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

February 2017

Taking Action

Joe Maldonado, an eight-year-old transgender boy, was a member of Secaucus Pack 87, a Cub Scout chapter in New Jersey, until an anonymous parent complained, and he was kicked out. The troop



members knew that Joe is trans, and they were friends. Four years ago, the Boy Scouts permitted youths of all sexual orientations to participate in scouting, and two years ago, the organization accepted gay troop leaders. Trans boys were left out of this agreement because it addressed only sexual orientation, not gender identity. Fortunately, the action of Joe's mother pushed the Boy Scouts to change their policy. **The new official Boy Scout policy, taking effect immediately, is that gender will be determined by the application instead of a birth certificate.** At least two transgender boys are in Cub Scouts—just not in Secaucus Pack 87. The Girl Scout policy accepts all who identify and live cultural as girls.

Plans for a National Pride March, an LGBT protest in Washington, D.C. is scheduled for June 11, 2017. David Bruinooge, 42, created an event page for those interested in keeping up with the protest's progress. <https://www.facebook.com/NationalPrideMarch/> The march coincides with the city's annual Capital Pride celebration. The National Equality March in 2009, when only five states had marriage equality, was the last major LGBT protest in DC.



PFLAG Love Is Love Valentine Party

Saturday, February 11, 2017—2-4 pm
OCCC Lobby—South Beach
(See p. 7 for details)

People March in Newport, 1/21/2017



The **Stronger Together March** gathered about 1,600 protesters, part of the millions of people in at least 673 protests throughout the country and the world to fight for our civil rights, our vulnerable communities, and the earth. Groups participating in making the local march possible were COC NOW, PFLAG, Diversity Coalition of Lincoln County, and the LC Democratic Central Committee. Keynote speaker at the rally, Director of TransActive Gender Center Jenn Burleton, delivered a fiery speech saying that “we are the storm.” PFLAG Chair Ineka Estabrook (above) was another speaker. Photos/article: <http://www.newslincolncounty.com/archives/174466>



Politics on Our Side

New York City: The municipality gave the first known birth certificate to list “intersex” rather than “male” or “female” to Californian Sara Kelly Keenan. She is the second person in the U.S. to have the recognition of her legal gender as non-binary because of a court order after Oregonian Jamie Shupe. Birth certificates are vital for accessing many public services and identity documents such as state IDs and passports.” Dana Zzyym, an intersex person in Colorado, is suing the State Department for refusing to issue a passport with an accurate gender designation. A decision is pending after a federal judge asked the U.S. State Department to reconsider.

California: The state now bans non-essential taxpayer funded travel to four states—Kansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Tennessee—because of their anti-LGBTQ laws. If pending bills pass in Kentucky, Texas, and Virginia, those states could be added to the banned states.

Georgia: Two transgender men may legally change their names after the state Court of Appeals overturned a judge’s orders that said the name changes could be confusing and considered a type of fraud.

Virginia: Gov. Terry McAuliffe signed an executive order prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity within state services and by state contractors. The Commonwealth will not work with contractors or businesses that discriminate against the LGBTQ community. Texas is moving the opposite way.

Virginia: Republicans rejected an anti-transgender bathroom bill after GOP lawmaker Robert Marshall introduced the “Physical Privacy Act” to regulate bathrooms and locker rooms in all government-owned buildings and highway rest stops. Marshall’s bill was similar to North Carolina’s “potty police” law requiring everyone to

use facilities matching the gender on the original birth certificate. The bill is dead unless the subcommittee reverses itself within a week.

United States: Before President Obama left office, he commuted the sentence of 209 people, including trans whistleblower Chelsea Manning, who was seven years into her 45-year sentence for leaking classified government documents. She will be freed on May 17, 2017 instead of in 2045 and has already served the longest sentence of anyone convicted of leaking secrets. In addition, he ordered the release of 1,400 federal inmates and pardoned 64 others. One of those 64 is Peter Heidgerd, 56. The former Army captain was convicted of a felony after he was found in a relationship with another man in 1989. Heidgerd (right) served a year in prison and then struggled to find a job with a felony and a dishonorable discharge on his record. He is now a landscaper with no criminal record.



