



Lavender Notes

*Improving the lives of LGBT older adults
through community building, education, and advocacy.*

Celebrating 20+ years of service and positive change

July 2016

Volume 23, Issue 7

Stories of Our Lives

Dr. Mary Ann Turner

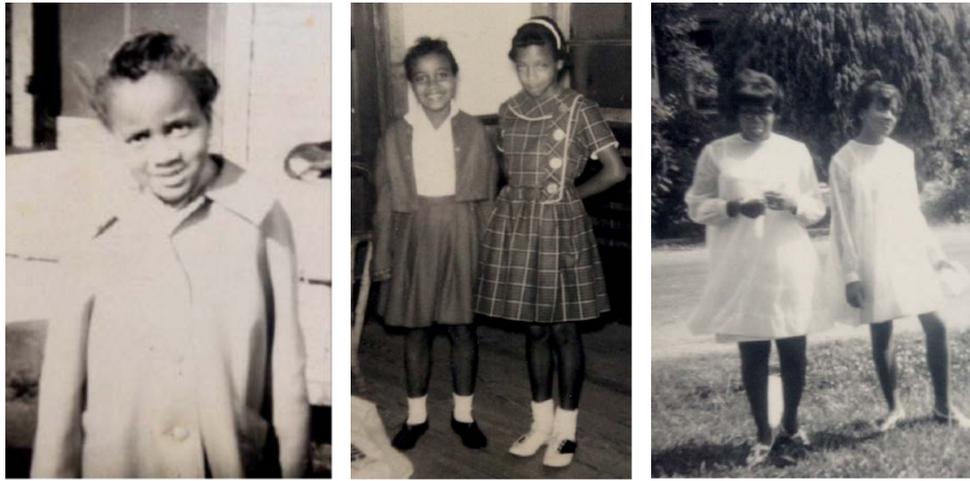
Nobody in the sleepy and segregated little town of Delhi (pronounced DELL-high), Louisiana, expected that one of their own would wind up being a highly-esteemed cancer researcher, professor of many sciences (e.g., Microbiology, Genetics, Embryology and Molecular Biology) and an outspoken Bay area lesbian.

Mary Ann Turner was born in 1954, the year of the Supreme Court's landmark Brown vs Board of Education decision, requiring integration of public schools and universities. This was intended to eradicate "with all deliberate speed" the "separate-and-very-unequal" educational doctrine that pervaded the U.S., particularly in the South. That integration was a long, painful and - still largely-incomplete - process.

"I was born to a young girl who had become pregnant at age 14," Mary said, "perpetuating an unfortunate family tradition. On my maternal side, all the women, dating back to slavery, had been unwed teen mothers. All were un-educated and grew up in abject poverty. Many in my family and neighborhood presumed I would be part of this vicious cycle."

One of the strong women who did NOT set low expectations for Mary, however, was her grandmother, who "raised her", encouraging her to cultivate her insatiable curiosity about the world around her. Segregation was so complete, Mary relied on black residents telling her stories of their lives, their struggles, disappointments, failures and even rare successes.

"Hearing the oral history of my elders remains some of my favorite memories as a child and young adult," Mary recalls. "I felt so cared for. Listening to their stories made me realize that I could achieve great things in my life; that I could be somebody, maybe even go to college and make a difference in the world."



Mary and Some Childhood Friends in Delhi, Louisiana

When Mary was about seven years old, her grandmother bought her a "Wonders of Life" kit, including slides, an encyclopedia of life events and a small microscope.

"With this kit, I was introduced to a new unseen world, the world of micro-organisms," she recalled. "Since black residents were denied access to the town library - as well as drinking fountains, swimming pools and much of the other community resources available to white kids - this magical kit was the beginning of my unquenchable thirst for knowledge."

Her mother moved away from Delhi as a teenager, eventually giving birth to five siblings, four brothers and a sister, who Mary met for the first time when she was about 16.

Though she had teen-age crushes on a couple of teachers, she didn't really do the "dating" scene in high school.

"I knew at an early age that I really liked being around girls, even if I didn't really have the language to understand it at the time," Mary recalls. "We might just sit around and watch TV - nothing overtly sexual ever happened - but when I look back now, I may have just been too afraid and too ignorant about what my feelings were trying to tell me."

