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PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans-gender 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

September 2016

## Take Action

Twenty-three states have filed lawsuits to make trans students less safe at school after the federal government clarified that protection from discrimination based on sex includes protections for transgender children. Tell these GOP officials: **Drop your bigoted, anti-trans lawsuit.** [http://act.credoaction.com/sign/trans\\_lawsuit?t=2&akid=19330.1033482.HaTqdv](http://act.credoaction.com/sign/trans_lawsuit?t=2&akid=19330.1033482.HaTqdv)

*Daily Beast* journalist Nico Hines thought it was funny to out closeted Olympian athletes who are now at danger of imprisonment or death because they live in repressive countries. The piece, which mocked LGBTQ people, was removed, but the information is still available. *Daily Beast* apologized and took Hines out of Rio because IOC had threatened to revoke his credentials, but **Hines needs to be fired** for his lack of journalistic judgment. [http://www.thepetitionsite.com/745/233/212/?TAP=1007&cid=causes\\_petition\\_postinfo](http://www.thepetitionsite.com/745/233/212/?TAP=1007&cid=causes_petition_postinfo)

The Army has decided to put Chelsea Manning into solitary after a suicide attempt because the prison failed to provide her medical treatment for gender dysphoria while she is transitioning. Solitary won't help Manning's issues; **appropriate health treatment can.** <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/766/997/768/?zoom=28185686&redirectID=2156355871>

**PFLAG Co-founder, Kae Ramsay Bates, has left us. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, September 10 at 1:30pm at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, just south of Waldport near Range Dr. Immediately following there will be a Celebration of Life party at Shelter Me on Hwy 34 at the east end of Waldport. Friends are encouraged to wear colorful and rainbow colored clothing that day.**

**More information on p. 2.**

## A Farewell to PFLAG Co-Founder, Kae Bates



PFLAG Co-founder, Kae Ramsay Bates, returned Home to her beloved Lake of the Woods in Minnesota on the evening of Aug. 23. She was at home in the arms of Jeanne, her partner/wife of 34 years with family gathered around. Her passing was powerful, peaceful and quiet, fitting for her personality. Jeanne thinks the above may have been a photo of her leaving her physical body.

Kae was a dedicated LGBTQ activist with special dedication to children and teens as they discover their sexuality or gender differences and need support and care. She worked as a School & Public Health Nurse for over 35 years and served LCSO from 1990-2000.



[Left: Kae with Jeanne (center) in 2011.]

## La De Da Fourth of July 2016—Rainbow Celebrants



Photos by Debbie Spicer

# *Politics on Our Side*

**Phoenix (AZ):** The city has joined more progressive locations in the nation to provide transition-related healthcare to municipal employees and their families. Phoenix is the first Arizona city to offer transgender-inclusive healthcare coverage.

**Alabama:** Leon Archer, one of the probate judges who refused to marry same-gender couples, has agreed to a six-month unpaid suspension after sending sexually explicit messages and nude photographs to a woman he met while performing her wedding ceremony. The marriage was annulled, and Archer, married for over 40 years, sent a large number of inappropriate messages and photos to the woman.

**Alabama:** The suspended state Supreme Court chief justice, Roy Moore, will stand trial on September 28 on ethics charges because of his order that state probate judges were not required to conduct same-gender marriages after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized marriage equality. He was removed 13 years ago for refusing to follow a federal court order to remove the Ten Commandments sculpture from the state judicial building and then re-elected in 2012. Moore's retaliatory lawsuit against the Judicial Inquiry Commission (JIC) has been dismissed.

**California:** In the first law of its kind proposed throughout the United States, a bill in state legislature would remove exemptions for non-discrimination laws for religious colleges and universities. Some religious schools are angry that the state wants to stop them from discriminating against people.

**Minnesota:** After Stephen Habberstad came out in his late 50s, his family fired him from their business, Country Bankers. Steele County District Judge Joseph Bueltel ruled that he was fired for being gay and awarded him \$3.5 million in cash, the largest payout

in state history to one person for sexual orientation discrimination.

**Mississippi:** The 5th Circuit Court has upheld the block that U.S. District Judge Carlton Reeves put on the state law allowing governmental objections to same-gender marriage on the basis of religious beliefs. Reeves said that the law unconstitutionally establishes preferred beliefs and creates unequal treatment for gay people. Gov. Phil Bryant and his Department of Human Services Director, John Davis, are appealing the decision.

**New York City:** The NYC Human Rights Commission has ordered Mohammad Dahbi to pay \$7,000 each to former MTV producer Christy Spitzer Thornton and her partner, actress Kassie Thornton, after the cab driver yelled at them for kissing and then ordered them out of the taxi in 2011.

**North Carolina:** The state is still struggling with its "potty police" law, trying to find money to protect discrimination. Gov. Pat McCrory refused to sign a bill to use money from a disaster relief fund in costs for defending HB2.

