



Ineka Estabrook , Co-Chair  
Jeanne St. John, Co-Chair  
Laurel Woods, Secretary  
Debbie Spicer, Treasurer  
Nel Ward, Newsletter Editor  
nelcward@charter.net  
nclsnewday.wordpress.com

Contact: PO Box 2172,  
Newport, OR 97365  
(541)265-7194 [pflag-occ@gmail.com](mailto:pflag-occ@gmail.com)

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans-gendered persons, their families, and their friends through

**SUPPORT** to cope with an adverse society

**EDUCATION** to enlighten an ill-informed public

**ADVOCACY** to end discrimination and secure equal civil rights.

# Oregon Central Coast Chapter

May 2015

## Take Action

Dublin-based paper shop Daintree has a new product called "A Shred of Decency." The Irish company uses homophobic leaflets to make confetti supporting marriage equality. All proceeds go to Yes Equality, a group supporting same-sex marriage ahead of Irish Marriage Equality Referendum on 22 May. Supporters of Daintree can tweet approval at #ShredOfDecency hashtag.

After Tyler McCubbin was denied a permanent job at Dowling Catholic High School (Des Moines, IA) because he is gay, students of the substitute teacher put together a petition demanding that the school give McCubbin fair consideration for the teaching position. The students pointed out that the Catholic Bible "teaches acceptance, respect, and tolerance, and urges followers to 'judge not, lest ye be judged.'" <http://forcechange.com/141210/stop-discrimination-against-homosexual-teacher/>

[http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/let-matthew-eledge-teach-1?mailing\\_id=28536&source=s.icn.em.cr&r\\_by=1684020](http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/let-matthew-eledge-teach-1?mailing_id=28536&source=s.icn.em.cr&r_by=1684020)  
In Nebraska, Skutt Catholic High School fired Matthew Eledge, an English teacher and speech coach with four consecutive state championships, after he and his partner got engaged late last year. The petition points out that a school core belief is to "embrace diversity within, and seek justice for their communities and the marginalized in our society."

### Great News!

**The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal to Oregon's legalized marriage equality.**

**[More information about marriage equality and the U.S. Supreme Court on p. 7.]**

**Don't forget to vote! Information on school board candidates - p. 6. Ballots due on May 19th.**

## GSA Students Offer LGBT 101 in County



Ineka Estabrook (far right below), PFLAG Co-Chair and GSA/Teen Outreach leader, has been working with students to present the four dimensions of human sexuality integrated with their own experiences of coming out to different types of families and cultures within our rural communities.

Their first presentation was at OCCC for nursing students and other interested staff and students on April 1. The GSA students did an excellent job explaining the terms and concepts for gender identity, gender expression, biological sex, and sexual orientation. The audience was impressed with the students' knowledge and poise and hoped to arrange a similar presentation for other organizations.

Some students had already helped lead this workshop for middle and high school students as well as secondary staff at Eddyville School where they were very well-received. Because of their presentation, Eddyville School is planning a bully prevention program and a GSA/Upstanders Club for their students.

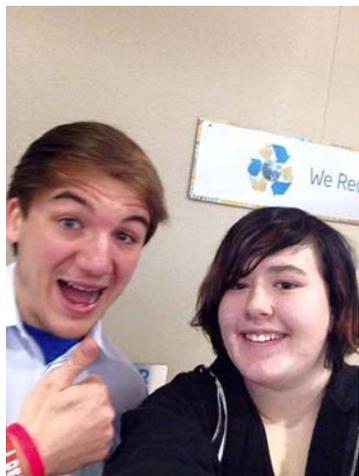
Their next LGBT 101 presentation was for staff of Senior & Disability Services in Toledo. The group was pleased with the workshop and said they hoped to have an annual review and refresher.

[Above: GSA students appear with Mary Kay Fitzmorris, Program Manager for Senior & Disability Services (second from left), and show the info boards that they created. These will also be displayed at Newport High School.]

If your business, civic organization, church, or club would like to schedule the LGBT 101 workshop, please contact Ineka at [inekae@gmail.com](mailto:inekae@gmail.com).



## GSA Students Attend Youth Leadership Forum



Students from NHS and Taft attended the annual leadership forum co-sponsored by GLSEN and Intel with PFLAG co-chair and Taft GSA sponsor Abi Kurfman. The keynote speaker, Jack Andraka, is the science genius who developed a new process while he was a teen that detected an increase of a protein indicating the presence of pancreatic, ovarian, and lung cancer.

One purpose of the forum was to give LGBT teens exposure to professional, successful LGBT+ people in the community. Representatives from CIA, Intel, OHSU, PSU, and GSA participated on a panel, and dozens of LGBT staff members from a variety of businesses sat at the tables with the GSA students.

