



PERCEPTIONS

SAGINAW VALLEY

Serving the Tri-City Area's LGBT Community

November 2011

www.PerceptionsSV.org

Free

Perceptions Celebrated National Coming Out Day in October

Perceptions Saginaw Valley presented a free concert by Tulsa-based indie rocker, Eric Himan, on October 11th. *(pictured top right)*

See story on Page 3

Our October General Meeting featured a panel of local LGBT individuals who shared their Coming Out stories. *(pictured bottom right)*

See Story on Page 8

Annual Food Drive to Benefit Underground Railroad

It has become a tradition for Perceptions to host a Pre-Thanksgiving Potluck and Food Drive. This year, we have decided to collect food for Underground Railroad of Saginaw. Underground Railroad provides 3 meals a day for up to 50 people living in the shelter and also provides monthly food assistance to individuals and families living in their Transitional Housing Program.

See Story on Page 7



INSIDE:

Men's Discussion Group	2	Barb Klimaszewski	4	Nominations Committee.....	7
Holiday Party	2	Current Events	5	Telling Our Stories	8
Eric Himan Concert	3	Calendar	6	World AIDS Day	9
Perceptions Scholarship	4	Potluck & Food Drive	7		

Perceptions
Saginaw Valley
PO Box 1525
Midland, MI 48641
989-891-1429

www.PerceptionsSV.org

GUEST EDITOR

Tim Atkinson
Tim@PerceptionsSV.org

AD SALES

Tim@PerceptionsSV.org

PRINT DISTRIBUTION

Jim Kleinsorge
Jim@PerceptionsSV.org

ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION

Tim@PerceptionsSV.org

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor@PerceptionsSV.org

SUBMISSIONS are always
welcome. Write to:

Editor@PerceptionsSV.org

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Get your copy of the Newsletter sent to you free with your paid membership. The Newsletter is always free to view online. For more information visit www.PerceptionsSV.org

Perceptions Saginaw Valley is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your contributions are deductible as charitable donations for federal income tax purposes.

Perceptions is Mid-Michigan's leading resource for enriching and empowering LGBT individuals and their community.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide superior educational programs, networking opportunities and services for the well being of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender individuals and their community.

Holiday Party Celebration

by [Daphne Barkley](#)

Get out your calendars! Circle Saturday December 10th in red and be sure to attend the annual Perceptions Holiday Party. If you have attended before you know what great food and festivities abound. If you have never attended before, come out for a fabulous time.

The Holiday Party will be at Bay Valley Resort, 2470 Old Bridge Rd, Bay City, right off I-75. The celebration features not only a silent auction with many "must have" items but also a scrumptious buffet which includes soda and coffee. There will also be a cash bar for those who desire holiday spirits.

Tickets are \$30.00 in advance, \$20.00 for students with current ID and \$35.00 at the door. Tickets can be purchased from any current board member, or you can go to our [web site](#) and purchase them through PayPal or with a major credit card. See you there!

Proceeds from this year's charity auction will benefit our Facilities Fund and the Perceptions Saginaw Valley Scholarship (see article on page 4). If you have an item that you would like to donate or if you can help us recruit donations from area businesses, we would truly appreciate your help. Please contact Daphne@PerceptionsSV.org to volunteer or for more information. With your help, we will have a truly fabulous event!

Perceptions Men's Discussion Group Marks 5th Anniversary



In October, the Perceptions Men's Discussion Group celebrated its 5-year anniversary under the guidance of Tom Brubaker. The group meets monthly at The Alderton. See the [Current Events](#) page of the newsletter or web site for date and time.

An Evening with Eric Himan for National Coming Out Day

by Jim Kleinsorge

Eric Himan is a busy man. Between playing concert dates, bar gigs, and pride festivals all over the country, and appearing on television and radio shows in Tulsa and New York, among other places, he doesn't sit still for long in any one place. He has performed in every state in the nation with the exception of Alaska. Fortunately for us, he found time to entertain us at Pit and Balcony Theatre on October 11th, National Coming Out Day.