**North Carolina:** Roughly 5 percent of North Carolina's magistrates—31 of 670—are still refusing to marry same-sex couples for religious reasons, and lawyers for the state say people suing in federal court have no standing to challenge these opt-outs as unconstitutional. U.S. District Judge Max Cogburn agreed with an earlier ruling by a federal magistrate judge to prevent state legislative leaders and magistrates to be defendants in the lawsuit to overturn the state's law allowing magistrates to refuse officiating at same-gender weddings. Since Mississippi's broad religious-objection law was blocked in court, North Carolina and Utah are the only states allowing government officials to recuse themselves for religious reasons.

(More news on p. 5)

The Orlando hospitals that treated dozens of victims in the aftermath of the Pulse nightclub shooting said they will not bill any of the survivors for their treatment. Authorities from one hospital said they expect “total unreimbursed costs” from the June attack to surpass \$5 million.

Christian Zsilavetz, a trans man living in Atlanta, has opened an LGBTQ-affirming school in the city with his wife, Heather Hastings. Classes started last week at Pride School Atlanta, the first school of its kind in the South.

Conservatives think that the current administration wants to populate small towns with lesbians by giving them money to buy farmland and chickens.

The conspiracy theory was started after the 15th annual Nationwide LGBT Rural Summit last month in Iowa“ to teach lesbian and transgender hillbillies how to get subsidies from the government like rural housing loans and ‘community facility grants,’” according to Rush Limbaugh and the Washington Free Beacon.

Evidently, Limbaugh has never heard about lesbian communes. Or The Fabulous Beekman Boys.

How straight conservative men think: Rush Limbaugh totally misread lesbian culture when he said that the nude photos of Melania Trump “might wrap up the LGBT vote for Trump.”

## OCC Goes to Gender Odyssey



Five representatives from OCC PFLAG attended the Gender Odyssey: from left, Siletz Charter School student; PFLAG Chair Ineka Estabrook; Serenity Garcia; McKenzie Figuracion, former NHS GSA president who will attend PSU in the fall with an interest in being a counselor for LGBTQ youth; and (unpictured) counselor Reatha Ryan.

This annual international conference, held this year August 4-11 in Seattle, focuses on the needs and interests of transgender and gender-nonconforming people. More information at <http://www.genderodyssey.org/>

A half century ago, interracial couples weren't legal throughout the U.S. until the Supreme Court ruling in *Loving v. Virginia*. **Now 44 percent of the people in the nation say they won't vote for a president who opposes same-gender unions, and 72 percent favor laws banning LGBT discrimination.** A reason that more laws protecting LGBT people don't pass may be that 80 percent of people wrongly believe that employers cannot fire people because of orientation or gender identity. Bathrooms are still an issue with many people: there's a split of 44 percent for, 44 percent against bathroom accommodations. Everyday more people declare support for LGBT rights.

# More Politics on Our Side

**North Carolina:** Three people in the state are not required to follow the “bathroom law”—the three transgender plaintiffs in the lawsuit against the law. District Judge Thomas D. Schroeder also said in this order that the plaintiffs “are likely to succeed on their claim” that the bathroom provisions violates Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits sex discrimination in education programs that get federal funding.



**Tennessee:** Students in the Giles County school district now have the right to wear shirts that read “Some People Are Gay, Get Over It.” A federal judge ruled that “student expression on LGBT issues is speech on a purely political topic, which falls clearly within the ambit of the First Amendment’s protection.”



Rebecca Young (left) said, “I just want my school to be a safe place for all students, free from harassment or discrimination. Wearing the shirt was a way to express my support for gay people and for treating them with respect. The censorship I experienced clearly shows why I felt the need to use my voice this way in the first place.”

**Wyoming:** The Wyoming Supreme Court heard arguments about the removal of a Pinedale judge refused to perform same-gender marriages.

**United States:** The Navy is naming a ship, a replenishment oiler, in honor of the late gay rights leader Harvey Milk, who served in the Navy for four years when gays could be thrown out of military service for their sexual orientation. He was one of the first openly gay candidates elected to public service before political colleague, Dan White, killed him in 1978. Five other replenishment oilers will be named for Sojourner Truth, Chief Justice Earl Warren, Robert F. Kennedy, suffragist Lucy Stone, and Rep. John Lewis of Georgia.

**United States:** The Obama Administration has issued a mandate that transgender people working for the federal government and visiting one of the approximately 9,200 federal facilities are permitted to use bathrooms corresponding with their gender identities.

**United States:** The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to grant a deadline extension to the Virginia school board trying to bar transgender teen Gavin Grimm from using the boys’ restroom at his high school. If SCOTUS takes the case, it will be the first time that they argue on the issue of existing civil rights laws protecting trans people. As of the current ruling, Grimm will not be allowed to use the boys’ restroom when school starts in September.

