



Lavender Notes

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

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June 2019 - Volume 26 Issue 6

**STORIES
OF OUR LIVES**



Douglas C. Haldeman, Ph.D

We all have influences outside our immediate family and friends that have helped mold us as adult human beings. In the case of this month's featured East Bay LGBTQ senior, a few of those life-changing influences included Harvey Milk; Michele Bachmann's husband, Marcus; Ted Lieu (one-time State Assemblyman and State Senator, now Congressman); the Gay Games and Armistead Maupin's "Tales of the City."

Douglas Charles Haldeman was born in Seattle 68 years ago, the only child of a single mother from a very close-knit Swedish immigrant family.

"Mom was part of the first American-born generation from this incredible family of Swedish immigrants," Doug recalls. "My grandparents and great-grandmother were very important and influential when I was growing up. Though I longed to have sisters and brothers – I didn't like being an 'only child' – otherwise, my childhood was filled with fun, family and friends."

Early in his childhood, Doug began working in the family business: a Seattle clothing store.



Doug – Age 5 – Dressed up for work at the family clothing store

“I had to learn to be charming in both Swedish and English, working in that store,” Doug says. “It was fun selling bedding, towels, shirts, skirts and other things that even a kid is familiar with. I was expected to be part of a ‘charm offensive’ – and I was indeed a charming kid – both at home and in the store.”

When he was five years old, the Seattle store was sold and Doug moved with his family to Santa Barbara for three years, after which they moved up to the Santa Clara Valley, before it became better-known as Silicon Valley, where he spent his high school years.

“Mom was very frustrated about having to work two jobs and not really having a domestic life,” Doug recalls. “So she married a man from work, a scientist in the early beginnings of the high-tech industry development. Though she got what she wanted – being a stay-at-home Mom, living her dream, imitating Donna Reed, baking cookies in her high heels – it came at considerable cost. The man she married was an alcoholic, ‘rage-aholic’ with borderline personality disorder.”

Doug graduated from Homestead High School in Sunnyvale, where he was friends with people like future Apple co-founder, Steve Wozniak, and his sister. After he finished high school, he started college at UC-Santa Cruz. Then he was drawn back to his early-childhood turf in Seattle, where he got a degree in drama.



Doug as a 19-year-old – during those “hippie days”

“I was a bit lost for a few years there,” Doug says. “I left Seattle and got a Master’s in Education at Stanford, then went back to Santa Cruz to teach at Harbor High School, which was quite a homophobic environment at a time when I was seriously grappling with my own sexuality. I was going up to the City on weekends for those years from age 25-30 to explore my social and sexual self.”

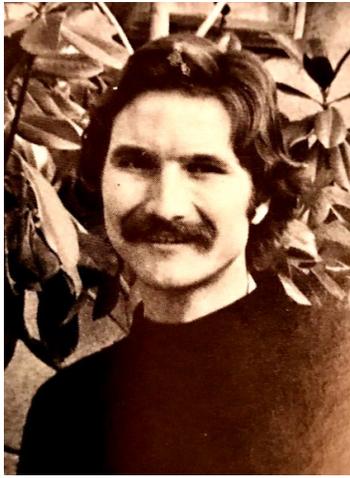
In 1975, Doug spent a year in France, where he went to study, but more importantly, where he finally came out to himself, started having sex with men, and confronted the fact that he had to deal with all of this once he got back to the U.S.

In 1978, when the Briggs Initiative – Proposition 6 – was launched following Anita Bryant’s “Save Our Children” campaign, outlawing a gay-rights ordinance in Dade County, FL, LGBTQ staff and faculty in California’s schools were suddenly targeted for identification, termination, blackballing and, perhaps, prosecution on morals charges. With that sword hanging over his head, the recently-awakening Doug had his first encounter with bullhorn-wielding SF Supervisor Harvey Milk, making one of his impassioned “I’m here to recruit you” speeches.

“That experience changed my life in such a profound way that I’ve, luckily, never been the same,” Doug recounts. “Harvey encouraged those of us most at risk to march in protest parades – perhaps ‘with a bag over our heads,’ if necessary, to make the point! I knew I was not going to march with a bag over my head, but I also knew that something had to change in my life. I helped in the ‘No on 6’ campaign ‘behind the scenes,’ because I was still fearful. I had to get out of Harbor High School – and perhaps into a different field – if I were ever going to feel safe, powerful and useful in this culture.”

