankful for now 'cause it's my living. I didn't think anything of it, I guess. I didn't judge it and I don't judge it now. I just didn't think it was a big deal in my mind 'cause I was raised to accept everybody.

**What kind of support did you offer your brother when he came out to you?**

I support him 100 percent in whatever he does. He is a brilliant individual and the most amazing person, and just so genuine. Growing up in the same household, we're way different. He has no accent, he doesn't really like country

See **Miranda**, continued on p. 26

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## ► Miranda

Continued from p. 25

music (laughs). But he did call me and tell me he loved this record, which meant a lot coming from him. We grew up in the same house, but we grew up differently because I'm still pretty much a country girl at heart, and he lives in Austin and he's way cooler than me.

**What was it like to share the Pride experience with him?**

It was so special, and when he was giving me permission to post about it, we both cried because it was such a big moment. I see now, talking about it, why it's a big moment for other people: because it was a big moment for us too. So I'm just glad that he was OK with that, and we could share that moment and be supportive of each other no matter what we're doing or who we are.

**Your song "Heart Like Mine" makes me think your God is one who loves everybody, including the LGBTQ community. Is that true?**

One-hundred percent. You know, I think that "Heart Like Mine" is another good example, just like "All Kinds of Kinds," that says, "I am who I am." We're all flawed in some way, but I don't think your sexuality is one of those things you should be judged by ever. You know, Catholics drink wine and I always thought that was cool, 'cause Baptists don't. It's like, Jesus did, y'all! It's in the Bible!

I just think you should be who you are and try to be a good person in whatever that means for you. I think the negative people and the people that are like, "Believe like me," or, "Your vote doesn't count," I don't understand that mentality. Especially being in this business and being around all kinds of different people, it's really even opened my eyes more. I'm so thankful for that, because I love the town I grew up in - they are so supportive of me and always have been - but it definitely is good to get out and see other views.

**How has being a part of the music business opened your mind?**

I think it's easy to get wrapped up in small-town mentality if you want to, but I know a lot of people in my hometown and in small towns across America that are just as open as anybody and just as supportive of any lifestyle you choose. I guess it's just up to the person to be willing to push their boundaries.

**To promote your newest album, you've been posting shirtless photos of your husband on Instagram.**

Yeah, you're welcome. (Laughs.)

**Ha! Yes, thank you. What's hotter, though, is a straight, married man who's comfortable enough with his sexuality that he can go to a gay Pride parade. Are you drawn to men who share the same diverse and open-minded views that you do?**

I think I am now more than ever because of my

brother and because of all the things that we've been through together. It just kind of opened my mind even more. And Brendan, when I met him and started Googling him, of course - who's not going to? You can google anybody these days - his video had gone viral for dancing at Pride and he knew he was probably going to get in trouble for it, but he did it anyway. That makes me love him even more, because he's just that person.

**I've put some thought into a "Way Too Pretty For Prison" video, and what about casting a Miranda and Maren drag queen?**

I would love that! I think that is amazing. In fact, during Pride week I went to a club, which I don't go to clubs anymore (laughs). I didn't think I ever did go to clubs, but I was like, "I'm all in, I'm doing the whole bit," and I met Sabel (Scities) and she's amazing. She's from Austin and (laughs) she had on the heaviest earrings and had to wear a fishing line to hold them on because there were so many rhinestones on them. The earnings were amazing, and I was like, "How are you keeping them on, 'cause they're clip-ons?" and she was like, "I have fishing wire in my weave" and I was like, "What?!" It was crazy.

And I mean, just the makeup! I think I have it bad to get ready for shows - this shit is legit. (Laughs.) I mean, so much effort and so cool, and I feel like I got an inside track into what all goes into the drag and I think it's amazing. I have much more appreciation now (for drag queens) than I ever did before. So yes, I'm gonna work on your concept. I think Taylor (Swift) kind of stole that, but we could just go ahead and go on her heels. (Laughs.)

**Looking back on your videography, you've served some real looks. Where would you recommend a drag queen turn for some inspiration?**

I would say "Mama's Broken Heart" has some pretty good inspiration. It's just all too much!

