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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

Mark Green, Tennessee state senator, is being nominated for the new U.S. Army Secretary. Among other outrageous statements, he has said that “[being] transgender is a disease” and opposes transgender rights because he wants to “crush evil.” Green also encouraged the state of Tennessee to defy the Supreme Court legalization of marriage equality. You can sign this petition to **oppose his nomination**: [https://act.credoaction.com/sign/Green Army Secretary?t=4&akid=22650.3025652.Bf9ecl](https://act.credoaction.com/sign/Green%20Army%20Secretary?t=4&akid=22650.3025652.Bf9ecl)

UN human rights experts are urging Russia to **investigate the reported torture and killings of over 100 gay men** in Chechen detention camps as well as being murdered by families in so-called honor killings. The Chechen ruler claims that this is impossible because there are no gay men in the republic. At this time, Russia is not investigating the murders. You can sign this petition to be delivered to Yury Chaika, Prosecutor General of Russia: <https://www.change.org/p/russia-prosecutor-general-investigate-mass-murder-and-torture-of-lgbt-people-in-chechnya?platform=hootsuite>

You can sign this petition to **change the rating** for the movie *3 Generations* about a transgender teenager from R to PG-13: https://www.change.org/p/motion-picture-association-of-america-change-the-rating-of-3-generations-to-pg-13?utm_source=action_alert_sign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=738926&alert_id=TKIhcucgRc_6UCMxCbhH5fuLLCdK4QYs0r2dUMefK4jNDzKZcjYkAo%3D

**Diversity Coalition of Lincoln County presents
A One-Day Training for Activists Working for Social,
Political, and Environmental Justice
May 20, 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Oregon Coast Community College
More information: <http://placeconference.org/>**

Growing Signs of LGBTQ Assimilation



When people living on Gay Street in Greenwich Village couldn't move a giant wooden cross chained and locked to different parts of the street, they claimed it for their own. Eleven of them painted the cross rainbow colors, changed the locks so that it couldn't be moved, and left a message for the person who left it there, "The Love Cross belongs to the street now, so thank you!"

Diane Bruce watched hundreds of LGBTQ people and climate change activists protesting outside Ivanka Trump's five-million-dollar home in the exclusive community of Kalorama Washington, D.C. The "Queer Dane Party for Climate Justice" was "a celebration of freedom," according to Bruce who had hired a bus for the Women's March on Washington earlier this year. The neighbors are not very pleased with the Kushners as new neighbors. They leave bags of garbage rotting in front of the house along with a portable toilet, and, according to Bruce, "they immediately put up tacky saw horses wrapped in fluorescent tape, and crowd barriers. And we weren't allowed to walk on the sidewalk."



Age Determines Level of LGBTQ Acceptance

Young people between the ages of 18 and 34 are twice as likely to openly identify as part of the LGBT community compared to the generation before them, according to a GLADD survey. Twenty percent of millennials identify as openly LGBT, compared to only seven percent of the baby boomer generation (ages 52–71). Acceptance of the LGBT community is also at an all-time high.

Twelve percent of millennials identify outside the gender binary as either transgender or gender-nonconforming, nearly double the number of transgender and gender-nonconforming people from Generation X (ages 35–51). One reason might be that labels outside traditional categories (bisexual, asexual, queer, etc.) have become more commonly used, accepted, and understood. The study found that an overwhelming 63 percent of young people identify as allies to the queer community. While that age group was the most likely to be accepting, the majority (53 percent) of Generation X and the majority (51 percent) of baby boomers were also likely to consider themselves allies. <http://www.glaad.org/publications/accelerating-acceptance-2017>

New research shows that straight men who like homophobic and sexist jokes suffer from "precarious masculinity beliefs"—in short, they are insecure. Not a surprise but now the information comes from a professional study.



Ann Hubbard of Portland got this photo at the annual Portland Pride Parade. This year's event is on June 18.

Politics on Our Side

Alabama: The state Supreme Court has upheld the decision to remove Roy Moore from chief justice because he had ordered the state's probate judges to ignore the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality. Moore said that federal rulings, including those from the Supreme Court have no effect on Alabama law. Moore can't appeal the ruling to federal courts because it lacks federal issues, and his age precludes him from ever running for judicial office again.