Only four black students were allowed to take college preparatory classes in her high school. In spite of that open discrimination, she graduated as salutatorian of her class in 1972 and applied to go on to the recently-integrated Northeast Louisiana State University - since re-named University of Louisiana at Monroe.



Mary as Salutatorian of the Delhi High School Class of 1972

As a teenager, she not only maintained her interest in science, but began immersing herself in the world of music. Thanks to years of pro bono early-morning lessons from her generous high school music teacher, she became accomplished on the euphonium (baritone), resulting in a music scholarship at NLU, where she was active in both the symphonic and marching bands.

She completed her B.S. degree in Zoology in just three years and an M.S. in Microbiology two years later. Returning to Delhi for a brief and not-too-happy stint as a substitute high school science teacher, Mary accepted an offer from her Uncle Leodis in Chicago to pick her up and take her to Chicago, where she would have a better chance of furthering her education and improving the possibilities for her professional life.

Church connections of her aunt and uncle resulted in a three-year position in Biological and Biomedical Research at Argonne National Labs.

"Since Argonne belonged to a consortium of research universities, I was encouraged to pursue a Ph.D. in my chosen field," she said. "Though that was challenged by some directors, I chose and was accepted at University of Missouri, where I was the first African-American to study in the Department of Molecular Biology. Several of the department's professors actively sought to have me dismissed for various trumped-up reasons, but my department chair and another professor - recently arrived from Berkeley - consistently defended me and shielded me from the sometimes-racist, sometimes-sexist diatribes of their colleagues."

As if that ill-will in her department were not enough to dissuade her from continuing to pursue her dream, Mary was involved as a back-seat passenger in a Lincoln Continental which collided head-on, both cars going 70-80mph, on her way home from a church function outside of Quincy, Illinois. Both people in the other car were killed instantly. She and another back-seat passenger were seriously injured, Mary requiring over three months of hospitalization for a head injury and multiple fractures of every bone in her right leg.

"During this time, I really began to lose hope, figuring graduate school was over," she recalled. "But a family from my church took me in, my department chair wheeled me every day from physical therapy to the lab and others rallied around me with support, encouragement and healing energy. Amazingly enough, I completed my Ph.D. in three years, which I never could have done without this loving community!"



Portrait of Mary during the "Mizzou" years.

In 1983, Mary received a fellowship from the American Cancer Society, which brought her to Berkeley for the first time.

"This small-town girl from Delhi was absolutely astounded at what she saw on Telegraph Avenue," she reminisced. "Seeing the bubble lady, street vendors and dogs with bandanas was all brand new to me. That was the year I came out as a lesbian, attended coming-out groups at the Pacific Center and attended my first LGBT Pride Parade!"

After completing her fellowship in Berkeley, she took a post at University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, a historically-black college, teaching Genetics, Molecular Biology, Embryology and Microbiology. She stayed on the East Coast only one year, feeling drawn back to California to deal with both her personal and professional life. She accepted a position at UC-San Francisco, studying and devising models for invasive cervical and oral cancers. As a result of that work, she traveled widely - both domestically and internationally - presenting her team's findings.



Mary traveled widely presenting research papers, exploring Raj Yoga and Shaolin Kenpo.

After returning to the San Francisco Bay Area, she also became involved in the Nia Collective - an organization focused on the needs of black lesbians - plus attending several retreats in Marin County, Xena conferences and continuing with various Pacific Center group activities.

"I just wanted to be free!" she recalled. "For the first time in my life, I could finally start being true to myself in my late 30s and early 40s! I took a girlfriend back with me to meet my grandmother in Delhi at one point. It turned out to be a bit of a disaster because she preferred to believe I was being manipulated and controlled by this lesbian in my life! She subsequently 'outed' me to several other family members - not in the most positive way - but she became more supportive of me and my sexuality over the years."

In spite of the serious leg injuries she suffered from the Illinois traffic accident - and limitations from the surgical repairs that were done - she became a black-belt holder in American Shaolin Kenpo (a cousin of karate) in 1998 and has remained as physically active as possible.



