











# JUNE 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<b>1</b>  Motor City Pride Ferndale	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  Saginaw Meet & Greet Bambi's by Java Dave 4632 State Street 7:00 - 9:00 PM	<b>5</b> Womyn's Circle 5:30 - 7:00 PM ----- Perceptions Board Meeting 7:00 - 9:00 PM	<b>6</b>  Friday Night Dinner Pat & Jerry's 963 W. Midland Rd. Auburn 7:00 PM	<b>7</b>																																																																																				
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  Freeland Meet & Greet Riverside Restaurant 8295 Midland Road 7:00 - 9:00 PM ----- Transgender Support Group The Mixx 7:00 - 9:00 PM	<b>12</b>  Charity Yard Sale	<b>13</b>  Charity Yard Sale Friday Night Dinner Savoy 127 S. Franklin Saginaw 7:00 PM	<b>14</b> Flag Day  Kalamazoo Pride Downtown Kalamazoo																																																																																				
<b>15</b> Father's Day	<b>16</b>  HIV/AIDS Support Group 7:00 PM	<b>17</b> Men's  Discussion Group 7:00 - 8:30 PM  Perceptions Picnic 7:00 PM Saginaw Twnshp	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  Womyn's Circle 5:30 - 7:00 PM	<b>20</b>  Friday Night Dinner Greek Festival 4970 Mackinaw Rd. Saginaw 7:00 PM	<b>21</b>  West Michigan Pride Grand Rapids																																																																																				
<b>22</b>  PFlag Meeting UU Fellowship Midland 2:00 - 4:30PM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  Bay City Meet & Greet Mama Lupo's 2706 Center Ave. 7:00 - 9:00 PM	<b>27</b>  Friday Night Dinner Ole Tyme Broadway 1602 Broadway Ave. Bay City 7:00 PM	<b>28</b>  Michigan Pride Lansing																																																																																				
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  HIV/AIDS Support Group 7:00 PM	<b>May 2008</b> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>Th</th> <th>F</th> <th>Sa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<b>July 2008</b> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>Th</th> <th>F</th> <th>Sa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<b>Notes:</b>
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# Board R Line

by Jim



With summer fast approaching, we thought maybe it would be a good time to plan more outdoor events so that's what's in store for the next few months. On Tuesday, **June 17<sup>th</sup>**, we'll be having a **picnic** hosted by Alan and Tim at their home in Saginaw Township. Also in June, our Bay City Meet & Greet will be held at **Mama Lupo's**. This local ice cream shop is very near Bay City's Rail Trail, so anyone feeling like walking off their dessert will be just a stone's throw away from the perfect place to do that. There will also be a **picnic** on **July 15<sup>th</sup>** which will be at the home of Garnet and Vicky in Freeland. These picnics are always very enjoyable and friends, allies, family, and kids are welcome to attend.

We're also gearing up for **Respect Fest 2008** which has tripled its budget from last year and promises to be just as awesome, bringing together many diverse areas of the community, along with top-notch entertainment, to celebrate our similarities and our differences. If you were not able to attend last year, don't miss this year's celebration. The event will be held on Saturday, **September 27<sup>th</sup>** so mark your calendars! For more information, go to [www.respectfest.com](http://www.respectfest.com). Another '**Garden Party**' is being planned for 2008, so stay tuned for details. As always, if you have any input on any of our events, let us know what's on your mind by sending an email to [info@PerceptionsSV.org](mailto:info@PerceptionsSV.org).

## Scholarship from front page

was in the amount of \$500.00.

**“We need to break down these barriers and it is only through learning to accept and respect each other as we are that these barriers will be overcome.”**

- Sheryl Krenzke, scholarship award recipient

Perceptions still has work ahead of us to ensure that we will continue to be able to award a scholarship every year. We're on schedule to complete the endowment by the end of 2010. Once endowed, the interest income from the fund balance will be awarded as the scholarship. The money to award this year's scholarship came from [RespectFest](#) 2007 proceeds. There are tax incentives for both individuals and small businesses to donate to the Community Foundation endowment fund. The state of Michigan offers a 50% tax credit for the first \$200 that an individual donates. That means if you donate \$200, you can subtract \$100 from your State of Michigan income tax liability. Donations can be made directly to the Saginaw Community Foundation. Be sure to specify that it is for the Perceptions Saginaw Valley Scholarship. Contact [Tim@PerceptionsSV.org](mailto:Tim@PerceptionsSV.org) for more information.



**Tom Brubaker addresses the membership reminding us that proceeds from the yard sale will be donated to AIDS Walk Michigan.**

Our annual charity yard sale raises funds for AIDS Walk Michigan. It will be held Thursday and Friday, June 12 & 13. Chas and

Mike are hosting the sale at [2839 Gulfstream Drive](#) in Saginaw Township. Donations may be dropped off from June 5th until the morning of the sale.

