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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

October 2015

Take Action

Senior Lance Sanderson at Christian Brothers High School (Memphis, TN) just wanted to bring his male date from another school to the Homecoming Dance on September 26, 2015. Last year, a school official told him that he could bring his date. That official left the school, however, and the school crafted a policy stating that he was allowed to bring only a female date from another school. Out for his four years at the school, Lance suffered homophobia from his peers but kept on going. He thinks that administrators should not show prejudice against him as his classmates have. His petition reads, "I'm not asking for special treatment. I'm just asking for respect, and the chance to make my last homecoming a truly memorable experience." The dance is over, but you can still show support for Lance. <https://www.change.org/p/christian-brothers-high-school-let-lance-take-his-date-to-homecoming>

The new film Stonewall focuses on a fictional white man and uses men to play the role of transwomen. Stonewall historian David Carter called it "a very lame and inaccurate portrayal." Henry Barnes' review stated, "The compromises [the director] made leave Stonewall feeling neutered. Director Roland Emmerich said he made these changes in history to appeal to a wide audience and "straight-acting" Danny was an "easy in" for heterosexual viewers. If you think that revising LGBT history is wrong, you can protest here. <https://unite.gsanetwork.org/petitions/boycott-2015-stonewall-movie?source=twitter-share-button>

October is LGBT History Month!

**Celebrate Coming Out Stories at the
OCC PFLAG Meeting on October 14**

OCC PFLAG Joins NOW to 'Celebrate' Women



The Newport Performing Arts Center was a hive of activity on the afternoon of September 20 preparing for the Celebration of Women, a fundraiser for the local NOW chapter's new foundation, and OCC PFLAG was an integral part. Co-chair Ineka Estabrook came with young PFLAGers, McKenzie Figuracion and Mia Estabrook, to help move furniture, set out almost 100 items for the silent auction, and otherwise transform the PAC's lobby.

During the Celebration, they were joined by Debbie Spicer (left) shown with Ineka in "tabling" the event.

Grant Funding To Be Used for Teen Lunch Bunch, Field Trips: A grant from Equity Foundation will be used for the Teen Lunch Bunch. This Newport High School tradition starts its seventh year in early October with Reatha Ryan, NP, as facilitator and Julie Bobo-Shisler as LCSJ staff person. LGBT+ youth meet together once a week in the health center for a support group guided by an LGBT+ counselor. Youth are identified by each other and it is a strictly confidential club, by invitation only. Grant also includes funding for field trips for youth.

OCC PFLAG Leaders Head to National Conference: Ineka Estabrook and NHS GSA president, McKenzie Figuracion, are heading to Nashville (TN) on October 16-18 for the annual PFLAG convention. Two sessions there look particularly interesting, one about LGBTQ youth in foster care and concerns of LGBTQ foster parents and another on the struggle that transgender children experience in public schools. Both will give legal information about these issues. A third session addresses the ways that some people use their definition of religious liberty to oppose LGBT equality and how people can work to attain an inclusive vision of religious liberty. More information at <http://community.pflag.org/sessions>

HIV-positive people, over 1.2 million in the U.S. and almost 37 million throughout the world, taking as many as 30 pills each week may find hope in the successful clinical trials of PRO 140. The first self-injectable HIV antibody for patients with HIV is designed to protect healthy cells from HIV infection. Studies thus far show that this antiviral agent has fewer side effects than former medications and might be required only once a week or even once a month. Phase 3 clinical trial will take 25 weeks with 300 HIV-positive people. If the trials continue to be successful, the drug company may submit its New Drug Application for final approval in November 2016 with a possible market availability in 2017. PRO 140 is not a cure, but it could provide better quality of life for people with the disorder.

Politics on Our Side

Oregon: The state Court of Appeals ruled that the owner of P Club must pay about \$400,000 in damages to a group of transgender customers told to stay away from the bar.

Fayetteville (AR): Nine months ago Michelle Duggar (*19 Kids and Counting*) led a successful charge to discriminate against LGBT people. Since then, her oldest son became infamous for sexually molesting four of his sisters (plus many other issues), and voters approved LGBT nondiscrimination protections in a special election for Fayetteville. The fight continues, but for now Fayetteville won't discriminate.

Maine: The state Supreme Judicial Court will determine the legal wedding date for same-gender couples—either when they were married out of state or when Maine's marriage equality law went into effect. The answer has implications for thousands of couples, for example in the property disposition of a divorcing lesbian couple.

Nebraska: The state's School Activities Association board is drafting competition policies for transgender high school athletes, joining at least 38 other states with widely varying policies.

Texas: Travis County Probate Judge Guy Herman recognized a common law marriage between two women despite the state attorney general's objection. Herman approved an agreement between Sonemaly Phrasavath and the family of her late partner, Stella Powell, to divide Powell's assets while removing the AG from the case, ruling that the state had no more role in the dispute.

United States: Vice-president Joe Biden will deliver the keynote speech at the Human

Rights Campaign's 19th annual dinner on October 3, 2015.