One of those pivotal moments indicating it was time to move on came in the context of an involuntary audience with the principal of Harbor High.

“He called me into his office one day,” Doug recounts, “and started the ball rolling with ‘I’ve heard rumors about you and I don’t want to know any of the details – I don’t want to be custodian of that information’. If I was, in fact, gay, however, he warned me not to be open with other faculty/staff, the students or – God forbid – their families. I was indirectly ordered to stay in the closet. It was all way too much for me!”



Doug at Age 26 – Harbor High School Teacher – “The quiet before the storm!”

Twenty days after the 7th November victory parties celebrating the success of “No on 6”, Harvey Milk and SF Mayor George Moscone were assassinated by homophobic Supervisor Dan White. This hurtled some people into participating in candle-light marches or gay rights activism; others descended into feelings of depression and hopelessness.

“I was 27 years old and went into one of the most profound depressions of my time on the planet,” Doug recalls sadly. “Because it felt like the end of the world, I started seeing a therapist within a few weeks to help me deal with this sense of desolation and despair. The guy repeatedly tried to assure me that it was NOT the end of the world and asked the hypothetical – but very powerful – question: ‘What would Harvey Milk say to you?’ I agreed with my therapist that Harvey would want me to ‘get off my ass’ and carry on any of his work that I could. I knew I probably couldn’t do that as a teacher in a homophobic high school. As my therapist and I explored other things I might do with my life, I began to think ‘maybe I’ll become one of you,’ working with my own community and the public at large to help bolster self-esteem in our community and promote understanding in the wider world.”

[Editor’s note: In 1973, the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality as diagnostic of a psychiatric disorder in the DSM-II (second edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual); in DSM-III (1980), “Sexual Orientation Disturbance” was replaced by “Ego-Dystonic Homosexuality” (meaning someone whose life was severely affected by his/her homosexuality, perhaps approaching dysfunctionality in daily life); in 1990, the World Health Organization removed homosexuality per se from the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10).]

In 1979, the same year that he received Harbor High’s “Teacher of the Year” award, he felt unsafe and “hounded out” of that job, deciding to head back to UW for graduate school in psychology as an openly gay man.

“Even in the interviews leading up to acceptance in the program, I – somewhat haltingly at first – made it clear that I’m a gay man and I don’t intend to conceal that,” Doug recalls. “I was not going to live a double life anymore. I offered them an out, saying that if this was a deal-breaker, I would look elsewhere for my degree. Their response was that there weren’t any other homosexuals in the program – that they knew of – but that it didn’t serve to disqualify me! Not exactly open-arms acceptance, but good enough for me to enroll in the program.”

After graduation with his PhD in Clinical Psychology, Doug went into private practice in Seattle for 30+ years, beginning in 1983. During that time, he became involved in a long-term relationship and eventually married an ER physician. Together, they bred Samoyeds and Golden Retrievers, getting involved in the dog-show world. For various reasons, that relationship ended in divorce in 2011, prompting Doug to explore jobs outside of his beloved memory-filled Seattle.



Doug and his ex-husband raised dogs and participated in dog-shows – a new avocation at age 42

“That I wound up in Contra Costa County is the result of several flukes,” Doug recalls. “I was totally unfamiliar with the East Bay, but accepted a post here at JFK University, where I started teaching diagnostic assessment, based on my years as an FAA evaluator of potential pilots. Ten weeks later, they asked me to be department chair of the Clinical PsyD (Doctor of Psychology) Program. Since I didn’t know any better, I agreed. The result has been incredible. I love being here. I’m much better suited to an environment where I interact with lots of people – students, colleagues, and community members. I find psychology endlessly fascinating. I particularly love helping prepare students for working in a multi-cultural society, serving the disadvantaged and homeless, prisoners and other disenfranchised members of the community.”

One of his major areas of personal/professional interest is working in the prevention of – and treatment of those who have been subjected to – aversion therapy targeting LGBTQ individuals.

“Working with survivors of electro-shock therapy has been a mind-boggling part of my career,” Doug says. “One of my first patients was a young Mormon man who had been forced into shock therapy at BYU. I started looking at policies – or lack of same – about the use of such methods. Working with survivors to help them heal from these assaults on their very personhood is one thing; acting to prevent future such travesties is another. My involvement took a major turn in 2012 when then-State-Senator Ted Lieu submitted the first conversion therapy bill to the California legislature. I worked with the coalition supporting that bill, testifying before policy-making bodies and trying to sell it to the legislature and the public. Ted – an ex-Army, Taiwanese-American fellow – became a gay rights activist! And I was influenced to become more involved myself when I saw a cable TV program on Michele Bachmann and her ‘whacko’ husband, Marcus, whose corrupt and immoral ‘conversion program’ had no right to stay in business, running a scam

targeting my community!"