We're looking for donors to supply items for the sale, volunteers to help organize and price the items for the sale, volunteers to work during the sale, and shoppers.

Contact Chas at [calaundra@aol.com](mailto:calaundra@aol.com) or 989-497-0676.



## Furnished Room for Rent

3004 S. Poseyville Rd.,  
(corner of Freeland and  
Poseyville Rd's.)

\$300 a month. No smokers. Phone:  
Douglas Solosky 989-835-7483  
email: [DouglasSolosky@yahoo.com](mailto:DouglasSolosky@yahoo.com).

# Perceptions Booth at Michigan Pride June 28

by Tim

Saturday, June 28th marks the 20th annual LGBT pride events at the Capitol in Lansing. There are other pride celebrations around the state this summer with a smaller regional focus, but Michigan Pride in Lansing is the only statewide pride event that includes the entire community of LGBT people and their allies.

<b>Sunday, June 1</b>	<b>Motor City Pride, Ferndale</b>
<b>Saturday, June 14</b>	<b>Kalamazoo Pride, Arcadia Festival Site</b>
<b>Saturday, June 21</b>	<b>West Michigan Pride, John Ball Park in Grand Rapids</b>
<b>July 19-27</b>	<b>Hotter Than July by Black Pride Society, Detroit</b>

Perceptions will participate again this year by having a booth in the Pride Festival in Riverside Park. New members find Perceptions every year because of our booth at Michigan Pride. This year's festival features information booths, vendors, a children's area, entertainment, food concessions, and an open air bar. Admission to the festival is \$5. Perceptions will make space available in its booth for other Tri-City organizations who serve our LGBT population. Festival hours are from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm. If you are willing to work a one or two-hour shift in the booth, please contact [Tim@PerceptionsSV.org](mailto:Tim@PerceptionsSV.org) or call 989-891-1429.

Perceptions Members and Friends are also encouraged to march with our group behind the Perceptions banner. The Pride March leaves the festival grounds at noon and makes its way to the Capitol building for the Civil Rights Rally. To join us for the March, look the Perceptions banner in the staging area.

If you want to stay late and enjoy the evening festivities without worrying about the drive home, Michigan Pride has made arrangements with Radisson Lansing for discount hotel rooms. For a different kind of stay, the Michigan Chapter of Rainbow RV invites all Perceptions Members and Friends to spend the weekend camping with them. All forms of campers are welcome, from tents to motor homes. The campground is only 5 miles from the Capitol. Contact [RRV@campoutmichigan.org](mailto:RRV@campoutmichigan.org) for more information.

A new feature at Michigan Pride this year will be a pyrotechnics display by Defying Gravity Fireworks at dark. For more detailed information about happenings at Michigan Pride, visit their web site at [www.MichiganPride.org](http://www.MichiganPride.org)



## True Colors Tour Coming to Clarkston June 11

*"We're hitting the road this summer with Cyndi Lauper for the second annual True Colors Tour in support of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) equality."*  
**The tour will feature five hours of non-stop music and entertainment by headliners Cyndi Lauper, The B-52s, and exciting special guests in select cities including Rosie O'Donnell, Wanda Sykes, Indigo Girls, Tegan and Sara, Regina Spektor, Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, Joan Armatrading, Nona Hendryx, Deborah Cox, The Cliks, and many more. Hosted by Queer Eye "Fab Five" member Carson Kressley.**

The True Colors Tour was conceived by Cyndi Lauper stemming from her desire to give back to the LGBT community for the love and support they have given her throughout her career. The True Colors Tour is a celebration of the basic values and freedoms that should be shared by all Americans regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. The tour visits the DTE Energy Music Theatre in Clarkston, Michigan on June 11. For more official tour & ticket information please visit: [www.truecolorstour.com](http://www.truecolorstour.com).



# PFLAG Tri-Cities to Super-Size Publicity Efforts

from the PFLAG newsletter

PFLAG Tri-Cities is on the verge of announcing its presence to the Tri-Cities community in a big new way: a billboard on US-10 between Midland and Bay City. Hoping to encourage contact from families and GLBT individuals, the Chapter is taking advantage of a recent windfall in the form of a gift from another Michigan chapter.

Members and supporters are encouraged to keep an eye on local newspapers, and be ready to respond with supportive letters to editors, in case this public move generates a backlash from antigay rights individuals and organizations.

## Hurt by Hate? PFLAG wants your story

*Including anyone excluded by "Don't Ask - Don't Tell"*

PFLAG is seeking families who have been impacted by a hate crime, and who would be willing to work with PFLAG's field & policy and communications departments to tell their stories. They are also interested in hearing from individuals or families who have been the victim of an anti-LGBT assault in school. People who have such an experience to share should email **Steve Ralls**, PFLAG's director of communications, at [sralls@pflag.org](mailto:sralls@pflag.org), or **Elizabeth Brown**, field & policy director, at [ebrown@pflag.org](mailto:ebrown@pflag.org). Steve can also be reached via phone at (202) 467-8180 ext. 214. In addition, families or individuals who have felt the impact.

