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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

March 2017

Taking Action

Please sign this petition in opposition to Congress legalizing discrimination against LGBT people. https://act.credoaction.com/sign/FADA?sp_ref=273255359.4.178471.e.566919.2&referring_akid=.1733153.d1klla&source=mailto_sp



<https://ideas.lego.com/projects/160848> You can help make a RuPaul Lego set a reality by signing this petition. Check out the description of the project. The project has support from over 4,300 “likes” on its way to 10,000 supporters necessary for a Lego evaluation. You can also tweet everyone you know to sign this request.

PFLAG Meeting, March 8

Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric

St. Stephen's, 9th & Hurbert, Newport

Celebration of Love Is Love—2/17



All ages enjoying the festivities!



The sun shines!



Above: Married couples for at least 25 years holding their roses and still smiling!

Right: Arlene, Liz, Nita, and Brent posing with another attendee.



Politics on Our Side

Jacksonville: The Florida city banned discrimination against LGBTQ people by a 12-6 vote. The mayor let the ordinance become law without his signature.

San Francisco: The city announced the first transgender historic district in the nation. Called the Compton's TLBGT District, it covers six blocks of the Tenderloin from Market including two blocks of 6th street. The Compton Cafeteria riots of August 1966 are one of the first LGBTQ protests in the nation and the first transgender riot after a crackdown on cross-dressing patrons. A hotel/condo complex will be built in the 900 block of Market as a safe haven for transgender and low-income people.

California: Lawmakers introduced a bill to create a third, non-binary gender designation and simplify the process to change one's gender marker.

Florida: An Orlando bakery has been found not guilty of discriminating against a customer after it refused to put this message on a cake: "Homosexuality is an abomination unto the Lord." Cut the Cake owner, Sharon Hallers did say that she would print the hateful message at \$150 per letter—about \$6,000. Judge J. Bruce Culpepper wrote that there was no evidence that the business refused Mannarino because he was a Christian and questioned whether he is a Christian because of his ignorance about the bible. A previous decision ruled that a bakery is not a place of public accommodation.

United States: The LGBT Equality Caucus, costing \$400 a year, almost doubled its membership to 102 congressional members from last year. Leaders of the group are Democratic Reps. Jared Polis, David Cicilline, Sean Patrick Maloney, Mark Pocan, Kyrsten Sinema, and Mark Takano. Two Florida GOP representatives are also members: Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Carlos Curbelo.

United States: At this time, the White House announced plans to retain a former executive order banning anti-LGBTQ discrimination among federal contractors. Donald Trump does support a religious exemption discriminating against LGBTQ people and promised he will sign a bill if Congress passes it. The new attorney general, Jeff Sessions, has also promised to discriminate against LGBTQ people.

Finland: Lawmakers voted 120-48 with two abstentions and 29 absentees to reject a petition demanding the repeal of the country's same-gender marriage law that went into effect on March 1. The law makes Finland the last Nordic country to legalize marriage equality.

United Kingdom: Finally! In England, Wales, and Northern Ireland, the 15,000 men still alive after convicted of historical anti-gay laws now have a way to be officially pardoned with their convictions expunged. The new policy is patterned after the pardon for World War II code breaker Alan Turing, hounded by the government and chemically castrated despite—or because of—his productive work for the war effort. An existing law already allows convictions to be stricken if the acts are no longer illegal, but the new law grants official pardons and expunging of records. Each person, however, must separately apply for pardons. Deceased gays and bisexual men were officially pardoned on January 31, 2017 when the law went into effect.

The NFL has told Texas that the first Super Bowl hosted in the state last month may be the last one if the legislature passes SB 6, the most recent state transphobic "potty police" bill, restricting bathroom and changing room access on the basis of the sex marked on the birth certificate instead of a person's gender.

Bits of News

President Donald Trump now lives in the queerest place in the United States. Washington, D.C. has the highest self-identified number, 8.6 percent, of LGBT people. Oregon, at 4.9 percent, tied for third with California Massachusetts, but Vermont had the largest percentage of any state at 5.3 percent.

The first transgender doll on the market debuted at the New York Toy Fair and will be available from Tonner Doll Co. in July. The figure is based on Jazz Jennings, the teenage transgender subject of the TLC documentary series *I am Jazz*.