Photo Credit: Signatures Photography Studios

The day began early for Eric to catch his 6:00 am flight from Tulsa to Detroit. Daphne, Shawn, and I went to the airport to pick him up. From there, we went to Delta College where they were having their own National Coming Out Day event, which included Perceptions, PFLAG, and Delta's GLBT student group, Prism. Eric and Daphne gave an awesome impromptu radio interview at Delta's radio station, Q-90.1. After dropping Eric off at

his hotel, last minute preparations for the concert were made.

At the Meet & Greet held before the main event started, Eric mingled with Perceptions members, friends, and concert sponsors. Some amazing food was provided by The Lakeshore Grill and The Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe. Deanna passed out comment cards for people to write down questions they would like Eric to answer at the Q & A session after the main show.

Daphne did a great job as the Mistress of Ceremonies for the event. After thanking our sponsors and giving us some background on National Coming Out day, she introduced Eric and he took the stage.

Eric played 13 songs, including some from his recent CD titled 'Supposed Unknown,' some from previous releases, and a few cover songs. During the question and answer session following his performance, Eric had the audience laughing and smiling as he answered questions that had been submitted on index cards.

Eric had done more 'Meeting & Greeting' than eating, so after the show we took him to get a bite to eat and several show attendees came along. There we got to hear additional stories and share some of our own.

Continued on page 10

Lakeshore Grill
Fashion Square Mall



PFLAG Tri-Cities

www.pflag-mbs.org

989-941-1458

Providing **Support** for
LGBT people, Parents, Family &
Friends; **Education**; and **Advocacy**

Meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday of
every Month at Our Saviour Lutheran
Church, 2525 Hemmeter Rd., Saginaw



**Sacred Heart Proudly Supports the
LGBT Community**

HIV/AIDS Care Services
All Services are Free & Confidential
Offices in Bay City & Saginaw
Call 989-776-6000 x7514



404 Court St., Saginaw
1908C S. Saginaw Rd., Midland

Perceptions Saginaw Valley Scholarship

by Tim Atkinson

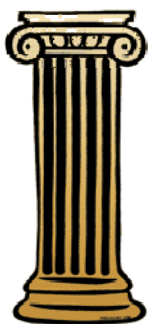
Perceptions started its fundraising campaign for a scholarship fund in 2006. The first contribution was a \$500 grant from Friends North, a Traverse City based LGBT group that was dissolving and distributing its assets to other charitable organizations. From that beginning, we have built the endowment fund to over \$16,000. Investment income from that balance gives us about \$800 each year to award as scholarships. In addition, we occasionally receive donations that are earmarked to go directly to scholarships rather than the endowment fund, allowing us to increase our awards.

Our first scholarship was awarded in the spring of 2008. To date, we've provided scholarships, ranging from \$500 to \$750 each, to six deserving individuals.

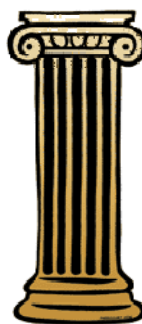
Applications for the Perceptions Saginaw Valley Scholarship will be available on the [Saginaw Community Foundation](#) web site starting November 1st. Completed applications are due by February 1st to be considered for a 2012 award. Any Michigan resident who will be attending college or vocational school during the 2012-13 academic year is eligible to apply. Members of Perceptions and PFLAG Tri-Cities and their immediate families re-

ceive bonus points in the scoring process.

We'd like to continue to grow our endowment fund so that we are able to award larger scholarships and provide scholarships to more people. We've reached the \$16,000 mark by a combination of our own fundraising events



and donations from individuals. One large incentive for donors has been the State of Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit which allows donors to immediately reduce their tax liability by 50% of the amount



contributed. With a \$200 donation, an individual would earn a \$100 tax credit. Plus the donation could still be itemized as a charitable contribution on their federal income tax return.

In May of this year, the Michigan Legislature passed Governor Snyder's tax reform package. This bill eliminates three charitable tax credits: public institutions, food banks and homeless shelters, and community foundations. The changes to the charitable tax credits are effective on January 1, 2012. We hope that you'll "Give More for Less in 2011" by taking advantage of The Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit before it expires

on January 1. Actually, you may take advantage of all three credits during the 2011 tax year. For example, if your year-end giving plan includes a gift to the Perceptions Saginaw Valley Scholarship endowed fund at the Saginaw Community Foundation, a gift to a Michigan public college, and a gift to a homeless shelter, each gift could qualify for a special Michigan tax credit of up to 50% of the gift.