## Someone you know and love is gay.



**PFLAG Tri-Cities**  
989 - 941-1458  
[pflag.org](http://pflag.org)



## Adopt-A-Highway Spring Clean-up

*By Rick*

We had quite an Earth Day celebration! To all the volunteers, Mother Earth thanks you and so do I! I had a great experience working as coordinator of my first highway cleanup ever. All twelve of us had fun as we worked about 2 ½ hours to pick up 36 bags of trash. It was a little cool with dark clouds overhead. It didn't rain, but as we were finishing up the sun came out and it warmed up a little so we could go enjoy our cookout!

There are not enough words to express my gratitude for all everyone did. I would like to thank Bob for his donation of money toward the purchase of food for the cookout, Jim for his no sleep work day and the donation of bottled water, Jeff who is not a Perceptions member but donated his time to help us clean up, Randy who also donated food for the cookout, and Chas who donated his gas and van for picking up and dropping off our volunteers. Also thank you Brian, Dave, Mike, Kay, Doug, Darrell, and Dann. This could not have happened without your hard work and dedication. Thanks to all of you! Hope to see you at the **next highway pick-up Saturday, July 12 with a rain date of July 13th.**

## Camp Out Michigan

### Bike Tour 2008

**A weekend of camping, biking, and outdoor fun for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals and their friends in Oscoda County. Scooters, mopeds and motorcycles welcome this year too!**  
Camp out Michigan, PO Box 154,  
Bay City, MI 48707-0154  
[www.CampOutMichigan.org](http://www.CampOutMichigan.org)



# Podcasting 101

by Jim

Podcast. iTunes. RSS. These are terms that most of the attendees of the May 15<sup>th</sup> General Membership meeting were unfamiliar with. But after hearing Tom, aka Ramble Redhead, and David, aka That Blue Jeans Guy give a presentation to our group, these foreign terms became a little clearer. A podcast could be described as an Internet radio show and Tom has been doing *'The Ramble*



**Tom, aka Ramble Redhead**

*Redhead Show'* for 3 years and has done an amazing 215 episodes. David has been podcasting for just over 2 years with 130 episodes under his belt.

Anybody with a computer, microphone, and an Internet connection can do a podcast and anyone with Internet access can listen. Podcasts are absolutely free and an iPod or other portable

music device is NOT required. Podcasts can be listened to right on your PC speakers. They can be downloaded individually or by subscription (RSS) through free software such as iTunes. Directories are available to help find shows of interest. Podcasts are becoming more popular every day. Even Oprah has a podcast!

David has a weekly personal journal show called *"That Blue Jeans Guy."* He began podcasting in Feb 2006. He felt like he had something to say and when he suddenly had some free time on his hands, decided to give podcasting a try. His very first show was over an hour long. He talked about Bay City, Madonna, the Olympics, country music, and many other things. He usually talks about what's happening in his life then progresses to some music from independent artists and may even include politics or religion. Not being regulated by the FCC, podcasters can say just about anything they want (within the law). He's dedicated to showing what an openly gay person can be, can talk about, and that they can make a difference in the world.

In 2005, Tom got his first iPod. He put the word 'gay' in iTunes and found some of the early pioneering gay podcasters such as Feast of Fools, Fox in the City, and especially Wanda Wisdom who's show is called *"Lucky Bitch Radio."* Wanda inspired Tom to begin his own show with her words, "If you feel you have something to say, then you should do it!" His show took an unexpected turn at episode #8 when he did an interview with a lesbian couple. The interview really touched him. He had found a new direction for his show. Tom has interviewed many members and allies of the GLBT community. Each interview gives a glimpse into the lives of the people Tom talks to. Some are funny, some informative, and some are moving and poignant.

Tom and David were very generous in donating a portable mp3 player to be given away and we also gave away a book titled, *"Secrets of a Gay Marine Porn Star"* by Rich Merritt. This is the book that inspired me to become interested in Tom's show. Joy was very happy with her new mp3 player and Randy was the lucky winner of the book.

If you would like to hear the presentation Tom and David did, simply go to



**David, aka That Blue Jeans Guy**

[www.rambleredhead.com](http://www.rambleredhead.com) and look for Episode 215 then click on the 'Play' button. It can also be heard at David's site by going to [www.thatbluejeansguy.com](http://www.thatbluejeansguy.com), clicking on Blog/Podcast, then going to Episode 130 and clicking on



If you would like the handout that was provided giving more detailed instructions on podcasting and links to the podcasts that were mentioned, visit [www.PerceptionsSV.org/newsletter/podcasting101.pdf](http://www.PerceptionsSV.org/newsletter/podcasting101.pdf) or email [Jim@PerceptionsSV.org](mailto:Jim@PerceptionsSV.org)