**To end: What does it mean to you knowing that as a visible ally now, you're making young small-town LGBTQ country fans, maybe even ones in your hometown of Lindale, feel like they're OK?**

It means a lot that you kind of opened my eyes to that, to be honest. And that we talked about it, because I just kind of maybe didn't make a big enough deal about it because I didn't realize it would make an impact. But I do have a platform and I try to use it for the better. I save dogs, and if this is what I use my platform for, just to push something positive, if this can be added to that, then I'm all about it, I'm all in. And now I realize that I need to be a little more present and vocal at times when I need to be, so thanks for that.

*As editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBTQ wire service, Chris Azzopardi has interviewed a multitude of superstars, including Cher, Meryl Streep, Mariah Carey and Beyoncé. His work has also appeared in The New York Times, Vanity Fair, GQ and Billboard. Reach him via Twitter @chrisazzopardi.*



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PUZZLE P. 33

## Editor's Pick

### Bodytraffic at Detroit Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts

On Nov. 22 fans of dance can see Bodytraffic, the group that the L.A. Times called “one of the most talked-about companies nationwide.” Described as “virtuosic, stylized, confident, with a diverse repertoire of some of the world’s most sought-after choreographers,” audiences are invited to explore the company’s latest performance to be held at Detroit’s Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts. Learn more about the company online at [bodytraffic.com](http://bodytraffic.com).



## OUTINGS

### Friday, November 15

**LGBT Social Meet Up** 6:30 p.m. is a group for all lgbt people who want to meet have light hearted discussions and social activities. Hazel Park Community Center, 620 West Woodward Heights, Hazel Park. <http://MichiganLgbtpeer-support-network.facebook.com>

### Saturday, November 16

**Queer Conversations** 11 a.m. Saturday LGBT Chat is an on going social discussion group meets every week to discuss issues LGBT people face. Coming out, dating, and much more. Come join us every Saturday at 11 am. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105

### Monday, November 17

**Stand with Trans Wyandotte Support Group for Trans Youth and Parents of Trans Individuals** 4 p.m. There is no fee to attend the groups. St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 2803 1st Street, Wyandotte. 734-747-4363 / [www.standwithtrans.org](http://www.standwithtrans.org)

### Tuesday, November 18

**LGBT Game Night** 6 p.m. LGBT Game Night is an opportunity for all LGBT people and allies to come play a board game, drink coffee, bring your own drinks and

socialize with other LGBT individuals. All are welcomed. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105

### Thursday, November 20

**Stand with Trans Support Groups – Livonia – Wayne County** 6:30 p.m. Free to all, group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month @ Emmanuel Lutheran Church. 34567 7 Mile Road, Livonia. [www.standwithtrans.org](http://www.standwithtrans.org)

### Monday, November 24

**National Theatre Live in HD: A Midsummer Night’s Dream** 7 p.m. Shakespeare’s most famous romantic comedy, produced by the Bridge Theatre in London, features Gwendoline Christie (Game of Thrones), Oliver Chris, David Moorst, and Hammed Animashaun as Titania, Oberon, Puck, and Bottom. Nicholas Hytner’s immersive staging Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 734-668-8397

### Wednesday, November 26

**Strand with Trans Support Groups – Ann Arbor – Washtenaw** 6:30 p.m. Trans Support Group meeting the 4th Tuesday of each month @ Journey of Faith Christian Church, 1900 Manchester Road, Ann Arbor. [www.standwithtrans.org](http://www.standwithtrans.org)

### Friday, November 28

**Stand with Trans 2018 Support Groups – Farmington Hills – Oakland County** 7 p.m. All youth are welcome to attend this FREE group. This group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month @ Orchard United Methodist Church.