Contributions to the scholarship fund may be made through Perceptions or sent directly to the Saginaw Community Foundation, 1 Tuscola Street, Suite 100, Saginaw, MI 48607. You may also donate online at saginawfoundation.org/donate. Be sure to select "Perceptions Saginaw Valley Scholarship" from the drop down list.

For more information, contact Tim@PerceptionsSV.org

Klimaszewski Becomes Advisor to Board of Trustees

Barbara Klimaszewski, a partner in the law firm of Klimaszewski & Street of Saginaw, has agreed to serve as an Advisor to the Board of Trustees of Perceptions. Barb's advice will be invaluable as Perceptions continues to expand programs and grow.

Current Events

events.PerceptionsSV.org

▼ **Friday, November 4th - Friday Night Dinner** 7:00 pm. Join Perceptions members and friends this week at **Macy's Lakeshore Grill**, Fashion Square Mall, Saginaw. Please reply to Jim@PerceptionsSV.org by 3:00 pm Friday if you plan to attend.

▼ **Wednesday, November 9th - Freeland Meet & Greet** 6:00 to 8:00 pm. (Note new winter hours.) **Riverside Restaurant**, 8295 Midland Road (M-47), Freeland. Private room. Famous homemade pies.

Wednesday, November 9th - Open Hearts 6:00 pm. Positive thinking group for disabled members of the LGBT community. Discussion, speakers and support. Meets at Butman Fish Library in Saginaw. For info call Rev. Kathy VanBuskirk at 989-755-2618.

▼ **Friday, November 11th - Friday Night Dinner** 7:00 pm. Join Perceptions members and friends this week at **Old Great Wall Buffet**, 805 N. Euclid Ave., Bay City. Please reply to Jim@PerceptionsSV.org by 3:00 pm Friday if you plan to attend.

Sunday, November 13th - Genesee Co. PFLAG Meeting 2:00 - 4:30 pm. UU Church of Flint, 2474 S. Ballenger Hwy.

Sunday, November 13th - LGBT Movie Night 7:00 pm. Presented by Divine Light Interfaith Ministry at 301 Cass Street, Saginaw.

▼ **Tuesday, November 15th - Men's Discussion Group** 7:00 to 8:30 pm. **The Alderton**, 301 Cass St., Old Town Saginaw. This gathering is intended as a discussion and informal support group for gay and bisexual men. The group will be facilitated by Thomas Brubaker. Contact him at Thomas@PerceptionsSV.org for additional information or to let him know that you'll attend. Light snacks will be provided.

Wednesday, November 16th - Womyn's Room II 6:00 pm. Designed as a safe place for Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender women, who are out or not, to come for support and socialization. The group meets at **Butman Fish Library** in Saginaw. For more info contact Rev. Kathy at 989-755-2618 or Rev_KathyV@yahoo.com.

Wednesday, November 16th - Men's Friendship Room 7:00 pm. Designed as a safe place for Gay, Bisexual and Transgender men, who are out or not, to come for support and socialization. Meets at David Younk's home in Saginaw. Contact David at 989-771-9721 or DavidY513@hotmail.com.

▼ **Thursday, November 17th - Potluck & Food Drive** 7:00 pm. **St. John's Episcopal Church**, 123 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw. Underground Railroad. *See article on p. 7.*

Thursday, November 17th - Gay American Smoke Out The Gay American Smoke Out is an opportunity for LGBT individuals to challenge themselves to quit smoking. The Gay American Smoke Out was first introduced in 1994 by the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center. Typically held on the 3rd Thursday in November, The "Gay American Smoke Out" was created to coincide with the American Cancer Society's "Great American Smokeout."