[Editor's Note: There are currently 16 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico that have passed anti-conversion-therapy laws, in addition to over 50 local jurisdictions (counties, cities and communities). That means there are 34 states where it is still legal. There is currently pending legislation in Colorado and Maine.]



Doug (standing behind Gov. Jay Inslee) as Washington's gay conversion-therapy ban was signed into law, March 2018

Among the many peer-reviewed articles Doug has written, an early such piece concerned access to health/mental health and social services for LGBTQ seniors.

"I was surprised at the time to put the pieces together – as LGBT individuals, we start off in life more dependent on others, less secure in ourselves, mustering ego-strength to come out," Doug says, "and many of us still feel those things at the end of our lives! We may have been dealing alone with the loss of a beloved but unacknowledged partner, maybe suffered from a hostile family or institution that makes us fear similar rejection or retribution when we need senior services or must move to a skilled nursing facility (SNF). We may go back into the closet, which becomes a health crisis. Aging is hard enough under the best of circumstances, but it's unconscionable that we should feel we are in danger simply being who we've been all of our lives. The resulting depression brings up all kinds of negative mental health consequences, something I am still very concerned about."

Within a year after his arrival in Contra Costa County, Doug felt he was far enough through his own mourning process at the end of his 30-year relationship to perhaps start dating again.

"I gingerly stuck my toe into the on-line dating scene," he recalls, "though I much prefer meeting people face-to-face in a bar or at a social event. I'm delighted to say that Michael and I have been together happily for six years. He's a solid Canadian, pretty much the opposite of my ex-husband: no more blaming, criticizing, withholding in anger, and so on. It's such a nice change in a very good way. We live near the campus here and enjoy each other very much."

And what about the Gay Games mentioned as life influences in the lead of this story?

"I have always believed that physical activity is paramount in maintaining

sound mental and physical health,” Doug says. “I’m an inveterate long-distance runner, having participated in dozens of marathons and half-marathons over the years, mostly in Europe, but also some in the U.S. and Canada. In fact, I attended the Paris Gay Games last summer and am convinced more than ever that regular exercise is a vital part of the formula for long and happy life.”

Doug has been involved in the International Lesbian and Gay Athletic Association, MSF (in English, Doctors Without Borders) and various humanitarian relief organizations.



Doug speaking as an “Elder Gay Athlete” four months ago

“One of the groups I’m proudest of being involved with provides a summer camp for gay men and refugees seeking asylum in Sweden,” Doug says. “When you are fleeing from homophobic violence, political or religious persecution, you need a place to relax – and experience the joys of exercising your body and your mind with like-minded individuals who’ve experienced the same thing, whether in repressive countries around Africa or the rest of the developing world!”

And what about the reference to “Tales of the City” in the opening paragraph of this story?

“Coming out to my Mom was initially semi-disastrous,” Doug recalls. “Though most of my family and friends were very supportive from the get-go – my grandparents still adored me! – Mom could only focus on how difficult my life would be. More importantly, I think, the fact that – since I’m her only child – she was upset that she would likely never have grandchildren! Since I didn’t foresee having children in my life through adoption or surrogacy, I simply told her I felt it wasn’t my responsibility to commit fraud to provide her with grandkids! So we were at something of a stalemate.”

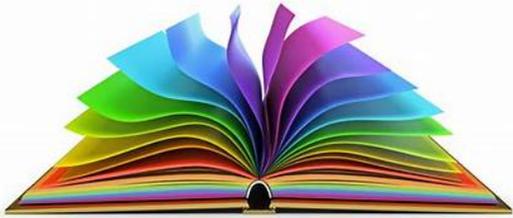
But then a cultural phenomenon in the *San Francisco Chronicle* resolved that stalemate!