### Sunday, December 1

**Big Band Holidays – Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis** 4 p.m. The holiday season at UMS kicks off extra early this year, with a Thanksgiving Weekend holiday-themed concert by Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University Ave, Ann Arbor. 7347643464 <http://ums.org/performance/jazz-at-lincoln-center-orchestra-with-wynton-marsalis/>

### Tuesday, December 3

**Stand with Trans 2018 Support Groups – Lake Orion / Oakland County** 7 p.m. FREE and OPEN to the community. For parents of transgender kids, this group meets the 1st Tuesday of each month @ St. Mary’s In-the-Hills Episcopal Church. Parent



# ’Twas A Girls Night Before Christmas The Musical Happenings

## ’Twas A GIRLS NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS: THE MUSICAL’

This Christmas sequel follows the box office smash hit “Girls Night: The Musical.” Playing at Detroit’s City Theatre from Thursday, Dec. 5, through Sunday, Dec. 8, it features the original five leading ladies who all come together to have a night on the town during the craziest time of year: the holidays. Find out more online at [313presents.com](http://313presents.com).

Support Group Facilitated by Lisa Goyette, ally, activist. St. Mary’s In The Hills Episcopal Church, 2512 Joslyn Court, Lake Orion. 248-391-0663 [www.stmarysinthehills.org](http://www.stmarysinthehills.org) <http://www.standwithtrans.org>

### Thursday, December 5

**Pride Night at Thunderbowl!** 7 p.m. Meet & Greet First Thursday of every month, unlimited bowling, shoe rental, private room, private bar area, drink specials, billiard room, 250 foot video wall. Thunderbowl Arena, 4200 Allen Road, Allen Park. 313-928-4688 [www.thunderbowl.org](http://www.thunderbowl.org)

### Saturday, December 7

**Handel’s Messiah** 8 p.m. Music director Scott Hanoian conducts the UMS Choral Union and the Ann Arbor Symphony in this annual community tradition. Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University Ave, Ann Arbor. <http://ums.org/performance/handels-messiah-2019/>

## MUSIC & MORE

**Teac Damsa – Loch na hEala (Swan Lake)** November 15, 8 p.m. Rooted in a place where ancient Irish mythology and modern Ireland meet, Loch na hEala (Swan Lake) is a Swan Lake for our time. Dance is interwoven with storytelling, song, and live music, all performed by Power Center, 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 647-3327

**Vivaldi’s Four Seasons – Max Richter’s Vivaldi Recomposed** Nov. 16, 8 p.m. Experience back-to-back versions of Vivaldi’s timelessly thrilling masterpiece, The Four Seasons, including Max Richter’s modern “recomposition” that topped classical album charts in 22 countries. Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington St, Ann Arbor. (734) 764-8572 [www.rackham.umich.edu/rackham-building/](http://www.rackham.umich.edu/rackham-building/)

amphitheatre

**Orchestre Metropolitain de Montreal with Yannick Nezet-Seguin and Joyce DiDonato** Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. After last season’s stunning performance of Schubert’s Winterreise, Joyce DiDonato and Yannick Nézet-Séguin join forces once again. In addition to his artistic leadership role with the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Metropolitan Opera, Nézet-Séguin has served as Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University Ave, Ann Arbor.

**Stew & the Negro Problem – Notes of a Native Song** Nov. 22, 8 p.m. “A celebration of Baldwin’s legacy as an inspiration for artists to create their own work that, like his, defies genres and expectations.” (New York Times) Tony Award-winning playwright and singer Stew, alongside his longtime Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University, Ann Arbor. 734-763-3333

**Toastmasters International SpeakOUT! LGBTQ Meeting** Nov. 28, 7 p.m. LGBTQ Toastmaster Club focusing on Professional and personal communication skills development. Better communication skills improves leadership style and relationships. Guests (and allies) are always welcome. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867

**Laura Mendoza Live in Concert** December 5, 7 p.m. Detroit musician Laura Mendoza live in a 2 hour concert at SpreadArt Gallery. Art show and flea market onsite. [spreadart.com](http://spreadart.com), 5141 Rosa Parks Blvd., Detroit. 586-806-9343

**Shaku Kanneh-Mason, cello** Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m. One of the brightest young stars on the classical music scene, Shaku Kanneh-Mason became a household name worldwide in May 2018 after performing at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at Windsor Castle. Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington St, Ann Arbor. (734) 764-8572

See Happenings, on p. 30

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**Editor's Pick**



**Caesars Windsor Hosts 'A Charlie Brown Christmas Live on Stage'**

This all-ages show features the classic Emmy and Peabody Award-winning Peanuts characters that families know and love live on stage. The show is also set to the classic music of Vince Guaraldi. Tickets start at \$28. Find out more online at caesars.com.