Another focus of the forum was support for starting/improving GSAs in local schools. [Left: Mia Estabrook poses with her hero, Andraka, at the forum.]

# *Politics on Our Side*

**California:** A federal judge has ordered the state's corrections department to provide sex reassignment surgery for a transgender inmate, ruling that denying the operation violates 51-year-old Michelle-Lael Norsworthy's constitutional rights. An earlier Massachusetts case, the first in history that ordered a state prison system to provide the surgery, was overturned last year and has been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. This second case will probably be appealed.

**Florida:** The state legislation has repealed the 1977 ban on adoptions by same-sex parents because an appeals court struck down the law five years ago. The state also failed to restrict bathrooms by "biological sex." Another bill similar to the Florida bill also failed in **Nevada**.

**Florida:** The state Supreme Court is debating whether LGBT sex is "intercourse" in a 1986 law requiring people to tell partners that they are HIV-positive before having sex. A lower judge dismissed a case against Gary Debaun because state law defines "sexual intercourse" as between men and women.

**Maine:** GOP state Sen. David Burns will remove his "religious freedom" bill, one similar to Indiana's "religious belief" legislation.

**Maryland:** The state General Assembly has passed a bill allowing people to permanently change the name and gender on their birth certificates without a court order. Larry Hogan has not taken a public position, but the vote was veto-proof. Another bill passed by the state legislature equalizes infertility treatment for lesbian couples.

**New Jersey:** A panel from the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously rejected a challenge to the state's ban on so-called gay conversion therapy for minors.

**North Dakota:** After the legislature killed a bill that would have prohibited discrimination against LGBT residents, GOP Gov. Jack Dalrymple sent a memo to 17 government agency directors, telling them that discrimination against anyone is unacceptable.

**Texas:** A Houston nondiscrimination ordinance has taken effect after a state judge ruled that a petition to overturn the ordinance through a ballot measure failed to gather enough signatures.

**Virginia:** The state Supreme Court ruled a trans woman prisoner can change her name.

**Washington, D.C.:** A U.S. House committee will not consider a resolution this session to recall nondiscrimination legislation in D.C.

**Guam:** The first U.S. territory will legalize marriage equality after an order issued by Attorney General Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson.

**United States:** The 24,000 companies contracting with the federal government cannot fire or discriminate against employees based on their sexual orientation or gender identity after an executive order that took effect in early April. The order affects about 28 million workers, approximately 20 percent of the U.S. workforce.

**United States:** The Department of Justice is suing Southeastern Oklahoma State University and the university district for discriminating against a trans professor because gender identity and expression are covered under Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964.

**United States:** Democratic House members have introduced a resolution to protect LGBT people from "religious beliefs" as part of a new civil rights bill. Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) will also introduce the bill in the U.S. Senate.

## Bits in LGBT News

A *Washington Post-ABC* poll finds 61 percent of Americans support allowing gays to marry with only 35 percent opposed. A CNN/ORC poll puts the percentage higher at 63 percent in favor. In states without same-sex marriage, 51 percent support marriage equality. By a 69-26 percent margin, including a 50-44 percent margin among Republicans, voters say businesses should not be allowed to refuse service to gays and lesbians, according to a Quinnipiac poll.

The Boy Scouts of America's New York chapter has hired an openly gay Eagle Scout from Maryland, 18-year-old Pascal Tessier, as a summer camp leader. The board cites New York law preventing employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. Tessier was the first out Eagle Scout to be approved after the BSA lifted its ban against gays.

IBM has voiced "strong opposition" to a religious freedom bill in Louisiana supported by Gov. Bobby Jindal. The New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau also asked that the bill be dropped because of its impact on tourism.

A new partnership between the Small Business Administration and National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce will offer training sessions for LGBT business owners in Atlanta, Los Angeles, and other cities in the next two years.

## April PFLAG Features 'Living Legends'

Nel Ward and Lee Lynch, Newport residents and activists for women's and LGBT rights, led the April 8 PFLAG meeting focusing on LGBT history. Progressive blogger and PFLAG newsletter editor, Ward works with the American Library Association to select quality LGBT books. Lynch, author of the recently published *The American Queer*, writes award-winning books and the monthly column, "The Amazon Trail." *The butch cook book*, edited by Ward, Lynch, and Sue Hardesty, was given away for donations to PFLAG, and Lynch donated money from her sales of autographed books at the meeting.

Lynch and Ward shared stories from the ancient and recent past, including their own stories of coming out in mid-century America. Their handouts, "Recommended Books about LGBT History" and "LGBT Timeline," are available from OCCC PFLAG. Ward also donated an anniversary edition of the 25 year-old picture book classic, *Heather Has Two Mommies*, one of the most frequently banned books in library history, to the PFLAG library, and Lynch gave a copy of *The American Queer*.