Mary receiving her brown-belt in Shaolin Kenpo



Mary (L) with LGBT seniors hiking in Yosemite (May 2016)

One of her more recent interests had to do with cervical cancer among HIV-positive women, taking her to Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. While at Baylor, she began to study the pharmacological aspects of research - focusing on drugs for osteoporosis, chronic pain and Multiple Sclerosis. She wound up working with various Bay Area pharmaceutical companies for several years until her retirement on disability - due to various debilitating conditions - in 2010.



Mary being interviewed at a Berkeley restaurant in June 2016

Mary continues to be actively involved at a local senior center where she teaches a class called "Our Stories", serves on the center's advisory council and leads a casual walk once a week. She also gives occasional presentations in various venues on little-known stories of African-American history.

Mary's closing comments during the interview with Lavender Seniors reflect what a thoughtful and focused individual she is:

"For a little black girl - born in a cycle of teen pregnancy, poverty and illiteracy - I was able to break the cycle with the help of family, a network of friends, through hard work, dedication and determination. I strongly encourage everyone - whatever your gender identity, sexuality, race, religion, national origin, or other self-identifying categories - to be true to yourself - the SOONER the BETTER! Some of us have lost a lot of time figuring out who we are - and life is too short to put off confronting our truth any longer than necessary!"

Thank you, Mary!



Patricia Osage was honored to be in D.C. to attend a roundtable discussion of issues important to the LGBT Community hosted by House Democratic Caucus Chairman Xavier Becerra and the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus.



Jessie, Patricia and Tiffany

Proudly representing Congresswoman Barbara Lee's district with Tiffany Woods and Jessie Brooks, she participated on June 23rd in an off-the-record exchange of questions and ideas with Randy W. Berry, Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTI Persons, United States Department of State; and Vanita Gupta - Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice.



Rep Becerra and Assistant Attorney for the Civil Rights Division of the US Department of Justice, Vanita Gupta

Patricia says of her time at the Capitol: "I met some great folks and actually directly handed the overview and website address of Lavender's training film, *Safe and Visible; Creating a HealthCare Practice Welcoming to LGBT Seniors*, to Randy Berry. He holds the newly created position of U.S. Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBT Persons. His job is to help countries around the world decriminalize same-sex relationships so I'm hoping - since our film seems to have caught on in so many other countries - he'll be able to use it.

"I met many wonderful people, including two amazing ladies, Ruthie and Connie, who were featured in a documentary about their life and struggles for equality.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nSxXtG72nxQ>. They were very excited to hear about Lavender Seniors and immediately wanted a Safe and Visible emblem sticker to wear."

To enroll in the free Lavender Seniors training film, go to <https://www.udemy.com/creating-a-healthcare-practice-welcoming-to-lgbt-seniors/learn/v4/overview>.

Book Review

Stand By Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation

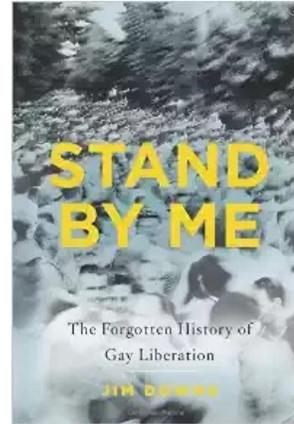
By Jim Downs

The 1970s was our era, starting with the Metropolitan Community Church founded by Reverend Troy Perry. A number of MCC churches were set on fire by homophobic enemies. In New Orleans, 32 people perished. The fires were ignored by the media.

Craig Rodwell started the Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop. The Anita Bryant attack on gays attracted much sensationalism. Much attention was given to gays in prison. Masculine gay men exploded. Tom of Finland drew much attention. Dr. Tom Waddell was incredibly popular by starting the Gay Olympics. "Gay Sunshine" was the voice of the community.

Jim Downs is an Associate Professor of History at Connecticut College. This historic book is a vast, complex survey of gay life in the 1970s. Much meat for thought can be found here.

-Frank Howell



Lavender Seniors at Frameline Film Festival

For the second time - during the 40th Anniversary of the Frameline International LGBTQ Film Festival (the oldest and largest such festival in the world!) - Lavender Seniors of the East Bay was invited to co-sponsor two films during the 11-day run, June 16-26. In return for publicizing the two films ("Conversations with Gay Elders: An Inter-Generational Film Project" and "The Joneses,"), we were given four complimentary passes to each film, given a plug prior to showings at the Castro Theater and the opportunity to speak for one minute at non-Castro showings. In addition, complimentary tickets were made available to Lavender Seniors for a half-dozen other films.