▼ **Friday, November 18th - Friday Night Dinner** 7:00 pm. Join Perceptions members and friends this week at **LaZeez International Deli**, 144 Ashman Circle, Midland. Please reply to Jim@PerceptionsSV.org by 3:00 pm Friday if you plan to attend.

Sunday, November 20th - PFLAG Meeting 2:00 - 4:30 pm. The meeting takes place at **Our Saviour Luther Church**, 2525 Hemmeter Rd., Saginaw. For more information contact pflag@pflag-mbs.org or 989-941-1458.

Sunday, November 20th - Transgender Day of Remembrance 2011 marks the 13th Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance. The day was set aside to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. The **Day of Remembrance** is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder in 1998 kicked off the "Remembering Our Dead" web project and a San Francisco candlelight vigil in 1999.

▼ **Wednesday, November 23rd - Game Night at The Mixx** 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Join us for food, conversation, and perhaps try your luck at a board game or cards. (*See ad p. 7*)

▼ **Friday, November 25th - Friday Night Dinner** 7:00 pm. Join Perceptions members and friends this week at **Jake's Old City Grill**, 100 S. Hamilton St., Saginaw. If you plan to attend, please reply to Jim@PerceptionsSV.org by 3:00 pm Friday.

▼ **Monday, November 28th Perceptions Transgender Group** 6:00 pm. Meeting at **Magic Bean Café**, 5789 State Street, Saginaw, the group offers an informal gathering, taking a more 'light-hearted' approach to allow transgenders in the Tri-City area an opportunity to connect with one another for socializing and support. Contact Rachel@PerceptionsSV.org if you have any questions.

▼ **Saturday, December 10th - Holiday Party & Charity Auction** Perceptions 10th Annual Holiday Party. Buffet dinner, cash bar, entertainment, and silent & live auctions. Bay Valley Resort, 2470 Old Bridge Road, Bay City.

▼ **Denotes an event sponsored by Perceptions.**

To be informed about upcoming events, simply send a blank email to: PerceptionsSV-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

NOVEMBER 2011

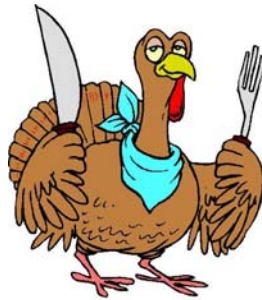
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
		1	2	3  Perceptions Board Meeting 7:00 PM	4  Friday Night Dinner Macy's Lakeshore Grill 4750 Fashion Sq Blvd Saginaw 7:00 PM	5																																																																																																		
6	7	8	9  Freeland Meet & Greet Riverside Restaurant 8295 Midland Road 6:00 - 8:00 PM	10	11  Friday Night Dinner Old Great Wall Buffet 805 N. Euclid Ave. Bay City 7:00 PM	12																																																																																																		
13  Genesee Co. PFLAG Meeting UU Church of Flint 2474 S. Ballenger Hwy 2:00 - 4:30 PM	14	15  Perceptions Men's Discussion Group 301 Cass St. Saginaw 7:00 - 8:30 PM	16	17  General Meeting Potluck / Food Drive St. John's Episcopal 123 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw 7:00 - 9:00 PM	18  Friday Night Dinner LaZeez Intl Deli 144 Ashman Circle Midland 7:00 PM	19																																																																																																		
20  Tri-Cities PFLAG Meeting Our Savior Lutheran Church 2525 Hemmeter Rd., Saginaw 2:00 - 4:30 PM	21	22	23  Saginaw Meet & Greet The Mixx 115 N. Hamilton St. 7:00 - 9:00 PM	24 Thanksgiving	25  Friday Night Dinner Jake's Old City Grill 100 S. Hamilton St. Saginaw 7:00 PM	26																																																																																																		
27	28  Transgender Group Magic Bean Café 5789 State St. Saginaw 6:00 - 7:30 PM	29	30																																																																																																					
		October 2011 <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></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></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						December 2011 <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></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></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							Notes: 9 - Note new winter hours 17 - Note location
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																																																																																																							
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																																																																																																								

Annual Thanksgiving Potluck & Food Drive

Join Perceptions members and friends on Thursday, November 17th for our Annual Thanksgiving Potluck & Food Drive. The festivities will take place at **St. John's Episcopal Church, 123 N. Michigan Ave.**, Saginaw, starting at 7:00 pm. Perceptions will provide the table service and beverages. If you're able, please bring a dish to share. There is always an abundance of great food, conversation and fellowship to be enjoyed.