The UK Royal Mail is honoring David Bowie with six stamps, to be on sale starting March 14 and each representing a classic album with the star's image and artwork. It also plans a series of "limited edition David Bowie souvenirs." Bowie died in January 2015.

New OCC PFLAG Co-Chair



Please meet Nickey Collier, OCC PFLAG's new co-chair!

I am a Washington girl, who spent the past decade living in Los Angeles who in the last year moved to her Heaven on Planet Earth here on the Central Oregon Coast. I'm a homeschooling, fundraising, fun having, trip planning, clothes selling, bicycle riding, dog rescuing, home decorating mom....a rather random free spirited, spatially

global individual who manages to raise her feral teenager, raise awareness about LGBTQ issues, and run her LuLa-Roe retail business without a lot of details.

My husband works hard in the video game industry and misses a large portion of the crazy that goes on around here which is probably just as well. I don't think he signed up for most of this when he asked me to marry him and share a child.

Our only child, 14-year-old Hayden, has led us on this PFLAG path. Last year he came out, so we took a leap into the great unknown of raising a gay son and couldn't be happier! To support him, I registered for AIDS/Lifecycle, a seven day, 545-mile bicycle ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles to raise money and awareness for the Los Angeles LGBT Center and San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Not only did I complete every mile, but I was also one of the top fundraisers at over \$11,500. I have continued my relationship within the LGBT community by participating in the AIDS Walk on World AIDS Day, being a docent for the AIDS Quilt, and taking part in other areas of activism and volunteerism within the community.

I have found Central Oregon Coast PFLAG to be a welcoming place for myself and my son. I look forward to getting to know and work with all of you.

Teen suicide attempts in the U.S. declined after legalized marriage equality, with the biggest impact among gay, lesbian and bisexual kids, according to a new study.

OCC PFLAG Shows 'Gender Revolution'

"Gender is not as black and white, or pink and blue, as I once believed." Katie Couric, past anchor for NBC's Today and the CBS Evening News, made this statement about her exploration into the subject of gender in the National Geographic documentary *Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric* which was televised in early February. The film will be shown at the OCC PFLAG meeting on March 8. (See calendar on p. 7.) The showing will be followed by a discussion led by past chair Jeanne St. John and Dawna McLain, current secretary.



More information about the film is at <http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/gender-revolution-a-journey-with-katie-couric/>; the 90-minute video is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFc2E-oXQJU>.

Couric, who anchored NBC's Today and the CBS Evening News and now serves as Yahoo's global news anchor, approached the topic with "respectful curiosity. I tried to be the Everyperson and ask the kind of questions that those who are not very familiar with the topic would ask: How does a child know with certainty that he or she is different than the gender they were assigned at birth? How can the partner of someone who transitions stay with that partner even though they're now a different gender identity? What are the biological underpinnings? It's a lot for people to wrap their heads around."

In its exploration of societal conflict from evolving gender identities and roles, Couric visits Gavin Grimm, a Virginia trans teen whose use of the high-school boys' bathroom resulted in a school-board prohibition and then a lawsuit by Grimm that will be heard this spring in the Supreme Court.

To extend the conversation about the subject, the Gender Revolution Tour allows any high school, college, university or nonprofit to host a free screening and discussion. Request forms are available at <http://bit.ly/NatGeoGenderRevolution>. Screening hosts will be sent a DVD of the film and an extensive discussion guide.

[Above right: Transgender 5-year-old Ellie Ford is featured in *Gender Revolution*.]

Love Letters from World War II Gay Soldiers Discovered



"Wouldn't it be wonderful if all our letters could be published in the future in a more enlightened time?" Gordon Bowsher wrote this to Gilbert Bradley (left) over 77 years ago, and it's come to pass. Now the story can be told: during World War II, a British soldier fell in love with another man, and their secret romance has been revealed in the love letters sent during the war. Museum owner Mark Hignett discovered them on eBay after Gilbert Bradley died in 2008 and spent hundreds of dollars buying over 600 letters that he has put into Oswestry Town Museum in Shropshire, England. The letters stopped in 1945, and Bowsher moved to California where he became a famous horse trainer. Homosexuality was illegal in Britain until 1967. Bradley died in 2008 at age 92, 15 years after Bowsher died.