United States: Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has approved the National Historic Landmark (NHL) nomination for the family home of Pauli Murray in Durham (NC). During her life, Murray had several deep relationships with women and passed as a teenage boy in her younger years. The legal activist and later Episcopalian priest died in 1985.

Peru: A court has recognized the Mexican marriage between Oscar Ugarteche and his male partner after a lawsuit regarding marital status on his passport. Although the ruling is only for same-gender marriages outside the country, it is a small step.

Bits of News

Adidas may celebrate 2017 Pride month early by releasing its special edition Ultra Boost in May. Two years ago, the company came out with the Pride Pack: the Stan Smith, Superstar, and Adilette.



Jack Daniels and Country Music Television are part of almost 200 Tennessee companies protesting a new law allowing mental health counselors to refuse patients treatment based on the therapist's religious or personal beliefs. Calling it a "hate bill," the American Counseling Association has also cancelled a Nashville convention.

Nuns at Mother Carmel have provided a home for transgender students who are ostracized by classmates and/or teachers. Father Paul Madassey, in charge of Pro-Life Support for the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council, said that the project fulfills Pope Francis's guidance to give "pastoral care to the LGBT community." India has approximately 500,000 trans people.

Vladimir Putin has started the Federal Register of HIV patients to record the names of all people with HIV, logging 824,000 people in its first four days. Under Donald Trump, people in the U.S. may suffer the same disaster.

Media Matters

Rhonda Jantzen's KYAK radio program, Rhonda's Rainbow Room, is at 91.7 FM KYAQ, Thursdays at 12:30 pm and repeated 3:30 pm Saturday and 12:30 pm Sunday. Please contact her for more information about the program.



One Million Moms, a conservative group of under 50,000 comprised primarily of men, lost its fight against *Highlights*, one of the longest running children's magazine in the nation. For the first time since its 1946 beginning, the periodical will feature a same-gender couple in the February edition. Couple Kristina Wertz and Kara Desiderio asked *Highlights* to represent all families for their one-year-old daughter.

Ellen DeGeneres has been awarded her 20th People's Choice Award, making her the person with the most People's Choice Awards ever. For a real tear-jerker, watch the piece from her TV show that thanks President Obama for everything he accomplished in the name of equality. <http://www.ellentv.com/videos/o-djc4hrs/>



When We Rise, a mini-series about the LGBT rights movement, will air on ABC from February 27 to March 2. Ivory Aquino (left), who portrays transgender activist Cecilia Chung, came out as transgender herself in a January People interview.

Moonlight, a film about an African-American boy growing up and coming to terms with his sexuality, won Best Motion Picture – Drama at the 2017 Golden Globe Awards.

Thanks, Ellen! Kim Burrell will not appear on The Ellen [DeGeneres] Show because of the gospel singer's homophobic sermon about "the perverted homosexual spirit." The performing rights organization BMI also pulled Burrell from their annual BMI Trailblazers of Gospel Music event. After her anti-LGBT comments, Burrell also lost her radio show, "Bridging the Gap," at Texas Southern University and her TV show on CW.

Seventy years after Margaret Wise Brown published arguably her most famous children's book, *Good Night Moon*, Amy Gary has written a biography of the bisexual author, *Great Green Room: The Brilliant and Bold Life* of Margaret Wise Brown.