It has been our tradition for many years to share our bounty at Thanksgiving with a local food pantry. This year, we've selected **Underground Railroad**. Please bring non-perishable food items to donate. Underground Rail-

road serves victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, providing emergency shelter, services, and programs to end domestic and sexual violence in the community. They serve 3 meals a day to up to 50 women and children in emergency shelter and provide food assistance to up to 32 families in their Transitional House Program so they will be very grateful for our donations. Domestic violence does not discriminate! Every race, religion and economic group is affected.



Help Perceptions Find Individuals Who Will Move Us Forward

A nominating committee is being formed to identify potential candidates for the Perceptions Board of Trustees. The Board manages the affairs of Perceptions Saginaw Valley. The Board holds regular meetings once per month and special meetings may be called from time to time. The maximum number of Trustees is 12, but we frequently function with 8 to 10. Trustees are assisted by Advisors, who are non-voting members of the Board. There will be at least 3 Trustee positions available on the Board that may be filled at our January election.

In compiling the slate of candidates, the Nominating Committee should strive for diversity among the nominees so that a broad spectrum of our LGBT & allies community is represented. The nominating committee should also try to match the talents and skill sets of the nominees with the needs of the organization. The slate of candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee will first be approved by the current Board of Trustees and then will be presented to the Members for rejection or ratification by secret ballot at the January meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, if you would like to suggest a candidate, or if you would consider serving as a Trustee yourself, please contact Tim@PerceptionsSV.org

Perceptions Saginaw Meet & Greet:

Game Night at The Mixx



The kitchen at The Metro Grille will be open and serving up sandwiches and snacks. In addition to coffee and soft drinks, The Mixx offers a full bar with drink specials during our Meet & Greet.

Join us just for the company and conversation or participate in a game of Euchre, a board game, or other activity.

Wednesday, November 23rd

7:00 - 9:00 pm



Telling Our Stories: Coming Out

by Rick Farrand

Coming out is certainly an individual decision and the ways we choose to do so are as different as we are. One common thread that our panel of guests all shared was their reason for coming out, which as they expressed, was so they could be free from the burden of keeping their secret.

Being in front of an audience of people you don't know can almost be as frightening as coming out, no one really wanted to go first; I even heard one of them say, "let's do rock, paper, scissors!" Our moderator, Daphne, decided to invite Trey to present his story first.

Trey is a Female-to-Male transgender person. After he began to transition, he found out that he is actually intersex. His family had not shared this with him originally. His birth certificate does not state male or female.

Trey started to dress more as a guy when he started high school in a new city. As he made new friends, they just accepted him as he was. His new school allowed him to change his records to indicate that he is male.

Coming out to his family was not easy. His family held strong religious beliefs which followed strict interpretations of the Bible. His Mom said that God does not make any mistakes and for her to change what God had created, would certainly be a sin. Trey took a stand, knowing that he and his Mom would not see eye to eye on this, he did what he felt that he had

to do. Today, Trey is a man by all accounts; he behaves, appears, and feels as a man, living his life true to himself.

Trey has an identical twin sister. He now believes that she may be bisexual or a lesbian and she frequently dresses as a man.

Jeff was next to share his story. Jeff, who also is a twin, was not able to tell his family straight out that he was gay. First, he told his friend and even then he couldn't face her; he texted her the message. He found it much too uncomfortable to see anyone face to face and admit that he was gay.

Jeff, coming from a socially conservative family with a strong Catholic background, was afraid to come out to them, so he decided to leave a note for his dad, whom he felt would be a little more accepting than his mom. He left the note on his father's chair before going to bed, stating in the note: "I'm gay and we can talk about this later." Jeff expressed how bad he felt that he was not even able to tell his twin sister about himself.