“One day, she called me from her home in the Santa Cruz mountains to ask, very excitedly, ‘Have you read the paper today!’ She was almost giddy with the fact that the serialized version of Armistead Maupin’s ‘Tales of the City’ had a straight girl from the Midwest interacting with homosexuals! That series totally turned the tide for me with my Mom. In fact, I wrote to Armistead to thank him for engaging my Mom and helping change our relationship for the better. She was a ‘Tales...’ addict from the first episode, avidly reading that

serial every day and was devastated when it ended!"

Thanks, Doug, for sharing some of your story, for your ongoing support to the LGBTQ community and for helping influence future generations of therapists! All best to you and yours for 2019 and beyond!

[Editor's Note: For anyone interested in hearing more from Doug Haldeman, PhD, Chair of JFKU's Clinical Psychology PsyD program, he will be presenting to Lavender Seniors' Third Friday Lunch Bunch on June 21st. See information elsewhere in this newsletter.]



BOOK REVIEW

Love & Resistance: Out of the Closet into the Stonewall Era

Edited by Jason Baumann, Photographs by Kay Tobin Lahusen and Diana Davies

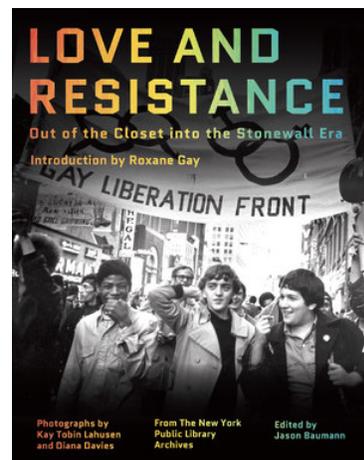
Our memories will be stirred by this pictorial collection of gay and lesbian history of the 1960's and 70's. Each picture has a brief comment by folks who were there.

The parade of courageous people includes the following:

- Barbara Gittings of the Daughters of Bilitis, the National Gay Task Force and the American Library Association
- Craig Rodwell, founder of the Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop
- Frank Kameny, who was kicked out of the U. S. Civil Service because he was a member of the Mattachine Society in Washington D.C.
- Rev. Robert Wood, minister at the United Church of Christ. He published "Christ And The Homosexual"
- Rev. Troy Perry, who founded the Metropolitan Community Church in 1968 and published "The Lord Is My Shepherd and He Knows I'm Gay" in 1972.
- Dick Michaels, who founded "The Advocate"
- Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, who created the Daughters of Bilitis and the magazine "The Ladder"
- Barbara Gittings & Frank Kameny, who both testified before the American Psychiatric Association. The panel was called "Psychiatry: Friend or Foe to Homosexuals; A Dialogue". Homosexuality was removed from the schedule of mental illnesses in 1973.

Jason Baumann has compiled a memorable collection of gay and lesbian history.

Read it with joy in your heart. - Frank J. Howell



CONNECTIONS



Have you moved out of the area, do you want to get in contact with other Lavender Seniors near you or someone you have lost contact with? [Email us](mailto:karen@lavenderseniors.org) and we will try to help out. No information will be shared without your specific permission.

LAVENDER SENIORS FRIENDLY VISITOR PROGRAM HAS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

Volunteers with the Lavender Seniors Friendly Visitor program are background checked, interviewed and trained, after which they are matched with a senior to visit regularly, usually for a couple hours each week. Visitors can share stories, chat about mutual interests and current events, and if both are willing and able, volunteers can take their seniors out for a walk in the park, a bite to eat, a cup of coffee, shopping or maybe a movie or a trip to the museum.

We ask volunteers to make a commitment of at least six months.

If you are in need of a Friendly Visitor, we can help with that too!

Please contact us at karen@lavenderseniors.org or (510) 424-7240 and we will be in touch with you soon. Thank You!

Lavender Scrolls Exhibit: San Leandro Senior Center Pride Month

The San Leandro Senior Center is celebrating Pride Month and Lavender Seniors' 25th Anniversary by exhibiting the Lavender Scrolls throughout Pride Month, 1st through 30th June.



SILENT SCROLL

There were a number of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender elders who wanted to share their stories with the Lavender Scrolls Project. However, they declined to openly share their stories out of concern for their safety or the safety of their loved ones.

The risk was particularly difficult for LGBT elders of color, a testimony to multiple oppression. We include this silent scroll as a witness to all that is yet to be done to support all LGBT elders in being safe, visible and celebrated.