**Belize:** The country’s Supreme Court has ruled that a law punishing homosexuality is illegal.

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**In New Jersey, a woman is forced to have sex with a man to have artificial insemination.** Even if a woman is declared infertile in a medical decision, insurance can deny coverage for fertility treatments or artificial insemination until she has demonstrated infertility through “two years of unprotected sexual intercourse.” Now four lesbians are suing Richard Badolato, the commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, because the policy discriminates against nonheterosexual women. Fourteen other states require insurance companies to cover fertility treatments, and two of them—California and Maryland—require fertility coverage regardless of sexual orientation.

# People Who Make a Difference



**Kai Shappley's** mother is fighting school policy that forces the kindergartner to use the boys' restroom in the Pearland Independent School District (Texas). Kai has lived as a girl for the past two years. The school requires all children to use the bathroom matching the gender on their birth certificates. The federal government has issued guidelines for students to use the bathroom of their gender identification, but a federal judge in Texas has blocked this guidance for the state.

Many stories circulated about same-gender love and wedding proposals at this year's Olympics in Rio, but the image on the far right definitely has a new definition of "carrying a torch." Also out transgender woman **Laerte Coutinho** may be the only trans person to participate in the torch relay.



Dutch designer Mattjis van Bergen and spatial designer Oeri van Woezik created this Amsterdam Rainbow Dress, worn by transgender model **Valentijn de Hingh**, made of flags from 72 countries where being LGBT is illegal. The display is for the LGBT EuroPride festivities.

**Crystal Moore** was fired from her job as police chief by a mayor in 2014. He said he would rather have a drunk watch a child than a lesbian. Latta residents (1,400) took away the mayor's powers, and the Town Council reinstated Moore. Since then, she married her longtime partner, and they now have a seven-month-old daughter. Moore is now running for sheriff of Dillon County against a Democratic incumbent. If elected, she would be the first female sheriff—and the first openly LGBT one—in South Carolina.



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[https://www.facebook.com/jeanne.st.john.9?ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/jeanne.st.john.9?ref=br_rs) for more.

## OCC PFLAG Activities

The September PFLAG meeting will celebrate Queer Heroes Nel Ward (2016) and Jeanne St.John (2015). Information about them is available in the July 2016 and July 2015 newsletters at <http://occpflag.org/>

OCC PFLAG is restructuring its activities for transgender people. Ineka Estabrook will be meeting with parents and youth to determine formats for trans support. Please note that the regular meeting on the first Thursday of the month has been cancelled for September.

The annual PFLAG picnic was enjoyed by all, including Oregon state Rep. David Gomberg.

The most recent LGBTQ 101 talk for DHS foster parents in Lincoln County was attended by 15 people, primarily parents of LGBTQ foster children. McKenzie Figuracion, former NHS GSA president, and Cassidy Brown, upcoming president, co-presented with Ineka Estabrook.

Milo Graamans recorded the presentation; the link is <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tCEr5cJ2Sg>.

DHS also may host the Trans 101 talk.

## OCC PFLAG Calendar

**September 8, 4:00-6:00 pm:** LGBTQ Happy Hour, All Welcome!—Georgie's Beachside Grill, Newport

**September 10, 1:30:** Memorial service for Kae Ramsay Bates—St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Waldport

**September 14, 6:00-7:30 pm:** PFLAG Meeting, Celebration of Queer Heroes Nel Ward and Jeanne St.John—St. Stephen's, 9th & Hurbert, Newport

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

**October 14-16:** Coos Bay events at its first Gay Pride! [www.southernoregoncoastpride.org](http://www.southernoregoncoastpride.org); <https://www.facebook.com/southernoregoncoastpride>;

**October 14:**

**7:00 pm:** Drag Queen & Drag King Contest (All Ages) -Shark Bites (Show at 8:00; free.)

**10:00 pm-2:00 am:** Pride Kick Off Dance (21+) - Shark Bites (\$5)

**October 15:**

**9:00 am-6:00 pm:** Street Fair (All ages) - Downtown Pedway 200-300 block of South Broadway

**5:00 pm:** Caravan of GLAM (All Ages) - Egyptian Theatre (Show at 6:00 pm; \$10/\$12)

**7:30 pm:** Caravan of GLAM (21+) - Egyptian Theatre (Show at 9:00 pm; \$15/\$20)

**11:00 pm-2:00 am:** After Party (21+) - Shark Bites (\$5)

**October 16:**

**11:00 am-2:00 pm:** Pride Walk—Mingus Park Pool

**5:30 pm:** Cirque Du Erotique (21+) - Egyptian Theatre (Show at 7:00 pm; \$15/\$20)

**9:00 pm-2:00 am:** After Party (21+) - Shark Bites (\$5)

Please send information about experiences with the local law enforcement to Ineka Estabrook at [inekae@gmail.com](mailto:inekae@gmail.com). OCC PFLAG is following up on a complaint registered with the Newport Police Department.

## 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:

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