

A word cloud featuring the word "Welcome" in multiple languages. The words are arranged in a circular, overlapping pattern. The languages include: English (Welcome, Willkommen, Willkommen), French (Bienvenue), Italian (benvenuto), Spanish (Bienvenido), Dutch (Welkom), German (Willkommen, Willkommen), Russian (добро пожаловать), Chinese (歡迎), Hindi (स्वागत), and others like Gabité, Witaj, Velkommen, Bem-vindo, Vitejte, Welkom, Marhaban, Selamat, Maeva, Hosgeldiniz, Yökoso, and Kalώς ήλθατε.

Welcome to "In the 517" a new E-Newsletter brought to you each month by the Jackson Pride Center. We're in an age where being digital is the new

We wanted to amplify your voices to the forefront, because you're the heart of Jackson's LGBTQ community. From youth to seniors, and everyone in between, we have so much ground to cover, because we acknowledge while communicating online is essential and necessary in present time, not everyone is plugged-in to social media outlets such as Facebook or Twitter.

So, let's try a couple different methods of communicating with our community, so

both the Jackson Pride Center and the community overall, can be connected.



Jackson Virtual Pride Fest 2020 - Saturday, August 22nd



Saturday, August 22nd beginning at 2pm

Listen to speeches from our Mayor and Boardmembers from the Jackson Pride Center speak about the Jackson LGBTQ community and moving forward.

Sponsored by Consumer Energy, Henry Ford Allegiance Health, Dawn Foods, and Lifeways. Visit the [Jackson Pride Center's website](#) for more details.

Jackson Pride Center goes Virtual



Rebooted and Plugging In

We've recently relaunched the [Pride Center's website](#), and will be updating online resources not just in our local community, but nationwide.

Are you the parent of an LGBTQ+ teen that needs guidance on how to be a better ally? We'll have a link for that. Needing information of how to get tested for HIV and seeking care for a new diagnosis? We'll have a link for that too.

Send us questions about specific topics if you don't see them listed, and we'll see about getting information posted on the website in future updates.

Online Activities to join from Home



Social Disdancing: An Online Dance Party

You read it right, it wasn't a typo. [Social Disdancing](#) happens every Saturday 7pm Central/8pm Eastern from the safety of your own home.

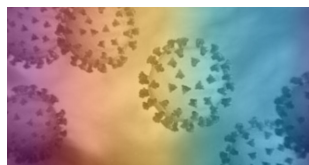


Jackson LGBTQ Community Meetup Group

Tired of feeling like "the only Gay in the Village" with not knowing members of your own tribe? Have we got a deal for you! A brand new startup on [Meetup](#) has formed, trying to connect LGBTQ community members together. Online for now, but once we all start connecting, we can plan for outings around the community after work and on weekends. The next online "[Who are the people in your Gayborhood: Virtual LGBTQ+ Happy Hour](#)" is set for Thursday, September 3rd at 6:30pm.

We're working on getting one set up specifically for LGBTQ Youth, so our kiddos don't feel alone out there having to school online for now. There's no need to feel isolated, if you've got internet, a camera, microphone and some earphones. Write us, and let us know what sort of groups you'd be interested in, and we see about finding a moderator and get it started.

Coronavirus COVID-19

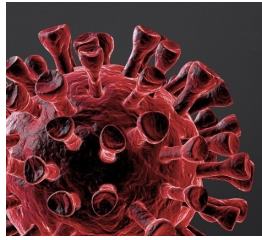


COVID-19: Understanding what it means for the LGBTQ Community

Many LGBTQ people are employed in sectors that are heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. LGBTQ people also face significant economic disparities compared to their non-LGBTQ peers, which means they will more often lack the resources they need to stay afloat during the pandemic locally as well as nationally.

Jackson Pride Center has launched an informational page for COVID-19, complete with up-to-date statistics, clear definitions, and local sources for assistance. At the bottom of the page includes a downloadable sheet from Human Rights Campaign (HRC) on the effects faced by the LGBTQ Community.

COVID-19 Resource Page



Get Tested

If you feel sick.

If someone close to you is sick or has symptoms.

If you work outside the home.

Got questions about COVID-19 and need help with information, you can find it [here](#).

LGBTQ Litigation You Should Know About



*Case Challenging State's Interpretation
of Nondiscrimination Law*

Rouch World v. Michigan Dept. of Civil Rights

Status: Undergoing Briefing in Michigan State Court

Type: Public Accommodations Discrimination

Case Overview:

Rouch World v. Michigan Dept. of Civil Rights is a case filed in Michigan state court concerning discrimination based on sexual orientation in places of public accommodation. The case was filed against the Michigan Department of Civil

Rights by a private park and wedding venue in Michigan who denied service to a same-sex couple because of their sexual orientation. The venue argues that the state's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act doesn't protect people from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, contrary to [the position of the state civil rights agency](#) and the state's attorney general.