Example of the life-sized scrolls; the "Silent Scroll" and the San Leandro Senior Center

Come celebrate LSEB and show your Pride by enjoying the scrolls at the San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 East 14th Street, San Leandro. Copies of the City's Pride proclamations will also be exhibited. The original scrolls – produced in 2006-07 by Lavender Seniors of the East Bay to increase visibility of LGBTQ seniors – are scheduled to be complemented with new subjects in the near future.

The Center's hours are from 8:30am until 5pm Monday through Friday. There is ample parking at the Center, which is also close to public transportation (AC-Transit and San Leandro BART station).

San Leandro City Council Pride Month Proclamation

The San Leandro City Council is issuing an LGBTQ Pride Month proclamation, celebrating both Pride Month and the Silver (25th) Anniversary of the founding of Lavender Seniors of the East Bay. In fact, the organization was founded at a San Leandro restaurant back in 1994.

Presentation of the proclamation will occur at 7pm on Monday, 3rd June, in the City Council Room, 835 E 14th St, San Leandro.

After the proclamation is unveiled, there will be a small reception with refreshments in the Sister Cities Room next door. (To help with planning refreshments, please RSVP by texting Barbara Jue at 510.755.5691.)

All from the Lavender Seniors community are encouraged to attend and share in this proud moment!



Second Saturday Rainbow Lunch June 8, Noon-2:00 pm

All Saints Episcopal Church
911 Dowling Blvd, San Leandro

Program: Andrea Mok: FLEX on Demand Rides Program-San Leandro Segment

Learn about the transportation FLEX on Demand RIDES program as pertains to the City of San Leandro. The City provides \$4.00 towards the ride program for each trip. Learn how the system works for you.

A catered hot buffet luncheon will begin at noon, followed by announcements and the program at approximately 1:00. Feel free to bring a potluck dish to share if you wish.



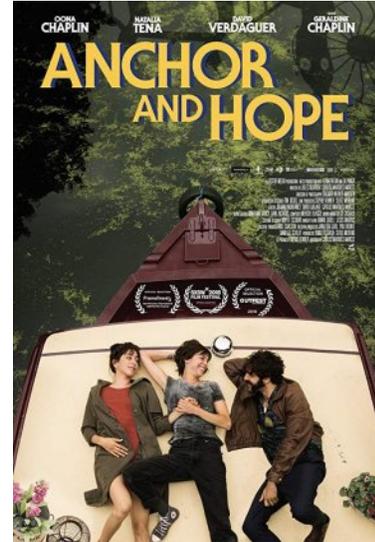
Remember this Month's Date Change: 5th June

Anchor and Hope

In their mid-30s, Eva (Oona Chaplin – named after her grandmother, Charlie Chaplin’s second wife) and Kat (Natalia Tena) are a lesbian couple having a fun and carefree simple life in their London canal boat. Things take a turn when Eva, inspired by her exceptional mother, Germaine (played by her real-life mother, Geraldine Chaplin, well-known for her role as Yuri’s dutiful wife, Tonya, in the 1965 classic, “Doctor Zhivago”), presents Kat with an ultimatum: she wants a child. Kat resists, knowing that it might end the bohemian lifestyle that she’s always envisioned and enjoyed with Eva.

When Kat’s best (gay?) friend, Roger (David Verdaguer), drops in from Barcelona, the three of them toy around with the idea of creating a baby together. Kat sees no other way out but to say yes. As the three begin to look forward as one family, their differing expectations of intimacy and responsibility put a heavy strain on their relationship and threatens to rip the three apart.

Surprisingly, the unusual do-it-yourself donor insemination is successful. As Eva enjoys her pregnancy and Roger fantasizes about his role in this new family, Kat begins to feel like a third wheel and starts to distance herself. When Eva has an unexpected miscarriage, everyone’s true feelings are laid bare.



On the canal boat: Kat and Eva Kissing, while Roger stares into space; standing on top; inside the canal boat, some confusion

This 2017 comedy-drama received a 74% rating on Rotten Tomatoes and a 76% rating on the “Audience Liked It!” rating system.

For this month **ONLY** – because of scheduling problems with the library – the film will be shown at 1pm on the **FIRST** Wednesday, 5th June, in the fully-accessible Carnegie Lecture Hall at the San Leandro Public Library, 300 Estudillo. Following the showing, there will be a brief evaluation and discussion of the film.

Attendees are reminded that the theater is frequently chilly, so that a sweater or light jacket is recommended. Library staff report that temperature is controlled automatically and cannot be altered for any one room in the facility.

