

Sage Upstate News

October 2021
Vol 25 No 10

Serving Older Gay,
Lesbian, Bisexual, and
Transgender People
in Central New York

**Wanted:
Neighborhood Advisor for
the local LGBTQ Community**

SAGE Upstate seeks a Neighborhood Advisor who will reach out to support older LGBTQ people with resources, information on benefits, and strategies to stay strong and independent. Ideal candidates for this 30-hour/week position will have experience working with older adults and/or the LGBTQ community, and will be trained by the Onondaga County Department of Adult and Long Term Care Services.

SAGEVets on October 26



The next meeting of SAGEVets of Central and Western New York will feature Eric Alva, author of *Once a Marine, Coming Out Under Fire*.

All are welcome to this special presentation at the SAGEVets meeting on October 26 on Zoom (see log-in and call-in info on page 2). Our speaker, Eric Alva, was the first Marine seriously injured in the war in Iraq. He lost his leg from an explosive buried in the sand, and received a Purple Heart.

At the same time, under the Don't Ask Don't Tell, he was unable to serve openly as a gay man. Eric spoke out against this discriminatory law, which was repealed in 2011. He also wrote *Once A Marine: Coming Out Under Fire*. In the book, he shares his stories of battles on and off the battlefields. When he came out in 2007, he noted that he had been promoted and praised for his service, all the while having to keep his sexuality a secret.

SAGEVets is a statewide program that helps improve access to the VA and other medical services for LGBTQ older adults who are veterans of military service. Through a partnership between the national SAGE USA and SAGE Upstate, and with the support of funding from the NYS Legislature, this program now offers more services for Upstate veterans.

Continued: SAGEVets on p 3

Second Sunday With SAGE in October:

Virtual

HALLOWEEN

OCTOBER 10, 4 PM



There won't be an in-person Halloween Dance, but that doesn't mean we can't celebrate Halloween! Come in costume if you'd like – we'll vote for the best one. What's the scariest movie or monster? The best candy? We'll do a SAGERs Choice poll to find out. We will also take a trip down memory lane with a slideshow of past Halloween Dances. Finally, we'll cap it off with "Table Hopping" breakout groups. Find link info on page 2, and see you there!

Second Sunday in November: Community Celebration Nov. 14



Mark your calendars! SAGE Upstate's annual Community Celebration will be held on Zoom Sunday November 8 at 4:00 pm. We will be joined by speakers from a variety of community organizations, and like last year, there will be a raffle. Enter for one of three big prizes-- original art by Amy Bartell, a Chromebook and smart speaker, or an Instant Pot and cookbook. Once these are drawn, everyone will be added to a second raffle for fun baskets. Watch our website and email updates for your chance to enter. And mark your calendars to join us!

October 2021

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

HAPPY HALLOWEEN					Happy Coming Out Day: October 11	
					1 11 am Fitness Class	2
3	4 11 am Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men's	5	6 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters	7	8 11 am Fitness Class	9 Utica Social
10 4 pm: 2nd Sunday with SAGE: Halloween	11 No Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men's	12 SAGEVets Trans Group	13 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters	14	15 11 am Fitness Class 7 pm Men's Night Out	16 7 pm Trans Social
17	18 11 am Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men's	19	20 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters	21	22 11 am Fitness Class	23
24 31	25 11 am Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men	26 6:00 SAGEVets	27 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters	28 5:30 pm SAGE Upstate Board	29 11 am Fitness Class	30

Find Zoom links at www.sageupstate.org, OR call in at 1-929-205-6099 – use meeting ID# and passcode

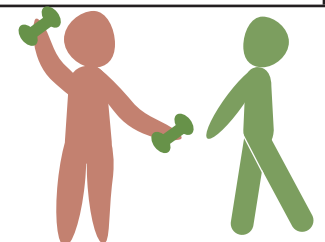
Fitness Class led by Barb Genton -- exercises to build strength, improve balance. Mon/Fri, 11 am Meeting ID # 894 0192 9890 Passcode: 1969
Knitting and Fiber Arts, Wednesdays at 7 pm: Fiber arts and conversation Meeting ID: 812 6815 6658 Passcode: 1969
Men's Night Out: Third Friday at 7 pm Meeting ID: 817 6668 1893 Passcode: 1969
SAGEVets General Meeting, 4th Tuesday, 6:00 pm Join other LGBTQ Veterans for socializing, programs about benefits, and resource sharing. Meeting ID: 871 5736 4984 Passcode: 1969
SAGEVets Trans Meeting, 4th Tuesday, 6:00 pm Join other LGBTQ Trans Veterans for socializing, programs about benefits, and resource sharing. Meeting ID: 871 5736 4984 Passcode: 1969