Seven from Lavender Seniors attended the Castro Theater showing of "Conversations...", a remarkable film that had many audience members on an emotional roller coaster from laughter to tears. The film of initial interviews-in-progress was followed with personal appearances by two of the subject seniors and four of the younger-generation film editors. We look forward to seeing the finished product.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GAY ELDERS: AN INTERGENERATIONAL FILM PROJECT

DIRECTOR: David Weissman

In this unique project-in-progress screening, documentary filmmaker David Weissman brings us inside both the stories and the unusual process that comprise his ongoing mission to capture the experiences of gay men of the pre-Stonewall generation. Now living in Portland, Oregon, longtime San Francisco resident Weissman—as in his previous films *We Were Here* (Frameline34) and *The Cockettes* (Frameline25)—is fiercely dedicated to listening to the voices and stories of a generation of gay men that is quickly passing. But in this project, after conducting his on-camera conversations with "gay elders," Weissman turns the filmmaking itself into an intergenerational collaboration by pairing each elder's footage with an editor from a much younger generation. The resulting filmed dialogues become an informal history as listened to and, in a sense, interpreted by a new generation of gay men.

Weissman's focus is to create multiple in-depth individual character studies rather than a single feature film, and to amass a rich repository of these histories for future generations who won't have direct access to the men who lived them. This program will feature excerpts from four of the conversations shot thus far, selected by the young editors themselves. These excerpts include San Franciscans Robert Dockendorff (76) and Jack Lasner (87) as well as New Yorkers Gene Fedorko (72) and Daniel Maloney (77). Following the screening will be a discussion including director-producer Weissman, subjects Dockendorff and Lasner, and editors Alex Bohs, Aron Kantor, Jake Stein, and Ben Zweig.

- Peter L. Stein

Prior to the Roxie Theater showing of "The Joneses," Board Chair, D'Anne Bruetsch, gave a brief talk about the other film co-sponsored by Lavender Seniors. Several people approached the group at showing of "Conversations..." to say they had been impressed with her presentation.

THE JONESES

DIRECTOR: Moby Longinotto

It isn't easy keeping up with the Joneses. A working-class family born and bred in the Mississippi Bible Belt, they are an uncommon clan with a unique set of challenges - which they meet with an innate philosophy that "family is everything." And this family sure is something.

At the heart of their story (both figuratively and literally) is sprightly Southern matriarch Jheri Jones, a trim, platinum blonde transgender woman with a bedazzled air of both brass and refinement. After marrying and raising four sons, she divorced and became her authentic self, Jheri, in her 30s and finally saved enough money to complete her gender confirmation surgery in her 60s.



Now 74, she lives in her tidy trailer park home with two of her grown sons, after years of estrangement encouraged by her embittered and religious ex-wife. Brad, the eldest, suffered brain damage at childbirth and, while functional, has significant cognitive disabilities. Trevor struggles to find his place and purpose in life while dealing with anger issues that ultimately reveal a deeply held secret. Trevor's twin brother Trent, diagnosed with schizophrenia and autism, lives in a homecare facility nearby, while Wade is happily married with two teenage kids who have yet to discover their grandmother's story. In his feature documentary debut, Moby Longinotto gracefully embraces this family of outsiders who, despite all their struggles, always trust that "if there is enough love, you can overcome."

- Joanne Parsont

The Joneses is a Frameline Completion Fund recipient.

Co-presented by [Lavender Seniors of the East Bay](#)

We will try to get copies of each of these films for other Lavender Seniors participants to see once the DVDs become available. Meanwhile, through Frameline Voices, many films are available on-line. In fact, it was announced several times during Frameline 40 that films from Frameline have been downloaded by someone in EVERY country in the world (<http://www.frameline.org/now-showing/rameline-voices>). Meanwhile, through Frameline's "Youth in Motion" program, gay-straight alliances in nearly 1,000 schools (hitting all 50 states and the District of Columbia!) have received copies of films, curriculum discussion guides, etc.

Lavender Seniors is definitely a part of Frameline's goal of using queer film to change the course of LGBTQ lives. Stay tuned for Frameline 41 from June 15 – 25, 2017!