The library can be reached via BART (five blocks above the San Leandro station), AC-Transit (two blocks above the E. 14th and Estudillo bus-stop), Bancroft Avenue, Highways 580 or 880. Ample two- and three-hour parking is available.



Visible and Vibrant: My Life as an Elder Gay Athlete/Scholar/Volunteer

This month's (21st June) presenter at the Third Friday Lunch Bunch will be Doug Haldeman (see "Stories of Our Lives" above) discussing his life as a self-described "elder gay man".

"My aging process as a gay man has included what I think of as the three pillars of my life," Doug says. "These pillars include visibility, activity and community service."

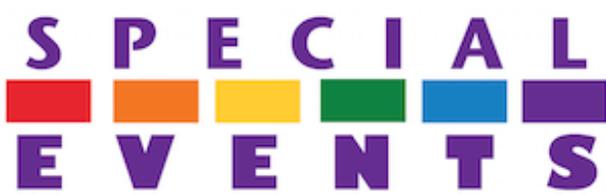
As an openly-gay licensed clinical psychologist approaching 70, Doug will discuss what sets members of the LGBTQ community apart in the aging process and how he is personally and professionally addressing that difference through:

- Work (in and out of the office), such as his world-wide work to ban conversion therapy;
- Play (e.g., staying energetic through participation in the International Gay and Lesbian Athletic Association and at Gay Games events); and
- Service to the community/world (e.g., working with gay refugees at home and abroad).



As usual, a nutritious buffet lunch will be served promptly at 12 noon (vegetarian options available), followed by a brief break for community announcements around 12:45. Then the program will be turned over to Doug, followed by adequate time for Q&A. He will be available afterward for answering any personal questions.

The North Oakland Senior Center is located at 5714 MLK Jr Way (corner of 58th Street). Ample parking and entrance are at the rear of the building off of 58th Street.



Silver Anniversary

Celebration 9th November

[Save the date, one and all!]

This year, Lavender Seniors of the East Bay will be commemorating the Silver (25th) Anniversary of its founding. On Saturday, 9th November 2019, at a location still to be determined, the organization – which received its 501(c)(3) non-profit status from the IRS last year on 3rd April 2018 – will celebrate this anniversary from 1-5pm. Mark it on your calendar in PEN, not PENCIL now before you plan that pre-Thanksgiving trip to Pago Pago or Peoria!

As some of you may recall, the Platinum (20th) Anniversary celebration was held at the North Oakland Senior Center on 8th November 2014, with 228 LGBTQ seniors and their allies officially in attendance (see photos below). Though many things have changed since then, the basic mission of the organization has NOT changed. As stated on LSEB letterhead, our Mission Statement remains:

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of older lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) residents of the East Bay through community building, education and advocacy. We strive to keep older LGBT adults connected to their communities.

Though many of the 34 concerned LGBTQ who met on that fateful evening in 1994 – to discuss the discrepancies between aging among our community members and the population at large – have since passed away, we are particularly hopeful that some surviving members of that initial meeting will be on hand to be celebrated for their forethought, as well.

The speakers, entertainers and musical groups who performed at the 2014 event will, hopefully, be available this year, as well, along with new individuals and groups identified since then. The organizing committee will be soliciting useful items, gift cards and the like to use as door prizes to break up the program. And, of course, there will be delicious, nutritious food served for all – like the magnificent menu offered five years ago.





Scenes from the Platinum Anniversary Celebration, 8th November 2014. (Photos by Sandy Morris)

Speaking of the "organizing committee," the Board of Directors is seeking assistance from anybody with any event-planning, fund-raising or just plain grunt-work experience in putting together such a celebration. Anyone willing to volunteer for this committee a few hours each month between now and 9th November is encouraged to make their skills and networking experience available by contacting either Info@LavenderSeniors.org or leaving a voice-mail (with clearly-stated contact phone number) at our message phone: (510) 736-LGBT, as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, watch this newsletter for monthly updates on the celebration as all unfolds!