Jeanne St. John wrote, "We were all deeply moved by the oral history, the stories from your own lives about the 'olden days' in the mid-20th century when *The Well of Loneliness* was ground-breaking. Most of us didn't know about the ban on LGBT fiction that did not punish the 'sinners'--or that anyone we knew had come out as a teen in 1960!"

It was a very special PFLAG meeting with two LGBT Living Legends! Thanks so much! —Jeanne St. John



Ward (left) and Lynch in an animated debate during the April 8 PFLAG meeting. Photo by Sue Hardesty

## Openly-Gay PFLAG Member Runs for LC School Board

Greg Holland (below), member of the Waldport City Council for six years and openly gay member of PFLAG, is a candidate in one of the two contested races for the Lincoln County School Board. Although he is running as a candidate in Zone 5, the election is open to all Lincoln County registered voters. His opponent is incumbent Amanda Remund who was appointed to the board after a resignation. The other contested race is Zone 2 in the northern part of the county with incumbent Liz Martin opposed by Clary Grant.

At a forum on April 23, three of the candidates answered a variety of questions. Clary Grant was not present for the forum but answered the questions in a later interview. This is a roundup of the responses that may be of interest to PFLAG members. More information is available at <http://centraloregoncoastnow.com/2015/04/30/central-oregon-coast-now-endorses-greg-holland-for-lincoln-county-school-district/>



**Question:** What is your position on mandatory sex education?

**Holland:** It should be done as long it is not abstinence-only. Young people are sexually active whether people recognize it or not. Holland also advocates distribution of condoms.

**Martin:** Sex ed might be required in high school.

**Remund:** She's supportive, but the board would have to decide.

**Grant:** Yes if parents could exempt their children from classes; age-appropriate curriculum would be appropriate below high school; "you can't pretend sex doesn't happen – it's not a reality."

**Question:** Should all schools in the district have anti-bullying programs at schools?

**Remund:** All the schools have anti-bullying programs.

**Holland:** [Disagrees.] Not all schools have equal programs, and they are vital.

**Martin:** Bullying happens at all the schools.

**Grant:** "My daughter was bullied in school, and the victim was blamed, not the bullies. It's a vital program because bullying is not acceptable."

**Question:** Why is the district dropping Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a student holiday to make it a student contact day? Do you support this change?

**Martin:** The district needed more contact days.

**Holland:** The district should definitely honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day. (After audience asked for reconsideration of decision, both **Martin** and **Remund** said that they would reexamine the situation.)

**Grant:** "[Eliminating the day as a holiday] sends the wrong message to the community and the outside world."

**Question:** Do you support teaching climate denial and creationism and as scientific theory?

**Holland:** Definitely not.

**Martin and Remund:** They could support teaching both climate denial and creationism as a scientific theory. [**Martin** added if it were good for the kids, and **Remund** said if the rest of the board wants this taught.]

**Grant:** No. These are issues that should be handled only in the home.

Holland and Grant are both endorsed by the Lincoln County Education Association; Holland also has endorsements from the Democratic Party and NOW. They both advocate greater communication between the community and the school board. Holland is a retired lawyer; Grant owns the Sea Hag in Depoe Bay. More information from the candidates is available in the April 29 issue of the *News Times*.

# People Who Make a Difference



**Sean, Buckley**, great-nephew of *National Review* founder William F. Buckley, Jr., has declared he is gay in a column for *The Daily Beast*. His piece describes his transition from anti-gay rights to his present acceptance of himself and LGBT rights, the evolution of marriage, and his path to open up to his family. Buckley concluded, "It is time for conservatives to recognize that just as individual liberty should not depend on a person's gender or race, it should not depend on whom a person loves, either." His message is well worth reading. <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2015/04/26/a-buckley-comes-out-a-young-conservative-s-case-for-the-freedom-to-marry.html>

Toronto police officer **Luke Watson** dyed his blond hair in honor of the International Day of Pink in a personal act of support for bullied LGBT youth. He also promised to keep the new "do" an additional week for every 1,000 retweets his photo received and for six months if Ellen DeGeneres invited him onto her show. Two straight high school students in Nova Scotia started the Day of Pink as a method of "celebrating diversity and raising awareness to stop homophobia, transphobia, transmisogyny, and all forms of bullying." <http://dayofpink.org/> Held on April 8 this year, the day is annually scheduled for the second Wednesday of April. Started in 2007, the event built to 8 million participants by 2012. More photos are available here: <http://www.msnbc.com/msnbc/cop-dyes-his-hair-pink-support-gay-rights-and-stand-bullying>



After Patrick Taylor, principal at Carroll High School (LA), told top student **Claudetteia Love** that she couldn't wear a tux to the prom, Monroe City School Board President Rodney McFarland told Taylor that he couldn't "just go making up policies." Love was permitted to wear the tux to the April 24 event.