THE SENIOR VOTE COUNTS: SEPTEMBER 2016

CARA Regional Conventions/Town Hall Forums

NORTHERN CA

- **ALAMEDA COUNTY**, Tuesday, Sept. 13th, 10am-2pm
CA Endowment/Oakland Conference Center, 1111 Broadway/Oakland, Laurel Room
- **CONTRA COSTA/SOLANO**, Monday, Sept. 12th, 10am-2pm
Richmond Memorial Auditorium, Bermuda Rooms, 403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond
- **CENTRAL VALLEY**, Monday, Sept. 26th, 10am-2pm, Manteca Transit Center, 220 Moffat Blvd., Manteca
- **FRESNO**, Tuesday, Sept. 27th, 10am-2pm, IMAAW Local 653, 544 W. Olive St., Fresno
- **NORTH BAY** (Marin & Sonoma), Tues., Sept. 6th, 1-4pm, Marin Public Employees Assoc., 16 Mitchell Ave., San Rafael
- **PLACER COUNTY**, Wednesday, Sept. 14th, 12-4pm, UDW – Placer, 4220 Rocklin Rd., Suite 3, Rocklin
- **REDDING/5 COUNTIES**, Friday, Sept. 16th, 11am-3pm, IBEW 340, 900 Locust St., Redding
- **SACRAMENTO**, Thursday, Sept. 15th, 10am-2pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1300 N. St., Sacramento
- **SAN FRANCISCO**, Thursday, Sept. 8th 10am-2pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1188 Franklin St., San Francisco
- **SANTA CLARA**, Thursday, Sept. 22nd, 10am-2pm, IBEW Local 332, 2125 Canoas Garden, San Jose

SOUTHERN CA

- **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY & LA COUNTY**, Monday, Sept. 19th, 10-2pm,
USW Local 675, 1200 E. 220th St., Carson
- **ORANGE COUNTY**, Wednesday, Sept. 21, 10am-2pm, UFCW Local 324, 8530 Stanton Ave, Buena Park
- **SAN DIEGO COUNTY**, Tuesday, Sept. 20th, 10am-2pm, Sheetmetal Workers Local,
4594 Mission Gorge Place, San Diego
- **BAKERSFIELD**, Saturday, Sept 24th, 10am-2pm, Kern, Inyo and Mono CLC, 200 W Jeffrey St, Bakersfield

LGBT Online Support Group for Caregivers



If you are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender and caring for someone with ongoing health problems . . . *you are not alone!* Family Caregiver Alliance's online LGBT Caring Community Support Group connects you with others facing the day-to-day challenges of caregiving. If you're assisting someone with Alzheimer's, stroke, Parkinson's, traumatic brain injury, or other chronic health problems, you can get support from the convenience of your home.

Share experiences, resources, and ideas in a supportive, caring environment. Available 24 hours a day; all you need is e-mail, and it's free! Visit www.caregiver.org.

San Leandro Pot Luck

*****New Location: All Saints Episcopal Church Parish Room,
911 Dowling Boulevard, San Leandro, CA*****

Second Saturday Noon-2:00

Mark your calendars....we have some great programs coming up!

July 9: Tricia Hoekwater - Decluttering Your Environment - Certified Professional Organizer ***due to church use, we will start and end a half hour earlier this day, 11:30-1:30.***

August 13: Dan Ashbrook and Allison Rodman (Professional chef) - Recipes from our Ancestors (easy cheese making demo)

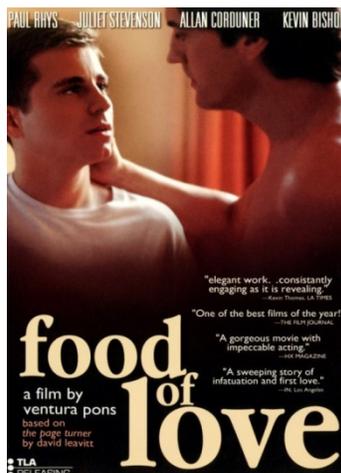
Sept 10: Stev Taal - short classical piano pieces

We are looking for ideas that may pique the interest of Lavender Seniors participants. Please send your suggestions to info@lavenderseniors.org.