FOUNDERS' CORNER

SALLY GEARHART AND LAVENDER SENIORS OF THE EAST BAY CELEBRATED AT SAN LEANDRO LIBRARY

300 Estudillo Avenue
San Leandro, California 94577

SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2019

2 PM: DEBORAH CRAIG'S FILM "A GREAT RIDE"

Highlighting LGBTQ Political Activist **Sally Gearhart**

**2:30 PM: Interview with COMMUNITY ACTIVIST BRENDA
CRAWFORD BY POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR AL SCHENDAN**

Note: Sally Gearhart was featured in the Oscar-winning documentary "The Times of Harvey Milk" (1984). She was a friend and colleague of Milk and worked with him on the 1978 defeat of Proposition 6, a California ballot initiative that sought to exclude gay men and lesbians from teaching in public schools. She is also an acclaimed author of feminist science fiction. Sally Gearhart now needs 24-hour care and friends have set up a crowdfunding page to accept donations.

The GoFundMe campaign can be found at:

<https://www.gofundme.com/mvc.php?>

QUEER WOMEN OF COLOR 15th ANNUAL FILM FESTIVAL

JUNE 14.15.16
(Free)

BRAVA THEATER CENTER
2789 24th STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

festival@qwocmap.org
415.752.0868
www.qwocmap.org

EVERLASTING BONDS –
OPENING NIGHT: FRIDAY, JUNE 14 @ 7:30 PM

RISING PERSISTENCE –
CENTERPIECE: SATURDAY, JUNE 15 @7:00 PM

BELONGING FOREVER –
CLOSING NIGHT: SUNDAY, JUNE 16 @5:00 PM



Pride is in the Air...let us know about your celebrations!

[Sonoma County](#), May 31 - June 2, Old Court House Square, Santa Rosa
[Concord](#), May 31 [Pride Flag Raising](#), Concord City Hall, June 1 12 - 6 pm,
Pride on the Plaza, Todos Santos Plaza, Concord

[San Leandro Senior Community Center](#), Pride month featuring Lavender
Senior Scrolls, June 1-30, 13909 E. 14th St., San Leandro

[Richmond](#), June 2 10 am, Marina Way Park in Richmond

[Sacramento](#), June 8 & 9, 11 am – 5 pm at Capitol Park

[Emeryville Senior Center](#), June 14 11 am – noon, 4321 Salem St,
Emeryville (see more info below)

[San Francisco](#), June 29-30, Civic Center Plaza

[Castro Valley](#), July 13, 12:00 - 5:00 pm at Castro Valley High School.

[Silicon Valley](#), August 24, Plaza de César Chávez Park, 1 Paseo De San
Antonio, San Jose, CA

[Oakland](#), September 8, PARADE kicks off 11:00 am at Broadway & 14th St.,
FESTIVAL 11:00 am-7:00 pm.

Editors Note: Hyperlinks to websites available in blue



Karen Ripley & Annie Larson at Emeryville LGBTQ Pride

Ready to Laugh? With so much to be concerned about in the world these days, we need our funny bones tickled; and you don't have to be LGBTQ to enjoy the humor of these women!

June is Pride month and the event is the Second Annual LGBTQ Pride Presentation at the Emeryville Senior Center, 4321 Salem St, Friday, 14th June, from 11am-noon.

Following last year's address and historical video from Lavender Seniors, this year there will be "Comedy Hour with the Girlz", featuring two Bay Area Queens of Comedy – Karen Ripley and Annie Larson. These women co-founded the 'Over Our Heads' improv troupe in the 80s and have performed together and apart, locally and nationally ever since.

They received the 2005 Best Musical Comedy Award at the SF Fringe Festival for their original work in "Show Me Where It Hurts."

Karen is also a comedy and improv teacher and solo performer. In 2009, she was named to *Ms.* Magazine's Top 100 Lesbian Comics list.

Annie is a playwright, teacher, and actress from off-off-Broadway to national stages. After Emeryville, she heads to opening night in a new production at Concord's B8 Theatre.



Karen Ripley



Annie Larson

Friends, family, and allies are encouraged to attend and enjoy the wit and whimsy of these funny, generous women who are always open to community service.

For those using public transportation, an Emery-Go-Round bus can be taken (every 15 minutes) from the MacArthur BART station – or from the 9th Street Berkeley Bowl – to Park and San Pablo, followed by a five-minute, four-block walk to the Center

United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County 28th Annual Convention

Friday, 7th June 2019
St. Columba Catholic Church Hall
6401 San Pablo Avenue at Alcatraz, Oakland, CA

Registration: 8:30 AM

Program: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Program Highlights:

- Affordable Housing for Seniors
- Senior Nutrition and Food Insecurity
- Walkable Neighborhoods for Seniors
- 20 Senior Health and Wellness Exhibitors
- Continental Breakfast and Lunch provided

RSVP by Friday May 31st, 2019

Contact: Mary Bradd (510) 729-0852 or email: Mary@USOAC.org

Parking: in back on Ocean Ave.