United States: U.S. District Court Judge Susan Webber Wright ruled that Patricia Dawson, a licensed electrician, may sue her former Arkansas employer for firing her because she transitioned from male to female. Her boss had told her that she did excellent work but was "too much of a distraction."



United States: The name Eric Fanning is going to be well-known in the next few months as conservatives plan to oppose the nomination of the openly gay man as Secretary of the U.S. Army.

Presidential candidate Mike Huckabee is accusing President Obama of using his nomination of Fanning to "appease" LGBT people and use the military of social experiments. Huckabee has used the same argument in opposition to trans people openly serving in the U.S. military.

Fanning is currently acting undersecretary of the Army and chief management officer as well as past special assistant to Defense Secretary Ash Carter and undersecretary of the Air Force. Carter called him "one of our country's most knowledgeable, dedicated, and experienced public servants."



[More news on p. 5.]

New Releases of LGBT Films

Carol, starring Cate Blanchette and Rooney Mara, adapted from Patricia Highsmith's *The Price of Salt*. [Lesbian]

Freeheld, starring Julianne Moore and Ellen Page, created from a documentary short of the same name that won a 2008 Academy Award. [Lesbian]

Stonewall, controversial dramatization of the 1969 LGBT revolt in New York.

The Danish Girl, starring Eddie Redmayne. [Transgender]

About Ray, starring Elle Fanning (transgender teenager) and Susan Sarandon. [Lesbian grandmother]

Grandma, Lily Tomlin playing acerbic lesbian.

"She Knows," short film about love affair between two black women.

Half of the U.K.'s young adults aren't "100% heterosexual." New research indicates one-third of American young adults feel the same way.

LGBT rights activists of Freedom for All Americans trained 16 people in Phoenix (AZ) to develop the "next generation of movement leaders."

Those who complete the program, LGBT University, will be connected with campaigns in their geographical areas to pass municipal, state, and federal laws banning LGBT discrimination in the workplace, public accommodations, and housing.

Subjects at LGBT U include LGBT history, logistical matters such as deploying data-driven field programs, and campaign budget management.

Doritos—Gone But Not Forgotten

More and more large corporations face anti-LGBT ire by supporting equality—Chobani yogurt, Wells Fargo, etc. The latest, and perhaps most visual, is Doritos from Frito Lay. New rainbow-colored chips aren't available in stores, and they're all sold out on the net. Yet photos of them have covered the Internet. The campaign donated all the proceeds to the It Gets Better campaign; the tagline was "there's nothing bolder than being yourself."

Other LGBT-supportive corporations are available here: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/doritos-it-gets-better_55faedf1e4b08820d917b055?ir=Gay%2BVoices%253Fncid%253Dnewsltushpmsg00000003



The Human Rights Campaign is calling on Congress to investigate Turing Pharmaceuticals which recently raised the price of an anti-infection drug from \$13.50 to \$750. The original increase was \$5,000 a pill, but public backlash brought the price down for Daraprim, a treatment for toxoplasmosis, down to 750 times the cost of producing it. The disease, caused by a common foodborne parasite, affects people with autoimmune issues such as individuals on chemotherapy and with HIV. The medication has no generic alternative and is sold by only Turing. For the 2,000 people in the U.S. who take the drug each year, Daraprim is the difference between death and life. Turing said that it might market the drug at a lower price than \$750 but didn't specify the new price. Turing's new CEO, 32-year-old Martin Shkreli, claimed that the price was necessary to create the "reasonable profit" necessary for manufacturing the drug that costs \$1 per pill to make.

Studies Show Homophobia Connected to Mental Disorders, Earlier Death

Until 1973, homosexuality was considered an illness, but a new study indicates that homophobes are actually the people suffering from mental disorders. In an evaluation of 560 Italian university students, researchers examined connections between their psychological traits and a propensity for homophobia and concluded that psychoticism and immature defense mechanisms are significant predictors for homophobic attitudes. Among various characteristics, psychoticism above all embodies “severe psychopathologic conditions, such as delusion, isolation, and interpersonal alienation, but also hostility and anger.” Immature defense coping mechanisms activated during states of distress and anxiety include behaviors such as projection, acting out, isolation, denial, passive aggressiveness, and displacement. Both these dysfunctional aspects of personality influence negative attitudes toward LGBT people.

In contrast, depression is less likely to result in homophobic behavior because depressed people tend not to “perceive external reality as a threat and project their anger.” Women are also less homophobic while men demonstrate more negative attitudes and “a major risk of aggressive behavior or acting out toward homosexuals.”

Earlier studies also show a connection between unacknowledged same-sex attractions in people who grow up with authoritarian parents who forbid these desires. Netta Weinstein, lead author of a series of physiological studies, concluded, “Individuals who identify as straight but in psychological tests show a strong attraction to the same sex may be threatened by gays and lesbians because homosexuals remind them of similar tendencies within themselves.” Co-author Richard Ryan added, “In many cases these are people who are at war with themselves and they are turning this internal conflict outward.”