Original "X-Men" member **Iceman** from 1963 has come out of the closet. The announcement comes three years after Marvel Comics presented its first openly gay hero super speedster Northstar when he married his longtime civilian boyfriend, Kyle Jinadu, in *Astonishing X-Men*.



*Out* has released its **Ninth Power List** of the most influential LGBT people in American culture—TV personalities, politicians, activists and businesspeople. <http://www.out.com/power-50/2015/4/15/power-50>

## Transgender Issues, Topic at May PFLAG

The May 13 PFLAG meeting will focus on transgender issues with the showing of "Transgender Tuesdays," a film by Nurse Practitioner and director Mark Freeman.

Transgender Tuesdays clinic and its 1993 "Protocols For Hormonal Re-assignment of Gender" created a new model of treatment: primary care for all those who self- identify as transgendered, not just those that could afford the specialists who once made that decision.

Based on "harm reduction" as key to reaching a difficult-to- reach group, the clinic has proved for eighteen years that this can be done. And the people behind the stories prove that it should be done-- everywhere.

## Saturday Market Needs Help

Debbie Spicer and Rhonda Jantzen will lead the PFLAG OCC Saturday Market table teams for these three confirmed dates: May 30, June 20, and July 18. We need your help to staff these tables—please send an email to Debbie Spicer at [cadbears@hotmail.com](mailto:cadbears@hotmail.com) to let her know which date and whether you would prefer the early (8:45-11) or late (11-1:15) shift. It's fun to greet market-goers and share information and resources about PFLAG. Join us for a Saturday treat!

## Rhonda Jantzen Is a Film Star!

PFLAG's own Rhonda was featured in a film prepared for the Business Leader's Luncheon on April 23. A film crew came to Waldport and Newport to tell the story of a transgender woman in rural Oregon. Rhonda was very articulate in describing the isolation of transgender people who live outside the urban areas and her hope to develop more support. Watch the three-minute video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wNwvlJKMeBs>

## OCC PFLAG Calendar

**May 6, 7:00 pm:** Trans Parents Coffee—Chalet, Newport

**May 12, 3:30-6:00 pm:** LGBTQ Happy Hour, All Welcome!—Georgie's, Newport

**May 13, 6:00-7:30 pm:** PFLAG Meeting: Transgender Issues—St. Stephen's, 9th & Hurbert, Newport

**May 24, 11:00 am:** Women's Coffee Hour—Café Mundo, Newport

**May 26, 7:00 pm:** CAN Pizza—Abby's, Newport

**May 27, 4:00 pm:** Out Oregon Coast Nye Beach Stroll/Fireside Chat—Nye Beach, Newport

**May 30, 9:00 am-1:00 pm:** Newport Saturday Market PFLAG Table

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**The Coastal AIDS Network\*** monthly activities:

**Second Tuesday:** "Men's Pot Luck" (Locations vary! Call (541)994-5597 or email [coastalaidnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:coastalaidnetwork@gmail.com) for information)

**Fourth Tuesday, 7:00 pm:** "Pizza Night" (Newport Abbey's Pizza)

We also try to have pizza in Tillamook or Pacific City. Email Dan, [coastalaidnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:coastalaidnetwork@gmail.com) or leave a message for him at (541)994-5597.

\*CAN activities are open to everyone, regardless of HIV status or sexual orientation except for "Men's Pot Luck." Occasionally we bend that rule for special events.

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**Social LGBT Oregon Coast Group:**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Out-Oregon-Coast/194768480642314>

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**On April 28, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in a case about marriage equality. The decision should come down by the end of June. Below are three blogs about the issue:**

<https://nelsnewday.wordpress.com/2015/04/30/lgbt-community-waits-for-marriage-equality-ruling/>

<https://nelsnewday.wordpress.com/2015/04/27/same-sex-marriage-equal-rights/>

<https://nelsnewday.wordpress.com/2015/04/26/conservatives-need-for-feelings-of-superiority/>

## Join PFLAG!

YES! I support the mission of PFLAG. Enclosed is my annual membership fee.\*

\_\_\_\_\_ Household (\$35)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$25)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Student/Limited Income (\$15)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Includes membership in National PFLAG with affiliates in over 365 worldwide communities.

Make check payable and mail to:  
Oregon Central Coast PFLAG  
PO Box 2172  
Newport, OR 97365

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**Oregon Central Coast PFLAG**  
**P.O. Box 2172**  
**Newport, Oregon 97365**