Need for Greater Inclusion of LGBTQ People

This piece was written by **The Reverend Deacon Dr. Gavin Shumate** (right), who will soon be ordained as an Episcopal priest. Gavin is a local OB/GYN who was the first in the county to train staff in LGBTQ sensitivity, earning a Safe Space sticker. Since his recent ordination as a Deacon, he has identified PFLAG as a major focus for his community involvement. He's working on a proposal for The Diocese of Oregon to partner with PFLAG to improve the understanding of church leaders and members about the spiritual needs of LGBTQ people. This statement is from his proposal for funding for a one-day conference to bring together PFLAG leaders and church people.—Jeanne St.John



The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) reported on harassment and intimidation in the ten days following the presidential election (<https://www.splcenter.org/20161129/ten-days-after-harassment-and-intimidation-aftermath-election>). They reported 867 hate incidents in those 10 days (exclusive of online harassment), 33 of which were in Oregon (15 in Portland, 3 in Salem, 3 in Bend, 2 in Gresham, 1 each in Silverton, North Bend, Tigard, Hillsboro, Hood River, Ashland, West Linn, Beaverton, Happy Valley and Eugene), making this state #1 in hate incidents per capita. Schools and public places were the most common venues for hate incidents. Consider also that as much as 2/3 of hate crimes go unreported (even more when it comes to hate incidents, which do not rise to the level of criminal violations). (<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/2016/12/02/hate-incidents-oregon-among-highest-nation/94696988/>)

Findings from the GLSEN 2015 National School Climate Survey demonstrated that Oregon schools are not safe for most LGBTQ secondary school students. (<https://www.glsen.org/sites/default/files/Oregon%20State%20Snapshot%20-%20NSCS.pdf>). The majority of LGBTQ students have regularly heard anti-LGBTQ remarks in school, and most LGBTQ students have been victimized at school. These students, who are likely to be active in or at least aware of PFLAG chapters, are also hearing derogatory messages in churches. Just last week, I heard from one student who said that the "sermon" preached in her church was more of a political entreaty against abortion, and has repeatedly heard anti-LGBTQ rhetoric preached from the pulpit on other Sundays.

Granted, these activities have decreased in frequency since the election. But I would contend that as long as LGBTQ youth are hearing this message in their communities, their schools, and their churches, we should be reaching out to them in any way that we can. And we should not be expecting them to educate us when they come; trans is almost invisible (particularly outside of Portland), so when a trans person comes into our parishes, our clergy should be comfortable and confident in their interactions with this particular subset of the LGBTQ community. The trans person should not be relied upon to educate our clergy (or lay leaders, or parishioners, for that matter) on how to refer to them, what to ask/not to ask. We should also continue our efforts to minimize gendered language in our services, including the use of "Brothers and Sisters." I think that the question should not be, What amount of inclusion is enough?, but, What amount of exclusion is intolerable?

In case there's any doubt, as to whether this is needed now, I believe the answer is Yes.

Integrity Oregon believes the answer is Yes.
PFLAG OCC believes the answer is yes.

People Who Make a Difference



Gay Buddhist monk **Kodo Nishimura**, 26, (left) has become famous for doing makeup for transgender people. Conflicted about his double lifestyle as ascetic and glamour, promoter, he learned that "it isn't wrong if it helps you deliver your message to people." He said, "As a Buddhist monk, I want everyone to live happily in harmony. I believe makeup is one of the tools to make yourself happy, and if you're happy, it becomes easier to be kind to others."

The Boston Globe gave an honorable mention for their 2016 Bostonians of the Year feature to Natick neighbors of a lesbian couple. After **Cari Ryding and Liz Mazzola** (right) found their rainbow flag stolen and their house egged, the neighbors filled the area with pride flags. Other places are providing LGBT support. Neighbors showed solidarity in Michigan after an anonymous note criticized a woman's pride flag, and new Chevy Chase neighbors of VP Mike Pence flew rainbow flags in protest of his anti-LGBTQ record.



H. Edward Spires, a 91-year-old veteran dismissed from the U.S. Air Force as "undesirable" in 1948 because he is gay, now has an "honorable" discharge. Originally, the Air Force rejected his appeal for a change, claiming that his records were probably lost in a 1973 fire. Spires can now have a military funeral, the reason for his lawsuit to change the status. He was a chaplain's assistant for two years before his discharge. Spires (left) has been with his husband, David Rosenberg, for 58 years. They married in 2009.