After coming out to a few close friends, there were rumors going around school that he was gay. He had friends who supported him and were trying to protect him, but he didn't wish to burden his friends with his issue, so he put it all on Facebook for everyone to see.

Last year, with the help of some close friends, he was able to start the first GSA at Heritage High School. He is a strong individual

who believes in himself. He was elected to Homecoming court, which was quite an honor. He also took it one step further and asked his boyfriend to the homecoming dance.

Angela spoke next. Also coming from a Catholic family background, she came out about ten years ago. She wanted her family and friends to know her true self as a Lesbian. As with most families there was time needed for transition and acceptance and now things are good. She said she always had an attraction to the girls and as she had gotten older she decided to give her best friend a kiss. She remarked that she thought it was quite odd to be kissing her best friend and she felt as though she had crossed some line.

Angela moved from Frankenthum to Saginaw about four years ago and works at Delta College where she is active in raising awareness and support for the GLBTQ youth and she has joined the Prism Group at Delta.

Jeni was our final speaker for the evening and she raised our awareness of bisexual issues. She feels as though she is not supported by the straight or gay community. She stated that when she is dating a guy, she feels shunned by the gay community because they tend to view her as straight or "confused," and when she dates a female, the straight community shuns her because they view her as a lesbian. Jeni feels as though she

Continued on Page 9

World AIDS Day: Remembering Those We have Lost to AIDS

Please join us on Thursday, December 1st (World AIDS Day) at the Andersen Enrichment Center, [120 Ezra Rust Drive](#) in Saginaw, at 6 p.m. for the World AIDS Day Candlelight Service when we remember all of the lives lost to AIDS. This event is FREE and open to the public.

Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center's HIV/AIDS Care Program will once again serve as the host of the Candlelight Service which will include music, prayer, the recitation of the names of some of the people lost to AIDS, and the lighting of candles. Sandwiches and beverages will be served by The Savoy Grill immediately following the service.

Since the first published report of AIDS in the United States on June 5, 1981, nearly 600,000 Americans have lost their lives to the epidemic," says Tom Brubaker, community relations coordinator for Sacred Heart's AIDS Care Program. "In fact, in 2010 five clients of Sacred Heart's AIDS Care Program died from HIV/AIDS. Whether you knew someone personally who has died, know of someone who is courageously living with HIV/AIDS today, or you simply would like to show your support, we invite you to attend this special evening," Brubaker says.

12.01.11

WORLD AIDS DAY

1 DECEMBER

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL 6 P.M.
Thursday, December 1st

Andersen Enrichment Ctr.
120 Ezra Rust Drive
Saginaw, MI

This is a free event & open to the public. Sandwiches & beverages will be provided.

Presented by,
Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center HIV/AIDS Care Services.
301 E. Genesee Ave, Ste. 201
Saginaw, MI 48607
P: 989.776.6000 Ext. 7514

Sacred Heart
Rehabilitation Center
HIV/AIDS CARE SERVICES

COMING OUT continued

doesn't fit in anywhere and wants to bring support and understanding to the bisexual community. She tried to explain bisexuality to a friend by saying that she doesn't discriminate who she dates by what's between their legs.

All of our panel participants

provided an excellent educational opportunity for the audience to learn and grow from. They should be proud of who they are, and what they have accomplished, by not only challenging themselves, but to help challenge the community to help bring about acceptance and love to all people.

ERIC HIMAN continued

Taking Eric back to the airport the following day can only be described as bittersweet. Fred drove us down to Detroit where Eric hopped a plane back to Tulsa...and on to bigger and better things. His newest adventure is starting an internet cooking show called "Trial and Eric." Watch [Facebook](#) for that and more about Eric. This definitely isn't the last we'll be hearing about him!

We wish to thank all of the sponsors, volunteers and attendees who made this event possible.



Special thanks to our food sponsors, Macy's Lakeshore Grill and The Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe.



Clockwise from top: The food table at the reception; Eric on stage; Dann serves up beverages; Fred sells 50/50 raffle tickets. (The lucky winner took home \$78.); Eric mingles with attendees.



Signatures
 Photography Studios

Experience the "Signatures" Difference Today.
 989.545.1488 www.signaturesps.com