**Happenings**

Continued from p. 28

**Taylor Mac's Holiday Sauce** Dec. 14, 8 p.m. "Taylor Mac's Holiday Sauce plies acerbic wit, subversive politics, circus pageantry, sartorial riot, and boundless compassion to the holidays." (San Francisco Chronicle) Power Center, 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 647-3327

**THEATER**

**FOLLIES IN CONCERT** by Stephen Sondheim and James Goldman November 7, 8 p.m. A fundraiser for Theatre NOVA and presented in concert, Follies is a glamorous and fascinating peek into a bygone era, and a clear-eyed look at the transformation of relationships over time, with countless songs that Thursday, Friday and Saturdays at

8pm, Sundays at 2pm Theatre NOVA, 410 w Huron, Ann Arbor.

**Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Fallen Souffle** Nov. 15, 7 p.m. A world premier by David MacGregor and directed by Michelle Mountain, it's Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Fallen Souffle. An event every day that begins at 7 p.m., repeating until Dec. 21 Purple Rose Theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. 734-433-7673 purplerosetheatre.org

**August Wilson's Jitney** November 15, 8 p.m. Winner of the 2017 Tony Award for Best Revival of Play, August Wilson's Jitney is directed by one of Wilson's foremost interpreters, Ruben Santiago-Hudson. Set in the early 1970s, this richly textured piece follows a An event every day that begins at 8:00pm, repeating until November 16 One event on November 14 at 1:00pm One event on November 16 at 2:00pm Detroit Music Hall, 350 Madison St., Detroit. 313-887-8501 www.musicall.org http://broadwayindetroit.com/shows/august-wilsons-jitney

**Hello, Dolly!** Nov. 19, 8 p.m. Winner of four Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival, HELLO, DOLLY! is the universally acclaimed smash that NPR calls "the best show of the year!" and the Los Angeles Times says "distills the mood-elevating properties of the American musical at An event every day that begins at 8 p.m., repeating until December 10 Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. 313-872-1000 http://broadwayindetroit.com/shows/hello-dolly

**National Theatre Live in HD: A Midsummer Night's Dream** November 24, 7 p.m. Shakespeare's most famous romantic comedy, produced by the Bridge Theatre in London, features Gwendoline Christie (Game of Thrones), Oliver Chris, David Moorst, and Hammed Animashaun as Titania, Oberon, Puck, and Bottom. Nicholas Hytner's immersive staging Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 734-668-8397

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# 7 Ways to Go Vegan Without Actually Going 'Vegan'

BY MIKEY ROX

Want to be more eco-conscious but draw the line at eliminating animal products from your diet? Here are seven ways to live a semi-vegan lifestyle without going whole hog.

## 1. Skincare

There's no shortage of vegan skincare products on the market. It's the category's most abundant non-edible, even though you can technically eat it – but, ya know, don't. Favorites include Fork & Melon's fine cleansing wash and rich hydrating cream with imported French watermelon oil, and daily eye cream from America's first 100% men's grooming and skincare brand Act of Being with its fancy-schmancy (and totally smooth) roll-on applicator. [forkandmelon.com](http://forkandmelon.com); [actofbeing.com](http://actofbeing.com)



## 2. Nail polish

Make a statement without opening your mouth (don't want that purse to fall out) when you paint on chip-resistant, quick-drying, high-shine ella+mila cruelty-free, vegan nail polish available in more than 140 color shades. [ellamila.com](http://ellamila.com)