A study from last year found that both LGBT people suffering high levels of stigma and the people propagating that stigma are more likely to die younger—as much as 2.5-year shorter life expectancy than more tolerant people. Similar results have been found for white people with high levels of prejudice against black people. The stress from the bigotry may increase risk of long-term diseases and mortality. Anti-LGBT prejudice is a greater risk factor, however, than racial prejudice even when the negative attitudes were only moral and not violent.

In short, being anti-LGBT is unhealthy for all.

United States: President Obama has proposed to expand insurance coverage for gender transition and to prohibit health care facilities from denying transgender people access to restrooms matching their gender identities. At this time, 10 states plus Washington, D.C. require private insurers to cover transgender health care, and six states plus the nation's capital cover such services through their Medicaid programs. Insurance companies can refuse any services to transgender people, either hormone treatment, in the other states.

Argentina: After an over decade-long campaign to institute blood donation equality, the country now permits gay and bisexual men to donate blood. The American Red Cross, the American Association of Blood Banks, and the American Medical Association are three of the groups calling for lifting the blood ban for gay men in the U.S.

Cambodia: According to Minister of State, Phay Siphon, the country has no discrimination against LGBT people who may marry in Cambodia. He made the statement in answer to Nepal's new constitution expressly banning discrimination against “sexual and gender minorities.” The Cambodian Center for Human Rights did point out that “the legal framework ... does not specifically protect LGBT people” and calls on the Cambodian government to pass laws similar to the new ones in Nepal.

People Who Make a Difference



Chief Aviation Ordnanceman **Misty Beck** gets her official pinning from her wife after Beck's six-week training to become a senior noncom officer. Five years ago, Beck could have been dishonorably discharged for even admitting that she is a lesbian.

Brianna Popour wanted to wear her T-shirt identifying her as a lesbian to show other students that she's not ashamed, that it's an expression of who she is. The Principal Thomas Ezell of Chesnee High School (SC) told her the shirt was "offensive and distracting" and sent her home to change. Lambda Legal sent the school a letter requesting officials to stop trampling on Brianna's rights, explaining that "schools should be in the business of creating a safe and supportive environment for all students."

The school has now confirmed that Brianna may wear her t-shirt, that the disciplinary action will not be in her record, and that the official disciplining her will apologize. South Carolina is one of eight schools with laws to restrict the discussion of LGBT people in its health education curriculum except in relationship to STDs. Schools may discuss heterosexual relationships.



The first LGBT couple in the state to legally wed in Florida last January was sheriff's deputy and a former Marine. **Detective David Currie**, 50, walked down the aisle with **Aaron Woodard** wearing his full uniform with the permission of Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel. The sheriff said it was a "great thing" that the detective was proud enough of his agency to want to marry in his uniform. The picture is old but timeless. Some objection came from Florida AG Pam Bondi, a childless, twice-divorced adulterer "living in sin" with her boyfriend.

October 14 Meeting: Share Your Coming Out Stories

Coming Out Day on October 11, founded in 1988, is now celebrated around the world. OCC PFLAG invites everyone to come to the October 14 meeting and share coming out stories as a way to celebrate and raise awareness of the LGBTQ+ community and its growing rights.

GSAs to Meet in October

GSA's from Florence, Waldport, Newport, Eddyville, and Taft High Schools plan to meet in Newport this fall for a leadership conference and workshop. Students will present their best ideas and events from the past and share their success stories. They will also brainstorm how to improve on the past, how to help GSA's that are starting up, and how to increase attendance and memberships.

In a first for Catholic schools, St. Mary's Academy reversed its firing of Lauren Brown, 27, because she is a lesbian. Despite the offer of a year's salary if she would stay quiet, Brown went public with her firing. Current students protested, and alumni, including the wife of Columbia Sportswear CEO Tom Boyle, a "major donor," objected. Boyle said, "There is no place in the workplace of today, or of the future, for discriminating against an individual based on sexual orientation."

School officials not only re-hired Brown but also re-wrote school policies to permit LGBT employees. Part of the student protest was to dress a statue on the school grounds in rainbow colored symbols (right).

The Catholic leadership opposes marriage equality, but 60 percent of Catholics support same-gender marriage.

OCC PFLAG Calendar

October: National LGBT History Month

October 7, 7:00 pm: Trans Parents Coffee—Chalet, Newport

October 11: International Coming Out Day

October 12, 4:00-6:00 pm: LGBTQ Happy Hour, All Welcome!—Embarcadero, Newport

October 14, 6:00-7:30 pm: PFLAG Meeting: Sharing Coming Out Stories—St. Stephen's, 9th & Hubert, Newport

October 25, 11:00 am: OUT OR Coast Women's Coffee - Café Mundo, Newport

October 26, 7:00 pm: CAN Pizza, All Welcome!—Abby's, Newport

The Coastal AIDS Network* monthly activities:

Second Tuesday: "Men's Pot Luck" (Locations vary! Call (541)994-5597 or email coastalaidsnetwork@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, coastalaidsnetwork@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.



Join PFLAG!

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

_____ Household (\$35)
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_____ Student/Limited Income (\$15)
_____ Contribution \$ _____

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

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