People Who Make a Difference



Glen Pannell isn't Mike Pence, but he looks enough like him to turn heads—and make money for progressive causes. Last December he raised money for Planned Parenthood and the Trevor Project in his “Hot-Pence” costume. Pannell described himself as “a questioning teen 35 years ago growing up on Long Island before I finally came out as a gay man in my early 20s.” By January the Manhattan graphic designer had raised over \$11,000, and he's still collecting.

The tiny town of New Hope (TX) has an openly transgender mayor after

Jess Herbst came out to her constituents. Living in a conservative county in a state that is considering a “potty police” bill to limit where she can use a bathroom doesn't seem to be a problem for either her or the town's 673 residents. She said that these issues are politically top-down from state officials, and her residents care about local issues. Married, Herbst has support from her wife and both their daughters.



Openly gay student **Talles de Oliveira Faira**, 24, fought back at years of bullying when he accepted his graduation diploma from Brazil's prestigious and hyper-masculine Aeronautic Technology Institute of the Air Force. He said that both staff and students abused him for his sexual orientation. “When I arrived at the institute I decided that it was enough. Either you accept me as I am or you would be exposed for what you really are.”

Shay Neary, 28, has become the first plus-size trans model to get a major fashion campaign for clothing brand CoverStory. Coverstory says they want to help normalize trans bodies through their campaigns as a way of helping society deal with transphobia. The company's mission statement: “Everyone deserves to be respected, to feel stylish and to express their beauty. We partner with brands that share the same point of view and together we celebrate YOU.”

Wikipedia shows a long list of skinny transgender models: Neary is special.



OCC PFLAG Activities

PFLAG Meeting! - See p. 2.

The February LGBTQ Task force meeting included a discussion of the impact on election on LGBTQ people and the thorny question of the line between protected free speech in political discourse and bullying in schools and public spaces.

People had a great time at the Love Is Love Valentine's Party. (Photos on p. 2.)

Winter Estabrook and Ineka Estabrook gave a LGBTQ 101 presentation for the Newport City Manager and the heads of departments.

New OCC PFLAG co-chair, Nickey Collier, is from Lincoln City and will bring an LGBTQ Social to the north of the county. It will be valuable for her to fill in when Ineka Estabrook leaves for Prague this coming September, staying several months.

PFLAG and PAADA (Partnership against Alcohol and Drug Abuse) are applying for a Social Accountability Grant from Samaritan Health Services to support "Hand over Heart," a suicide prevention program enhancing current mental health and education services for grades K-12.

OCC PFLAG Calendar

March 8, 6:00-8:00 pm: PFLAG Meeting—Showing of *Gender Revolution* (see p. 5) - St. Stephen's, 9th & Hurbert, Newport

March 10, 7:00-10:00 pm: LGBTQ Social for Teens and Young Adults! - Lincoln City (Please RSVP at 541-921-7905 or nick-eylynn70@gmail.com for location.)

March 14, 4:00-6:00 pm: LGBTQ Happy Hour, All Welcome!—Georgie's Beachside Grill, Newport

March 26, 11:00 am: OUT OR Women Nana's for Lunch—NW 3th and Coast Streets, Newport

March 31, 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)

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 pflagocc@gmail.com for an application.

Media Matters:

Local radio station KYAQ (91.7 FM) has at least two programs weekly that focus on the LGBTQ community. **Rhonda's Rainbow Room**, hosted by a PFLAG member, airs on Thursdays at 12:30 pm and repeats on Sundays at 12:30 pm. **This Way Out** (<http://thiswayout.org/>) airs Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 am and Sundays at noon and midnight.



During the presidential election, Facebook published a plethora of fake news pieces about Hillary Clinton. Now it's running ads promising that people can "pray away the gay." If you use Facebook, you might want to check out this link to "gay pray away" for a happier perspective. <https://www.facebook.com/gayprayaway/>

People supportive of the LGBTQ community may want to go to the new LEGO Batman movie. In the movie, Bruce Wayne adopts orphaned Robin and tells the boy that he will share custody with Batman, his alter ego. Anti-abortion activist John-Henry Westen is warning that "LEGO Batman promotes gay adoption." Columnist Michael Hamilton also wrote, "Gender identity, gender roles, and gender neutrality are all over the story board like so many LEGOs."

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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Name: _____

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PFLAG is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and has no political or religious affiliations.



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