## 3. Hygiene

Crystal Mineral deodorant sticks and stones (comprised of only one odor-preventing ingredient – pure mineral salt) allow you to raise your pits with PRIDE while Sprinjene's vegan, kosher, gluten-free, halal toothpaste leave your

chompers beaming with it. [thecrystal.com](http://thecrystal.com); [sprinjene.com](http://sprinjene.com)

## 4. Backpacks

Wanderlust with a clear conscience when you stack your rations into Fjallraven's Re-Kanken backpack, constructed of vegan polyester made from recycled water bottles and available in a rainbow of colors, or the all-weather Safari backpack from Adventurist Backpack Co. (a lesbian-owned business), each sale of which provides 25 meals to families in



need across the U.S. [fjallraven.com](http://fjallraven.com); [adventuristbackpacks.com](http://adventuristbackpacks.com)

## 5. Bamboo straws

Now that we've all ditched single-use plastic straws (you're welcome, turtles) and turned to alternatives, it's time to make this choice: theotherstraw bamboo straws hold up where paper crumbles



and is easier on your pearly whites than unforgiving stainless steel. [theotherstraw.com](http://theotherstraw.com)

## 6. Hiking shoes

Eco-fashion isn't generally associated with on-trend style – sorry, vegans, it's true – but Boulder, Colorado-based Lems changed that with its selection of vegan hiking shoes, like the Trailhead V2 and



Mesa. The shoes' mesh keeps feet aired-out and fresh while their natural foot shape keeps your dogs from barking on a lengthy roundtrip trail. [lemsshoes.com](http://lemsshoes.com)

## 7. Faux fur jacket

Velu's faux fur reversible vegan jackets, particularly the Instagram-worthy Mac Daddy collection, lets you cruise the streets like a beast without killing any to keep you warm. [velufur.com](http://velufur.com)

*Mikey Rox is an award-winning journalist and LGBT lifestyle expert whose work has been*

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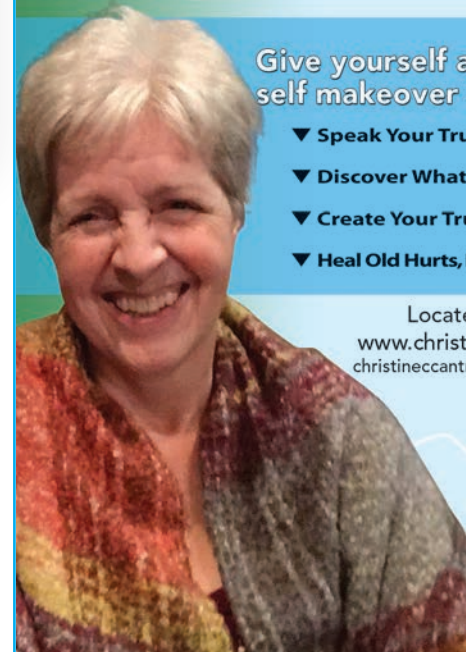
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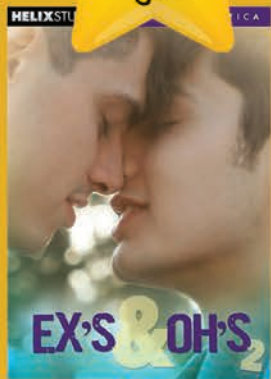


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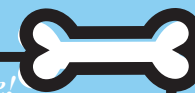


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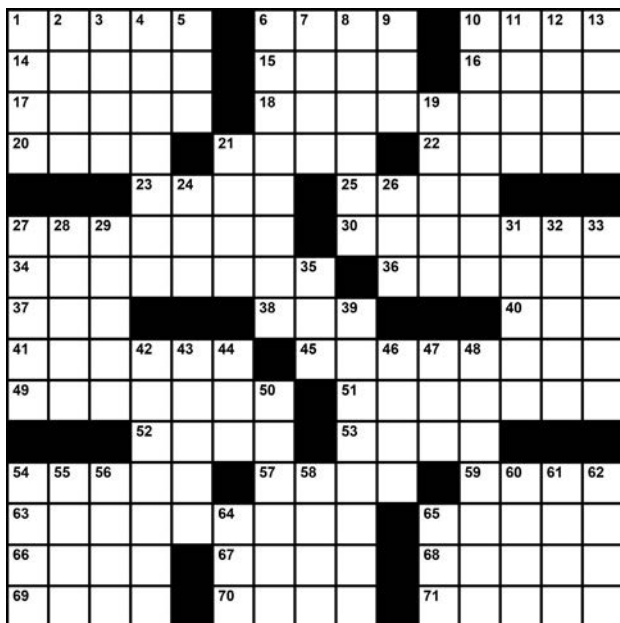