Lavender Seniors Film Series Wednesday, 20th July, 1-3pm

FOOD OF LOVE

This month's Third Wednesday film is *Food of Love*, a sensual film exploring the passage of a young pianist into adulthood and through his first romance. Starting out in San Francisco and winding up in New York, but most significantly, the film involves development of a gay relationship in oh-so-romantic Barcelona.



Handsome teenager Paul Porterfield - an aspiring pianist headed for Juilliard after high school graduation - is asked to turn pages for world-renowned concert pianist, Richard Kennington, at Davies Hall in San Francisco. The 39-year-old - instantly attracted to the 18-year-old - is initially thwarted in making moves on the young man, whose somewhat neurotic mother jumps into the picture. Fast-forward a few months when the two men (and Mom) are accidentally thrown together in Barcelona, resulting in explosive passions as Paul discovers love for the first time.



But will Mom find out that her gorgeous son is being seduced?

Come to the Third Wednesday Lavender Seniors Film Series on 20th July to find out. Shown from 1-3pm in the Lecture Hall at the San Leandro Public Library, 300 Estudillo, San Leandro, the film runs 105 minutes. For those who may be Agatha Christie fans, Geraldine McEwan (third of the four "Miss Marples") does a stint playing Paul's widely-sought-after piano teacher.

This 2002 film is based on the 1998 novel, *The Page Turner*, by David Levitt. The screenplay was written by Spanish filmmaker [Ventura Pons](#), who also directed the feature. An Official Selection at [the Berlin International Film Festival](#), the [Montreal World Film Festival](#), [San Francisco's Frameline International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival](#) and the [Philadelphia International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival](#), the film was released on DVD in 2004.

Lavender Seniors will provide popcorn, bottled water, Martinelli's apple juice and sparkling cider, plus miniature Reese's peanut butter cups. Following the 1-3pm screening, there will be a brief discussion/evaluation of the film and the issues it brings up for us as LGBTQ seniors and allies.

The library is a ten-minute (five-block) walk up Estudillo from the San Leandro BART Station. For those with mobility issues, pick-up from the San Leandro BART station can be arranged (12:30-45) by either e-mailing JohnDavid@LavenderSeniors.org or calling John David (510-532-8951) at least 24 hours in advance.

The AC-Transit 1R has a bus-stop at East 14th and Estudillo, which involves a 1.5-block walk up Estudillo to the library. For people who are driving, the library is on Estudillo two blocks below Bancroft Avenue in San Leandro. It is accessible via either I-880 or I-580, as well. From I-880, get off at the Davis exit and head east toward the hills. Davis eventually becomes Callan, which passes the north side of the library two blocks above East 14th. Coming on I-580, get off at the Estudillo Exit (#31B) and follow that street until you reach 300 Estudillo.

There is ample free parking - some three-hour and some two-hour - at the library.

Community Phone Calls



Just a few of the things offered:

Writing Workshop Sundays, 7/17 - 10/9 3:00pm - 4:00pm Join this peer group for supportive

discussions and invite suggestions and feedback about what you are writing. Plus exercises to get those creative juices going! Participants are invited to offer ideas for writing exercises. Facilitated by Jerry Sexton

Think Thursdays: Strong Brains, Sharp Minds Thursdays, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Join us for our popular Think Thursday series to discuss current research highlights from the exciting fields of neuroscience, memory, and creative aging. Explore the exciting world of brain science for aging minds!

Open Mic Thursdays, 7/14 - 9/15 6:30pm - 7:00pm All are welcome to call in and perform, big talent not required. Singing, spoken word, stand-up comedy, play your favorite instrument, read a poem or more. Enthusiastic spectators are also welcome to join. Facilitated by Kathleen Torres

View the [Summer catalog](#) of community phone calls [here](#). To participate in these or other Senior Center Without Walls (SCWW) telephone activities, or to learn more about SCWW programs, call 877-797-7299 or email info@seniorcenterwithoutwalls.org.

RAINBOW COMMUNITY CENTER

2118 Willow Pass Rd. #500, Concord 94520
925-692-0090 www.rainbowcc.org Wheelchair accessible. Parking available.

Summer Special Events 2016

Events are at Rainbow unless otherwise indicated.