Maybelline's first male model is openly gay **Manny Gutierrez**, known for his videos in promoting the company's mascara. Known as Manny Mua, he has two million YouTube followers.

OCC PFLAG Activities

The LGBT Task Force meeting on February 1 will discuss bullying and discrimination issues resulting from the 2016 election.

Ineka Estabrook will be joined by her daughter, Mia, on February 21 to present a brief LGBTQ 101 for department directors at Newport City Hall, thanks to an invitation from City Manager Spencer Nebel. Estabrook hopes to have future training for department employees.

The first public action of the new local Diversity Coalition for Lincoln County was the Stronger Together March in Newport on January 21. The group's mission is to "unite, advocate for, and empower the communities of Lincoln County." PFLAG was very involved in the march through participation on the committee (Ineka Estabrook), treasury skills (Debbie Spicer), and a donation of \$500 for the march support. (See p. 2 for photos.)

PFLAG hosted a transgender health webinar presented by Basic Rights Oregon on January 18, 2017.

The new crew of teens participating in LGBTQ 101 and Trans 101 panel presentations began at the Newport Middle School's leadership class in late January.

The annual LOVE IS LOVE Valentine Party hosted by PFLAG will be Saturday, February 11, 2:00-4:00 pm, in the lobby of the Oregon Coast Community College in South Beach. Participants:

- ◆ Volunteers will transform the College Commons into a romantic Hearts and Flowers Valentine Party setting.
- ◆ Past Forward, a popular local music group, will provide live music to celebrate the power of love.
- ◆ Vocals by Akia Woods of Past Forward will delight the audience with love songs.
- ◆ Teen poets and writers representing Lincoln County high school GSAs will read their work.
- ◆ Adults will read striking modern and traditional love poetry,
- ◆ Newlyweds and longest married couples, gay and straight, will be celebrated.
- ◆ Bakers from local churches will donate delightful and decadent Valentine desserts.
- ◆ Toledo United Methodist Church volunteers will prepare a table of hearts, flowers, glitter and glue for guests to create their own hand-made Valentine Cards.

PFLAG is a national organization providing support, education and advocacy for LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender) folks, their families, and friends. The Oregon Central Coast Chapter focuses on creating safe and nurturing communities for young people in Lincoln County, and opening hearts and minds of all ages. With this Valentine Party for old and young, gay and straight, we're bringing people together to celebrate the power of love in our lives. After all, Love Is Love!



Donations will support PFLAG's programs for LGBT youth. For more information about the Valentine Party or PFLAG, or to be included as Newlyweds, call 541-265-7194. — Jeanne St.John

OCC PFLAG Calendar

February 1, Noon: LGBT Task Force Meeting

February 11, 2:00-4:00 pm: Love Is Love Valentine Party—OCCC Lobby, South Beach

February 13, 4:00-6:00 pm: LGBTQ Happy Hour, All Welcome!—Georgie's Beachside Grill, Newport

February 17, 7:00-10:00 pm: LGBTQ Social for Teens and Young Adults! 634 NE 7th Street, Newport (More information: (541)272-7817 or (541)829-9049)

February 21: LGBTQ 101 Presentation to Newport City department managers

February 26, 11:00 am: Nana's for Lunch—NW 3th and Coast Streets, Newport

February 27 to March 2: *When We Rise* (ABC TV)

The PFLAG OCC Basic Needs Grants provide emergency or urgent relief to LGBT+ people in Lincoln County. Individuals of any age who identify as LGBT+ (or their caregivers) and who demonstrate a financial need for medical aid, housing, transportation, or food can apply. The maximum grant is \$250. Much of the Grant's resources come from other LGBT+ people and straight allies. Contact PFLAG OCC at pflag-occ@gmail.com for an application.

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.

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