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- 41 Like a porn facial  
 45 Title role for Ruby Rose on the CW  
 49 "Cats" inspirer  
 51 It may be eaten in a bar  
 52 Invite from bottoms to tops?  
 53 The life of Riley  
 54 Tickle a funny bone  
 57 Skipper's spot  
 59 "Dancing Queen" band  
 63 TV show with Alex Danvers, big sister of one from Krypton  
 65 Katrina Law plays Nyssa on this program  
 66 Penetrating question?  
 67 Shirley MacLaine's la Douce role  
 68 Moonshine maker  
 69 Straddling  
 70 Dog owner of "South Park"  
 71 Where to stick your tools
- 13 Asks from one's knees  
 19 Just not done  
 21 Tallulah's home, for short  
 24 Cut  
 26 One with limbs spread wide  
 27 Legal conclusion beginning  
 28 Gridiron kicks  
 29 Stones' song covered by Tori Amos  
 31 Siege site of 1836  
 32 \_\_\_ T. Lardbottom of "Kudzu"  
 33 Pundit Alexander  
 35 Where to stick your salami  
 39 Navigator with a strait named for him  
 42 Norma Desmond's shot  
 43 Baseball great Ralph  
 44 "Getting to Know \_\_\_"  
 46 Amsterdam transport  
 47 "Till There \_\_\_ You"  
 48 In the world  
 50 Casual top  
 54 Sailing the Pacific  
 55 Bitch without papers, e.g.  
 56 Capable of performing  
 58 "At Wit's End" author Bombeck  
 60 Soft cheese  
 61 Cheeky  
 62 They poke around in leather  
 64 Bunkmates on base  
 65 Tammy Baldwin's party symbol

**Down**

- 1 Bee Gees family name  
 2 Laying out  
 3 Sexual partners, inelegantly  
 4 Deus ex \_\_\_  
 5 Antlered beast  
 6 Easter, Passover, and Bette Midler's birthday?  
 7 Do a nocturnal activity  
 8 Mister with a neighborhood  
 9 Homer's outburst  
 10 Once upon a time...  
 11 Similar (to)  
 12 "Can't Help Lovin' That Man Of \_\_\_"

Find solution on page 28 and at [www.pridesource.com](http://www.pridesource.com)

**Friends of Jessica Jones**

**Q Puzzle**

**Across**

- 1 Easy putt for Patty Sheehan  
 6 Bunch of stallions  
 10 Mary's pet  
 14 Best possible  
 15 1847 Melville travel book  
 16 Steinbeck migrant  
 17 With 18-Across, first Black lesbian superhero on TV  
 18 See 17-Across  
 20 B in Leviticus

- 21 Memory unit  
 22 Endora portrayer  
 23 "\_\_\_ no ideal!"  
 25 "Queen of Country" McEntire  
 27 Rio beach of song  
 30 "Rainbows Reign" and more  
 34 Hulu program with a teen lesbian  
 36 Bread  
 37 Elton John's lang.  
 38 Bottom line  
 40 Queer \_\_\_ three-dollar bill

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 ACCESS, Matrix Human Services, OLHSA

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**MetroCareNetwork.org**



# Find over 300 Non-Profit Listings Serving Michigan's LGBTQ Online @ pridesource.com

## AIDS/HIV

There are dozens of AIDS/HIV organizations and resources listed at [www.PrideSource.com](http://www.PrideSource.com). Here are just some of them:

### Metro Care Coordination Network

Free, comprehensive services for those living with HIV/AIDS.  
877-931-3248  
248-266-5545  
[Metrocarenetwork.org](http://Metrocarenetwork.org)

### UNIFIED - HIV Health & Beyond

3968 Mt. Elliott St.  
Detroit MI 48207-1841  
313-446-9800  
[www.miunified.org](http://www.miunified.org)  
Michigan HIV/STED Hotline  
800-872-2437

### Matrix MAC Health

429 Livernois St.  
Ferndale, MI 48220  
888-226-6366  
248-545-1435  
<http://www.matrixhumanservices.org/programs/matrix-mac-health/>

### Macomb County STD Clinic

27690 Van Dyke  
Warren, MI 48093  
586-465-8440  
<http://health.macombgov.org/Health-Programs-HPDC-HIVAIDSCounselingTesting>

### Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLSHA)

196 Cesar E. Chavez Ave.  
Pontiac, MI 48343  
248-209-2647  
[www.olhsa.org](http://www.olhsa.org)

### Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Service (ACCESS)

Sterling Heights Center  
4301 East 14 Mile Rd.  
Sterling Hts., MI 48310  
586-722-6036  
[www.accesscommunity.org](http://www.accesscommunity.org)

## Advocacy

### Equality Michigan

19641 W. 7 Mile, Detroit, MI  
313-537-7000  
[equalitymi.org](http://equalitymi.org)  
[Facebook.com/equalitymichigan](https://www.facebook.com/equalitymichigan)

## Campus

Currently there are 19 organizations listed as active online at [www.pridesource.com/](http://www.pridesource.com/) yellow pages. The following are some in the southeast Michigan area:

### U-M Ann Arbor

Spectrum Center  
[Spectrumcenter@umich.edu](mailto:Spectrumcenter@umich.edu)  
<http://spectrumcenter.umich.edu>  
734-763-4186

### Oakland University Gender & Sexuality Center

[gsc@oakland.edu](mailto:gsc@oakland.edu)  
[www.oakland.edu/gsc](http://www.oakland.edu/gsc)  
248-370-4336

### Eastern Michigan University

LGBT Resource Center  
[emich.edu/lgbtrc](mailto:emich.edu/lgbtrc)  
734-487-4149

### The Lawrence Tech LGBT Resource Center

[ltu.edu/student\\_affairs/lgbt.asp](http://ltu.edu/student_affairs/lgbt.asp)  
**Wayne State JIGSAW**  
[Facebook.com/groups/WayneStateJIGSAW](https://www.facebook.com/groups/WayneStateJIGSAW)  
[wsujigsaw@gmail.com](mailto:wsujigsaw@gmail.com)

## Community Centers

Michigan has eleven active LGBTQ community centers, with a tenth planned in Lansing. Here are three of them.

### Jim Toy Community Center

Ann Arbor  
[www.jimtoycenter.org](http://www.jimtoycenter.org)  
[www.facebook.com/jimtoycenter](https://www.facebook.com/jimtoycenter)  
or follow them on Twitter @JimToyCenter.  
319 Braun Court  
Ann Arbor, MI  
734-995-9867

### LGBT Detroit

Detroit  
[www.lgbtdetroit.org](http://www.lgbtdetroit.org)  
[@LGBTDetroit](https://www.facebook.com/lgbtdetroit)  
20025 Greenfield Road  
Detroit, MI  
Phone: 313-397-2127

### Affirmations

Ferndale  
<http://goaffirmations.org>  
[www.facebook.com/Affirmations/](https://www.facebook.com/Affirmations/)  
or follow them on Twitter @GoAffirmations.  
290 W. Nine Mile Road  
Ferndale, MI  
248-398-7105

## Legal

### American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan

Jay Kaplan, Staff Attorney, LGBT Project  
2966 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI  
[www.aclumich.org](http://www.aclumich.org)  
313-578-6800

### Fair Michigan

PO Box 6136  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
877-432-4764, 313-556-2300  
[fairmichigan.org](http://fairmichigan.org)  
[Facebook.com/fairmichigan2016](https://www.facebook.com/fairmichigan2016)