Queer Body Image Workshop (18+)

Sunday, July 10, 4pm to 6pm - RSVP requested. Donations benefit RCC Programs:
Facilitated by Elizabeth J. Cooper, Queer Body Love Coach
For info contact Jill Meyers jill@rainbowcc.org

Mormon/Ex-Mormon Discussion Group (18+)

Saturday, July 16th 10:00am - 12:30pm
With Pioneer Days around the corner, join in the discussion.
Facilitated by volunteer Dennis F. Info: rcc@rainbowcc.org

AIDS Walk Charity Show (21+)

Saturday, July 16th 6:00pm, 9:30pm show
Club 1220 - 1220 Pine St. Walnut Creek All funds raised benefit RCC SF AIDS Walk Team!

San Francisco AIDS Walk

Sunday, July 17th

A special invitation has been sent to Lavender Seniors to attend the potluck:

Rainbow Community Center of Contra Costa County invites you to a

LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY POTLUCK AT FERN COTTAGE

Kennedy Grove Regional Park 8531 San Pablo Dam Road, El Sobrante, CA

Friday July 29, 2016 - 10:am - 3:pm (Lunch at Noon)

Please bring a dish (min. six servings) by last name:
A - L: Side dish
M - Z: Dessert

Burgers & Soft Drinks provided. Bring your outdoor games, walking shoes, etc. to enjoy a day with fellow community members!

For info about the park: <http://www.ebparks.org/parks/kennedy>

RAINBOW COMMUNITY CENTER

For more information/to RSVP: 925-892-0090 X337 or seniorprogram@rainbowcc.org



938 The Alameda
 San Jose, CA 95126
 (408) 293-3040

What's going on at the Billy DeFrank Center?
 Click here for the [July Calendar](#)

Castro Valley Pride

Saturday, July 9th

Stop by and visit Lavender Seniors' booth.

We need volunteers to help set up, working the booth throughout the day, and take down.

Please contact:
Beckie@LavenderSeniors.org if you can help out.

Sat. 7/9 Noon-5PM

Awareness Community Diversity

6TH ANNUAL

Free Family Friendly LGBTQ Pride Event

VENDORS, ARTISANS

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

GOURMET FOOD TRUCKS AND MUCH MORE!

@ Castro Valley High School
 (Near Redwood Road and Heyer Avenue)
 19501 Redwood Road,
 Castro Valley, 94546

For more information, visit www.castrovalleypride.org

From This Day Forward

The new documentary, *From This Day Forward* <<http://www.fromthisdayforwardfilm.com>>, is coming to San Francisco this month after garnering passionate reviews and reactions during its impressive festival run this spring.

From This Day Forward is a moving portrayal of an American family coping with one of the most intimate of transformations. When director Sharon Shattuck's father came out as transgender, Sharon was in the awkward throes of middle school. Her father's transition to female was difficult for her straight-identified mother to accept, but her parents stayed together. As the Shattucks reunite to plan Sharon's wedding, she seeks a deeper understanding of how her parents' marriage survived the radical changes that threatened to tear them apart.

The film's San Francisco release is at the Roxie <<http://www.roxie.com>> from July 15-21.

If you would like to learn more about the film, please visit the website <<http://www.fromthisdayforwardfilm.com/>> and check out the trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6-hJh_98vl>.

Anyone Interested in Seeing “Hedwig and the Angry Inch” ...?!



Lavender Seniors would like to know if there are 10+ people interested in attending the Golden Gate Theater production of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* as a group in October. Here's the deal:

- If we have ten or more **committed** people (as in paying 20% non-refundable deposit within 30 days of making reservation; full amount 60 days before the performance), we can get a \$25/person group rate for either the preview matinee (2pm) performance on Sunday, 2nd October (only weekend date for that price), or the Wednesday 2pm matinees: 12th, 19th or 26th October (though a date has to be agreed on - people can't get the group rate and go on separate dates - we prefer the 12th for various reasons, but haven't confirmed yet with "group sales" at www.shnsf.com).
- Otherwise, week-end matinees (Saturdays/Sundays @2pm) are \$45 for groups of 10+, which is out of range for most of us LGBTQ seniors for 1.5 hours of entertainment.
- Seniors surveyed by Lavender Seniors have indicated they are not interested in trekking to San Francisco in the evening.

- Transportation is NOT included in the cost of the tickets, so people would need to carpool or BART together. The Golden Gate Theater is 3-4 blocks from the Powell Street BART station at the corner of Market.

