



Lansing's LGBT Connection!

The LGBT News

Lansing Association for Human Rights

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Lansing - Vote August 4th

by Bill Beachler, LAHR-PAC

The Lansing Primary Election is Tuesday, August 4, 2009. Enclosed with your newsletter is the respected and informative LAHR-PAC candidate rating sheet. You are encouraged to vote and to encourage your family and friends to do the same. It is frequently stated that your vote in a primary election counts more, because fewer people vote. Be sure your vote counts!!

Having lived in East Lansing since attending Michigan State University, I was always proud that East Lansing had mostly positive rated candidates for City Council and is the national birthplace of LGBT rights. A little over a year ago I moved to a great condo in Lansing. When I reviewed the enclosed LAHR-PAC candidate rating sheet, I can honestly say I am now proud that I live in Lansing – just look at all the positive candidates running for Mayor and for City Council in a city that has LGBT rights and appreciates all its diverse citizens.

I was requested to comment upon LAHR-PAC's "Very Positive" rating. To have this rating a candidate must have an excellent questionnaire. In addition, a candidate must have a public record of support of LGBT issues. Some of the candidates, such as Mayor Bernero and Kathie Dunbar have always had positive ratings. Kathie introduced and wrote the Lansing Human Rights Ordinance as well as participated at recent Michigan Pride events. Mayor Bernero signed the Human Rights Ordinance and has welcomed everyone to Lansing for Michigan Pride.

Other candidates who are rated "Very Positive" have evolved in a positive manner over the years; such as, Carol Wood and Sandy Allen. Years ago they had less than positive ratings, but not only have they changed their votes on LGBT issues, but have done other positive things to earn the "Very Positive" rating they have today. In recent years Sandy voted for the Lansing Human Rights Ordinance and has been a member of LAHR and attended LAHR sponsored events. Our good friend Carol voted for the Lansing Human Rights Ordinance, attended LAHR sponsored events and in the past couple of years has been an active participant on the Planning Committee for Michigan Pride, attending more committee meetings than some of the rest of us.

Finally another "Very Positive" candidate, one of our own, is running for City Council in my 4th Ward, Cindy Redman. Cindy is Vice President of LAHR and she and her partner Pam help me with the LAHR Breakfast Club. Cindy and Pam had their commitment ceremony in May at the Edgewood United Church of Christ in East Lansing.

Please vote Tuesday, August 4th!!!

Publisher's Note: Unfortunately, we were unable to complete the July newsletter in its regular format and have it to you in time for the important Lansing primary election on August 4th. We hope to be back on schedule with the August issue. We apologize to our advertisers as well as our members!

Birthday Party

Dear Reader,

You have received or will receive, hopefully, a fund-raising letter from LAHR. We are celebrating our 30th Anniversary. You can imagine what that means in volunteer hours. We are a volunteer advocacy organization in existence to improve the lives of LGBT people in the greater Lansing Area. Who can even begin to count the number of volunteers over the years that have kept LAHR on the scene? When I speak of volunteers I also speak of those who are financial volunteers. It takes both kinds, those who donate time and those who donate money. Sometimes they are the same people. We are in awe of the support we have received from you all.

As an old activist, I can think of all the people currently volunteering for LAHR, and multiply that by 30 years! Oh my goodness! We are so fortunate, when other social justice organizations have fallen by the wayside, and several times LAHR too has faced its own extinction; however, we have extended our history because of volunteers stepping in to carry it through another year, another five years, and another decade.

Please join me in contributing to LAHR. Respond to our fund-raising letter. Join us in our advocacy efforts, come to our 30th Birthday Party on August 23, from 4-6 at the Chrome Cat in Old Town Lansing.

We want to thank you in person as we embark on our next 30 years!

Sincerely,
Penny Gardner, President



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Calendar of Events!

SUNDAY

- Light House Chapel - LGBT friendly church -11:00 a.m. service - 1501 Windsor St., Lansing, 48906. Contact (517) 394-2080 for info.
- All Saints Episcopal Church, Open and Affirming, Sunday Service 10am, 800 Abbott, East Lansing.
- Edgewood United Church of Christ, Open and Affirming, Sunday Service 10am, 469 N. Hagadorn, East Lansing
- Unitarian Universalist Church, Open and Affirming, Sunday Services 9:15am & 11:15am, 855 Grove, East Lansing
- Volleyball - Call Bill for information at 337-1419.
- Fellowship for Today - Rev. Karen Arndorfer - at 5:30 p.m. - Open & Affirming = 855 Grove St., East Lansing – contact (517) 337-4070 or info@fellowshipfortoday.org
- Unity of Greater Lansing - Rev. Kent Lederer - at 10 a.m. (starting Sept. at 11 a.m.) - Open & Affirming - 240 Marshall St. - contact (517) 371-3010 or revkent@unityofgreaterlansing.org .

MONDAY

- Sistrum, Lansing Women's Chorus - 7-9pm @ University Lutheran church, 1020 S. Harrison, E. Lansing. <http://www.sistrum.org>. Contact: Lisa Haston, haston@lcc.edu.
- LGBT AA meeting - 7:30 p.m., University Lutheran Church, South Harrison, in East Lansing.
- Social Knit Night - 2nd Monday of each month. 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., 319 S. Waverly Rd.

TUESDAY

- Grand River Connection - 4th Tuesday casual group for the "creative class." Sign-up and get more info at: www.grandriverconnection.com.
- Euchre at Esquire Club - registration at 6:30 p.m.
- Greater Lansing Gay Men's Chorus- Weekly rehearsals are at the Molly Grove Chapel of the First Presbyterian Church at 510 W. Ot-tawa St. in downtown Lansing from 6:45-8:45pm. To email: info@

glgmc.org or visit the website at www.glgmc.org.

WEDNESDAY

- Great Lakes Pride Band Rehearsals - Every Wednesday at the Unity of Greater Lansing church, 240 Marshall St.. For information call Paul or Phil at 517-664-1275.
- GLSEN Mid-Michigan - 4:30 p.m. 3rd Wednesday of each month in Melinda Goff's room at Eastern.
- Suits And The City - 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the Month - the location changes each month - please visit suitsandthecity.org for the location or to contact the organization.
- LAHR's Coffee Night - Join your friends - every Wednesday from 8-10 p.m. at The Gone Wired Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. For questions or info contact Kevin Magnan at kevinmagnan@yahoo.com
- Karaoke Night - 9:00 p.m. at Esquire

THURSDAY

- LAHR Bowling - 9 p.m. for the summer, at Holiday Lanes on Grand River near Frandor. Look for us near lane 40. Contact Greg at MILatino@aol.com
- Lansing Community College Gay Straight Alliance - Meets every Thursday, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Gannon Vocational Building 262. Contact advisor, Jennifer Spenny email: spennyj@lcc.edu
- Bingo - 7:00 p.m. at Esquire

FRIDAY

- LAHR Downtown Lunch - 11:45 a.m. second Friday at Soup to Nutz Bistro on Kalamazoo & Grand Avenue, credit cards accepted! Contact Greg at MILatino@aol.com
- LGBT AA meeting, 6:30 p.m., at University United Methodist Church, South Harrison, in East Lansing

SATURDAY

- LAHR Breakfast Club - 11 a.m. 4th Sat. each month – met at Denny's Restaurant at 2701 East Grand River in East Lansing – close to Park Lake. Contact Bill 337-1419 or beachlerb@sbcglobal.net .