### Know Your Rights Project

Outlaws U-M student group  
[outlawslegal@gmail.com](mailto:outlawslegal@gmail.com)  
734-995-9867

## Older Adults

### SAGE Metro Detroit

290 W. Nine Mile Rd. Ferndale, MI  
313-578-6812  
[sagemetrodetroit.org](http://sagemetrodetroit.org)  
Facebook: SAGE Metro Detroit

## Political

### The LGBT and Allies Caucus of the Michigan Democratic Party

[Facebook.com/TheLGBTACaucusoftheMDP](https://www.facebook.com/TheLGBTACaucusoftheMDP)  
Stonewall for Revolution  
[www.facebook.com/stonewall4reolution](https://www.facebook.com/stonewall4reolution)

## Professional Groups

### Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 32446  
Detroit, MI 48232  
[detroitlgbtchamber.com](http://detroitlgbtchamber.com)  
1-800-DET-LGBT

### Ties Like Me

Professional networking events  
third Weds. 5:30 - 8 p.m.  
[TiesLikeMe.org](http://TiesLikeMe.org)  
Suits And The City  
Lansing, MI  
[suitsandthecity@gmail.com](mailto:suitsandthecity@gmail.com)  
[www.suitsandthecity.org](http://www.suitsandthecity.org)

## Transgender

### FtM Detroit

<https://www.facebook.com/FtMDetroit/>  
[ftmdetroit@gmail.com](mailto:ftmdetroit@gmail.com)

## Get Listed, Promote Your Events

You can add or update any listing by going to [www.PrideSource.com](http://www.PrideSource.com) and clicking on Yellow Pages. Once you submit your listing, our staff will contact you to confirm your information.

You can add your event to the Pride Source Calendar online and in print by going to [www.PrideSource.com](http://www.PrideSource.com) and clicking on Calendar, then "Add Event." Send any press releases and announcements to [editor@pridesource.com](mailto:editor@pridesource.com)



## Find a digital version of PrideSource Magazine online under Our LGBTQ Yellow Pages

### FtM A2 Ypsi

[ftmannarborypsilanti@gmail.com](mailto:ftmannarborypsilanti@gmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ftma2ypsi/>

### Transgender Michigan

23211 Woodward Ave.  
Ferndale, MI  
[info@transgendermichigan.org](mailto:info@transgendermichigan.org)  
[www.transgendermichigan.org](http://www.transgendermichigan.org)  
800-842-2954

### Trans Sistas of Color Project

19641 W. 7 Mile Rd. in Detroit  
313-537-7000 Ext 107  
[info@tscoopdetroit.org](mailto:info@tscoopdetroit.org)  
[www.facebook.com/TSCOPD/](https://www.facebook.com/TSCOPD/)

## Youth

### Ruth Ellis Center

77 Victor Street, Highland Park, MI 48203  
[info@ruthelliscenter.org](mailto:info@ruthelliscenter.org)  
Facebook: Ruth Ellis Center  
313-252-1950

### Ozone House

102 N. Hamilton Street  
Ypsilanti, MI  
734-662-2265  
734-662-2222

### Stand With Trans

Farmington, MI  
[www.standwithtrans.org](http://www.standwithtrans.org)  
248-739-9254

## Find these resources online

- Adoption Services
- AIDS/HIV Hotlines
- AIDS/HIV Organizations
- Alzheimer's Association
- Animal Shelter
- Anti-Violence
- Archives/Collections
- Campus; Student and Alumni Groups
- Cancer Support Groups
- Choruses
- Community Centers
- Employee Resource Groups
- Families and Parents
- Foster Care
- Foundations and Funders
- Hotlines & Switchboards
- Labor Union
- Legal Organizations
- Museums
- Music Groups
- National Organizations
- Political Organizations
- Professional Organizations
- Religious & Spiritual
- Senior Living
- Seniors
- Social/Community Organizations
- Sports
- Substance Abuse
- Transgender Groups/Services
- Women's Health
- Youth Services



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