Georgia: Kenneth Adkins, 57-year-old former pastor, has been found guilty of eight molestation charges for convincing a 15-year-old girl and boy from his church to have frequent sexual relations. Adkins made news earlier this year when he said that the victims of the shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando "got what they deserved."

Indiana: A slate of candidates for the school board in Palatine failed at the ballot box. They had promised to eliminate a policy allowing transgender students to use high school facilities that match their gender.

Minnesota: Parents have dropped their lawsuit to prevent a 15-year-old transgender girl from using the girls' locker room. No reason has been stated. In 2015, the state's legislature rejected efforts to restrict transgender students' access to restrooms and locker rooms.

Nebraska: Gay and lesbians have the legal right to adopt children in all 50 states—at least for right now—thanks to the Nebraska State Supreme Court.

New Jersey: Fired from his job in 2014 because he is gay, Glen Rock police officer Matthew Stanislao sued. The city did not admit guilt, but he got his job back plus \$750,000. The city (population 11,601) also agreed to consider him eligible for promotions and education programs. Earlier it had prevented him from working with children and failed to

recognize him for saving two people from a submerged car. He plans to return because the city has replaced the officers who harassed him and the police chief.

New Mexico: The seventh state has banned the use of "conversion" therapy for minors. Fortunately, Oregon is one of those states. Four cities in three other states and Washington, D.C. have banned the practice. Conversion therapy has been knocked down in another state.

Oklahoma: State House staffer Karen Kipgen has apologized for her email to legislative assistants about "cross dressers in the building" when 70 LGBTQ youth came to the capitol to lobby on behalf of HIV awareness and education funding. Kipgen is a 30-year veteran employee who oversees the high school students page program for the House.

West Virginia: Married lesbian couple, Amanda Abramovich and Samantha Brookover, is suing a Gilmer County clerk who ranted at them for several minutes when they applied for a marriage license seven months after the Supreme Court ruled in favor of marriage equality. Another clerk nearby supported the first woman in calling the couple "an abomination" to God and vowing that "God would deal with them." The two clerks also lied to the couple, stating that they were no longer issuing marriage licenses.

United States: LGBT rights gained at least four wins this past month: a judge's ruling in sympathy with Gavin Grimm, a transgender student prevented from using the boys' restroom facilities at his school; the Nebraska ruling allowing same-gender couples to foster children; and the full 7th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects LGBT people from workplace discrimination. Information: p. 6 and <https://nclsnewday.wordpress.com/2017/04/11/three-lgbt-wins-in-court/>

Bits of News

Ashland's (OR) new version of *Oklahoma!* becomes inclusive! The play will star two same-gender couples and transgender Aunt Eller, thanks to adapter Bill Rauch.

HRC has launched a new website, McHugh Exposed, after Johns Hopkins Hospital refused to disavow Dr. Paul McHugh, a professor of psychiatry and former chief psychiatrist at the hospital.

The purpose of the site is to reveal McHugh's "dangerous faux-scientific writings being peddled as the basis for attacks on anti-LGBTQ people." McHugh hires himself out to extremist hate groups.

All seven members of the faculty senate at Gordon College resigned after the school of 1,700 students denied promotion to a faculty member who advocated equal rights for LGB employees.

In 2014, Salem (MA) ended a contract with Gordon College allowing it to use one of the city's buildings because the school asked for religious exemption to the order requiring federal contractors not discriminate against LGBT people.

Last year, the ACLU sued Gordon College for removing a philosophy professor from leadership positions because of her advocating for LGBT rights.

L.A. plans to transform its Pride Parade on June 11 into a resistance parade to join others in the nation.