Latest in the Case:

The case was filed on February 13, 2020 against the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

Case History:

January 30, 2019: The Michigan Civil Rights Commission announces that it will authorize investigations into anti-LGBTQ discrimination brought by Michigan residents in light of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights' interpretation that the state's Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination based on "sex," also covers discrimination based on LGBTQ identity.

February 13, 2020: The private company Rouch World files a lawsuit against the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and its interim director after the Department investigated a complaint of anti-LGBTQ discrimination. A same-sex couple said that Rouch World refused to allow them to rent the park and wedding venue. The lawsuit challenges the state's interpretation of the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act and argues that anti-LGBTQ discrimination is not prohibited by the law.

LGBTQ-themed Books, Movies & Music you'll want to check out



UNCOMFORTABLE LABELS: MY LIFE AS A GAY AUTISTIC TRANS WOMAN by Laura Kate Dale

Release date: July 1, Jessica Kingsley Publishers

Did you know that autistic people are statistically more likely to identify outside of traditional gender and sexuality labels? That's why intersectional stories like this are crucial. In this memoir, Laura Kate Dale unpacks how her identity as a gay autistic trans woman affected her childhood and personal experiences. With both honesty and a sense of humor, this **book** is for anyone who has ever felt like they didn't fit in.



Shea Diamond, "I Am America": Our anthem for 2020

A triumphant, thumping ode to claiming the space in America that rightly belongs to the LGBTQ community -- the Black trans community in particular -- but is often denied to us, Diamond's rousing **anthem** is a demand, a celebration and a mission statement all wrapped into one.



Orville Peck is the Queer Cowboy we didn't know we needed.

One LGBTQ Artist to watch in 2020 is Orville Peck

Country Music's enigmatic, gay masked cowboy, who invokes the sultry spirit of Johnny Cash, came onto the country music scene in 2019 with his debut album, *Pony*. Coincidentally, friend and date to the Grammys, Diplo opened up doors for Peck, who met and recorded [a duet with Shania Twain](#) on his album *Show Pony*, released in July.



Mark Wahlberg will star in "Good Joe Bell," which is based on a true story.

In 2013, Joe Bell walked across the country on foot in the memory of his son who killed himself after being bullied in school for being gay. Wahlberg will play the grief-

stricken father alongside Connie Britton. The film shares its writers with "Brokeback Mountain."

Premiere Date: Set for 2020

Gayborhood Stories & Tools



Aging as LGBT: Two Stories

America's population is aging: by 2050, the number of people over the age of 65 will double to 83.7 million (from 43.1 million in 2012). While the public perception of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people is largely one of a young, affluent community, there are more than 2.7 million LGBT adults ages 50 or older living in communities across the country.

This month's story follows **Tina and Jackie**, born in the same town in 1947. Despite their similar beginnings, the women's lives take very different turns and a lifetime of discrimination, lost wages, lack of family recognition, and more add up to create substantial difficulties for Jackie.



TrevorSpace

TrevorSpace is a **social networking** site for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & questioning (LGBTQ) youth under 25 and their friends and allies.



Eating Healthy and On a Dime

Are you suffering from processed food overload and stretching that dime so thin it doubles as sheer curtains? Many nutrient-dense foods are too expensive, which is why some people opt for cheap junk foods instead.

However, there are plenty of [affordable foods](#) you can purchase that are healthy and easy to add to your diet.



Injustice at Every Turn: Black Trans Lives Matter

In 2015, the U.S. Transgender Survey (USTS) was conducted by the National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) to examine the experiences of transgender adults in the United States. Here's a [link](#) to the full report to which almost 28,000 people responded.

There were also some breakout findings with [Black](#) Respondents.

67% of Black respondents said they would feel somewhat or very uncomfortable asking the police for help, compared to 57% of respondents in the USTS sample overall.

41% of Black respondents experienced serious psychological distress in the month before completing the survey (based on the Kessler 6 Psychological Distress Scale), more than eight times the rate in the U.S. population (5%).

6.7% of Black respondents were living with HIV, nearly five times the rate in the USTS sample overall (1.4%) and more than twenty times the rate in the U.S. population (0.3%)

For additional breakouts for People of Color, click [here](#).

Visit our Website!

[Use this space for a short disclaimer, to share important information or maybe just to invite people to share your campaign with their friends.]



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