Since time is of the essence in getting reservations and good seats, we need to know who's interested sooner rather than later (since the 20% deposit has to be paid within 30 days after the reservations are made). If we don't have 10+ people interested by 22nd of July, we will cancel the reservation. If you are interested, please contact

JohnDavid@lavenderseniors.org.

For more information about the multi-award winning play, check out the website:
https://www.shnsf.com/Online/default.asp?BOparam::WScontent::loadArticle::permalink=hedwigandtheangryinch&BOparam::WScontent::loadArticle::context_id=

Monthly Events

Out Standing Seniors, Hayward

July 5 & 19, 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tuesdays)

Hayward Senior Center, 22325 N. Third Street, Hayward

A safe and confidential space for LGBTQ seniors 50+ to share thoughts, feelings, resources, information, and support. FREE, though donations are welcome.



Lavender Seniors Advisory Board Meeting

July 6, 6:00-8:00 p.m. (Wed before Potluck Lunch)

San Leandro Public Library, 300 Estudillo, Meeting Room C, San Leandro

A portion of this meeting is open to the public.

Queerly Aging Lesbians

July 7 & 21, 1:30 p.m. (1st and 3rd Thursdays)

The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Avenue (at Derby), Berkeley

Find support and like-minded wonderful people!

San Leandro Potluck

July 9, 11:30-1:30 p.m. (2nd Saturday)

New location ***due to church use, we will start and end a half hour earlier this day.***

All Saints Episcopal Church Parish Room, 911 Dowling Boulevard, San Leandro

Come relax for a couple of hours. Share the love, meet others, talk and laugh!

This month's program: Tricia Hoekwater - Decluttering Your Environment - Certified Professional Organizer

Rainbow Seniors

July 12 & 26, 12:30 – 2:00 (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 E 14th St, San Leandro

A safe and confidential space for LGBTQ seniors 50+ to share thoughts, feelings, resources, information, and support. See info above.

Senior Men's Group

July 14 & 28, 1:30 p.m.

(2nd and 4th Thursdays)

The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley

Co-sponsor: The Pacific Center, 510-548-8283

Feel alone? Need to find space to be yourself and chat with others? Join us!

Oakland Lunch Bunch

Sponsored by City of Oakland Aging & Adult Services

July 15, 12:00-2:00 p.m. (3rd Friday of each month)

North Oakland Senior Center, 5714 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland

No program has been scheduled at the time of this publishing

Lavender Seniors Film Series

July 20, 1:00-3:00 p.m. (3rd Wednesday of each month)

San Leandro Public Library, 300 Estudillo, lecture hall, San Leandro

This month's movie is: "Food of Love"; info above.

Our Space Intergenerational Community Dinner

July 21, 5:30-7:00 p.m. (3rd Thursday of each month)

Our Space, 22245 Main St. in Hayward

Contact stephanie@baycyouth.org for information

Women caring for their woman partners

Every other Friday at 1pm

Please R.S.V.P. to Patricia at patricia@LavenderSeniors.org (510) 574-2091

Facilitated by Dr. Shannon Dubach

2041 Bancroft Way, Suite 307 Berkeley

If you are a woman caring for a sick elderly or disabled woman partner, join us.

Thank you to our sponsor, Chapel of the Chimes

[Chapel of the Chimes](#) is proud to be a Lavender Seniors "LGBT elder-friendly" business since 2007. A member of the Lifemark Group, [Chapel of the Chimes](#) is a family of premier Bay Area cemeteries, funeral homes, crematories, and mausoleums providing full end-of-life services.

Call and set up your Health Care Directive today!

Chapel of the Chimes,
Oakland
4499 Piedmont Avenue
Oakland, CA 94611
FD# 1254



Allison Rodman, Family Service
Counselor
... Care, Comfort & Plan
allison.rodman@lifemarkgroup.com
510-593-697

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay Board of Advisors

Chair: D'Anne Bruetsch

Secretary: John David Dupree

Mike Trutner

Beckie Underwood

Barbara Jue

Lavender Seniors
is a project of
LIFE ElderCare

Email: info@lavenderseniors.org
Website: <http://lavenderseniors.org>
3300 Capitol Avenue
Fremont, CA 94538
510-574-2073