SAGE Upstate Board, 4th Thursday, 5:30 pm: Meeting ID: 876 4687 0636 Passcode: 1969
Second Sunday With SAGE: Music, programs and fun. Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 893 1950 6041 Passcode: 1969
Trans Social, 3rd Saturday, 7 pm: Trans-identified people meet for socializing and support. Meeting ID: 896 9963 6095 Passcode: 1969
Utica Group: Join other SAGE folks from Utica and beyond for a social gathering on Second Saturday, 5 pm. Meeting ID: 854 4360 4277 Passcode: 1969
Writers Group, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm: All genres and experience levels welcome. Meeting ID: 596 630 088 Passcode: 1969



SAGE Upstate Falls Prevention Fitness Class

All exercise levels, all abilities. All are welcome. Now available on Zoom Mondays and Fridays at 11:00 am. You can also get a video of the class at sageupstate.org.



SAGE seeks candidates for Neighborhood Advisor Position

Would you or someone be interested in working to support older LGBTQ adults?

SAGE Upstate received a 3-year grant from Onondaga County to hire a Neighborhood Advisor to serve the older LGBTQ community in CNY. We're looking for someone who will reach out to LGBTQ individuals aged 60 and older in need of services across the diverse communities of the county. The goals are to link those in need with resources, help people maintain a level of independence to remain in the community, and to share information

with providers of aging and LGBT services. The position is 30 hours per week, but with the right candidates it could be split into two 15 hr/wk positions.

The Neighborhood Advisor will work one-on-one with older adults, build relationships with providers, and reach out to the community through programs and networking. The Department of Adult and Long Term Care Services will provide training for the person who is hired.

Ideal candidates will have computer and database skills, a two year degree in a related field or four years experience, knowledge of local resources, and experience working with older adults, LGBT people, people of different races and different abilities. See a full job description at sageupstate.org. **To apply:** send resume and 3 references to Kim Dill, SAGE Upstate, 431 E Fayette St. Syracuse, NY 13202 or kdill@sageupstate.org

Who is eligible for COVID vaccine booster shots?

At the time of this printing, booster shots are available for those 65 or older who received the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at least 6 months ago. Younger people with medical conditions or those who live or work in high risk settings may also be eligible. Studies show that protection from the original vaccine may decrease over time, so booster shots are recommended. This is a rapidly evolving situation – see info as it becomes available at covid19.ongov.net or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus. SAGE Upstate will post updates on our website (sageupstate.org). Contact Kim if you need help accessing info online or for help finding where to go for more info: kdill@sageupstate.org or 315-478-1923.

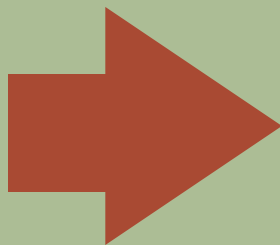
SAGEVets, cont'd from p1



The group holds its general meeting on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm, and this month, on October 12, 6 pm, SAGEVets will hold a gathering for transgender

veterans. The statewide SAGEVets program is led by Ashton Stewart, and locally by Wanda Martinez, Rita Gram, and Dan Bishop-Basler. The Upstate program reaches out to veterans in a region that includes Central New York, the Finger Lakes, and Western New York. For more info: Ashton Stewart (astewart@sageusa.org) or T: 201-256-1357) or Wanda Martinez-Johncox (wmartinezjohncox@gmail.com) 585-414-9164

Black Cuse Pride, CNY Pride, and the Q Center are teaming up for Queer Fright Night on October 16. Find more info about how you can participate with the link provided in the poster at right.



FRIGHTMARE FARMS
HAUNTED SCREAM PARK

QUEER FRIGHT Night!

OCTOBER 16TH | 7PM - 10PM

\$33 Per ticket for 4 attractions.

Get Tickets Here:
www.cnypride/qfn

4816 State Route 49, Fulton, NY 13069

BLACK CUSE PRIDE | CNY PRIDE | the Q center
central new york pride | safe space for LGBTQ youth & allies



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Syracuse, NY 13202

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Help keep SAGE Upstate strong enough to improve health and reduce isolation for older LGBT people during these challenging socially distant times and beyond.

**I want
to keep
SAGE
Upstate
strong!**

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Address , City, State, Zip:

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