More Take Action

Seventy percent of transgender students are afraid to go to bathrooms at school. You can demand that Betsy DeVos protect them as she promised to do during her hearings for Secretary of Education: http://go.fightforequality.org/page/s/defend-transgender-students?source=MS_EM_PET_2017.04.20_B1_betsy-devos_X_F1_S1_C1_all

You can denounce Michele Bachmann for her claim that Trump's presidential win was "God's retribution" for recent strides toward transgender equality. http://go.fightforequality.org/page/s/denounce-michele-bachmann?source=MS_EM_PET_2017.04.18_B2_michele-bachmann_X_F1_S1_C1_all

George W. Bush, largely silent during President Obama's two terms, has written a column for the Washington Post to criticize Donald Trump for his almost 30 percent cut in funding for treatment, care, and prevention of HIV/AIDS in poorer countries, mostly Africa and the Caribbean. The successful program has provided life-saving medication to millions of people, helped over a million HIV-negative babies be born to HIV-positive mothers, and generally improved the economic and social climates of recipient nations as well as reducing recruitment by extremists.

The American Family Association's boycott against Target failed when the huge retail corporation refused to cave into their demands that they keep transgender people from using bathrooms matching their gender identities. Target said that it had a few losses in the South but that "any lost sales from the boycott weren't significant enough to require reporting to investors."

The company has inclusive facilities in all except 300 of its U.S. stores. In a few crazed responses to the policy, AFA's Sandy Rios sent straight men to the stores' ladies bathrooms to "test" the policy, and Liberty Counsel's Anita Staver declared she was taking her loaded gun while shopping at Target in case she saw transgender women in the ladies' room.

Target should be thanked for its support of transgender people.



Politics around the World

United States: A Supreme Court ruling gave good news to both LGBT people and unions in a case about retailers' charging surcharges on the use of credit cards. In *Expressions Hair Design v. Schneiderman*, Chief Justice John Roberts ruled that businesses cannot challenge regulations they don't like on free speech grounds. Because anti-discrimination laws are about preventing discrimination, businesses that refuse services based on their personal beliefs can't use the First Amendment of free speech justification because that impact on speech is incidental to that primary effect. That's what Roberts claimed about credit card charges, and it may apply to discrimination and "fair share service fees" for unions that people have refused to pay on the basis of "free speech."

India: Manonmaniam Sundaranar University (MSU), founded in 1990 in rural Tamil Nadu in southern India, will no longer charge tuition to transgender students to help their economic advancement. Abandoned by society and sometimes parents, transgender people "are forced to be on the streets," said K. Baskar, vice-chancellor of the university that has an enrollment of 2,400. Recent years has seen help in India for transgender people in education and jobs—even obtaining passports. One state, Tamil Nadu, provides food ration cards and free gender confirmation surgery for transgender people.



In Washington, the state Supreme Court has granted Rachel Black (left) the right to talk to her children about her being a lesbian. A lower court gave custody to Black's abusive husband four years ago in a ruling that her sexual orientation was a "lifestyle choice" and "improper and unfair." The recommendation from the court-appointed advocate for Black's two sons also gave her husband sole authority about the children's religion and education, including the mandate that she "refrain from having further conversations with the children regarding religion,

homosexuality, or other alternative lifestyle concepts." The restriction of parental rights because a parent is gay or lesbian is a violation of Washington state law. Black is now permitted to discuss her sexuality with her three sons, and one of them asked her permission to wear her rainbow bracelet which read "Love and Pride." [Photo of Black with her partner, Angela Van Hoose.]

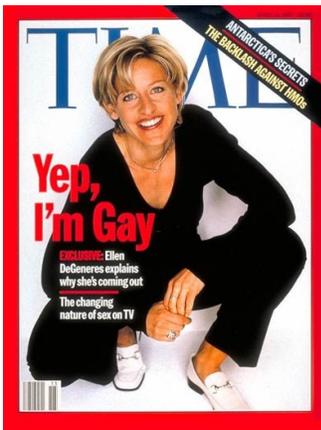


Gilbert Baker, 65-year-old LGBT rights activist who designed the rainbow pride flag in 1978, has died. His death is being commemorated with the design of a new rainbow font called the Gilbert font. <https://www.typewithpride.com/>



People Who Make a Difference

RuPaul has been named one of *Time's* "100 Most Influential People of 2017." The annual list, which includes Senator Elizabeth Warren, Russian president Vladimir Putin, and football player Colin Kaepernick, selects people who have had a major influence on society in the past year, without judgment on the consequences of that influence. *RuPaul's Drag Race*, after eight seasons on Logo, moved to VH1 and will be seen by a wider audience. RuPaul has brought the art of drag to millions of people who knew very little about it.



Twenty years ago, **Ellen DeGeneres** came out on the cover of *Time*. Two weeks later, Ellen came out of the closet on her TV sit com, and sponsors pulled their advertising after the religious right condemned her. Yet she gained her own daytime talk show in 2003, and since then, she has hosted the Emmy and Oscar awards, judged *American Idol*, and received the Congressional Medal of Freedom. She's also been used for advertising by companies such as CoverGirl and J.C. Penney, a company that pulled its advertising from her show in 1997. In 1996, only 27 percent of Americans believed gay marriage should be legal; by 2016, 61 percent of people believe in marriage equality. In a 2015 poll, people credited Ellen with doing more to change attitudes toward LGBT people than any other celebrity or public figure, ahead of President Barack Obama. This month, Elaine

Atwell published a piece explaining why Ellen's coming out was so important to her—and all LGBT people. https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/why-ellen-degeneres-coming-out-was-miraculous

Barry Manilow (right) had never been open about being gay, but most people had guessed that he is. At the age of 73, he's out of the closet and announcing that he and his husband, also his manager, are very happy. Manilow and Garry Kief have been together for almost 40 years and secretly married in April 2014.



Straight men, including Dutch leader of the Democrats 66 (D66) party **Alexander Pechtold** (left) and Financial specialist of D66 party **Wouter Koolmees** are holding hands in solidarity with two gay men attacked in Arnhem by a group of teenage boys because they were holding hands. Photographs of Pechtold and Koolmees holding hands created a viral social movement, and scores of men posted photographs holding hands with other men with the hashtag #allemanhandinhand. Their action was on the

16th anniversary of marriage equality in the Netherlands when the country became the world's first nation to legalize same-gender marriage on April 1, 2001.

OCC PFLAG Activities

Celia August, a member of the Yachats Pride Board, will talk about the town's upcoming Pride Festival on June 3-4.



The Diversity Coalition of Lincoln County is presenting a workshop on May 20 (8:30 am-4:30 pm) at Oregon Community College for activists interested in social, political, and environmental justice.

LGBTQ teens will participate with its panel presentation on how to be Upstanders for LGBTQ folks from 2:45-3:45.

OCC PFLAG is currently training new board members.

More Bits

Gavin Grimm may have lost his fight for him to personally use the boys' bathroom at his school (see p. 3), but the transgender student has been named as one of *Time's* "100 Most Influential People of 2017."

Media Matters:

Proud Unicorn has released four classic love scenes reimagined with gay and lesbian couples. You can see the clips here. <https://www.lgbtqnation.com/tag/classic-movies/>



Sir Ian McKellen, 77-year-old British actor, has made a film in which he talks about growing up gay and coming out. *Random Acts*, one of six commissioned by the Tate Britain gallery, includes his fears of going to prison if he were honest about his sexuality. The four-minute film can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sF630kVp6RU>

Two guys kiss in the background of *Star vs. The Forces of Evil*, a Disney Channel cartoon. One Million Moms, a group of about 50,000 and mostly male, is boycotting Disney. Their next ire may be directed toward the live-action remake of *Beauty and the Beast*, in which LeFou indicates that he wants to kiss Gaston.



OCC PFLAG Calendar

May 9, 4:00-6:00 pm: LGBTQ Happy Hour, All Welcome!—Georgie's Beachside Grill, Newport

May 10, 6:00-8:00 pm: PFLAG Meeting—Guest speaker, Yachats Pride Board member Celia August, about Yachats Pride Festival on June 3-4—St. Stephen's, 9th & Hurbert, Newport

May 19, 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)

May 20, 8:30 am-4:30 pm: PLACE, Diversity Coalition Workshop—Oregon Coast Community College

May 23, 11:00 am: OUT OR Women Nana's for Lunch—NW 3rd and Coast Streets, Newport

June 3-4: Yachats Pride Festival—Yachats

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.

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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