Public Transportation: Take AC Transit #72 to San Pablo Ave. and Alcatraz Ave.

Berkeley Library – Claremont – Free LGBTQ Films

The Claremont branch of the Berkeley Library has a Wednesday evening (5:30-7:30pm) movie series that usually has a monthly theme. June has LGBTQ-themed films. The month schedule is below, with hyperlinks for getting more information about each film:

6/5 June: Dykes, Camera, Action! (A history of queer films from the women who made them)

<https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/events/dykes-camera-action-claremont>

6/12: Pride (U.K. gay activists assist striking miners in the summer of 1984).

<https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/events/pride-claremont>

6/19: Saving Face (Sweet comedy re Asian lesbian hiding her sexuality from her mother).

<https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/events/saving-face-claremont>

6/26: Moonlight (controversial winner of three 2017 Academy Awards, including "Best Picture")

<https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/events/moonlight-claremont>

"It's not the best movie-going experience," according to Robin Earth, who alerted us to this LGBTQ-focused film series, "because the meeting-room chairs are hard and the floor is level, which means heads can sometimes be in the way. Also, the lighting

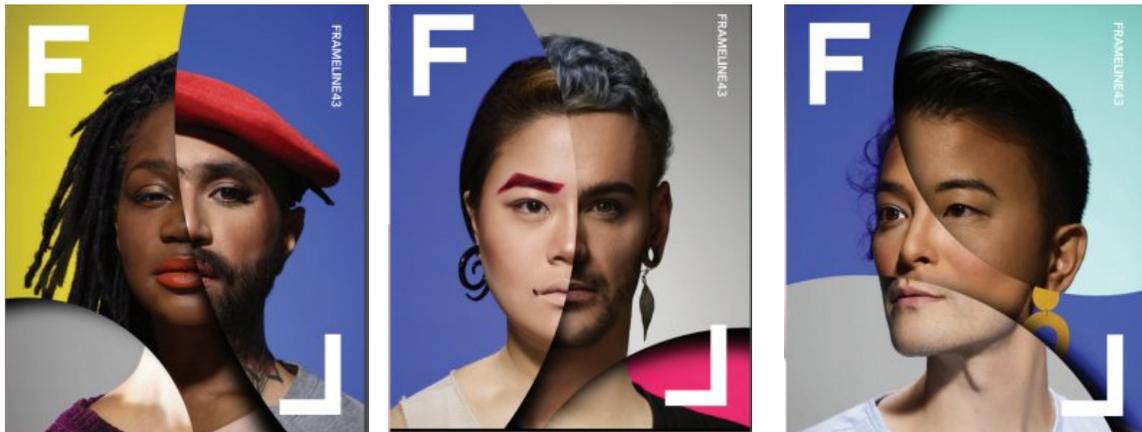
is not the best, and the sound quality could be better, BUT the films are free and there is a nice community feel there. I like supporting the library in showing these quality films.”

The Claremont Branch of the Berkeley Public Library is at 2940 Benvenue Ave, Berkeley, near Ashby. This branch is served by AC-Transit bus lines 49 and 51B. According to the library website, there is no parking lot and metered street parking is “almost always scarce”.

Frameline Internat'l LGBTQ Film Festival, 20-30th June

This year's Frameline – the oldest and largest LGBTQ film festival in the world – is being held from 20-30th June this year, with showings at the Castro, the Roxie, the Victoria and the DeYoung Museum in San Francisco; the Shattuck in Berkeley; and the Piedmont in Oakland.

This year's slate includes 59 films screening for the first time in the US, including 22 world premieres, 8 international premieres, 12 North American premieres, and 17 US premieres. The lineup also contains a record-breaking 22 first narrative features.



Composite faces from various of the LGBTQ-themed films being shown from 38 countries at Frameline 43

With last year's audience reaching over 62,000, Frameline43 will draw film lovers, media artists, and LGBTQ+ communities from the Bay Area and all across the globe to discover the latest slate of queer cinema. Thirty-eight countries will be represented, including China, Argentina, Brazil, Iran, Italy, Romania, Vietnam, India, Guatemala, and Indonesia. Frameline will also welcome a number of high-profile guests during its 11 days of programs, including Trixie Mattel, Angelica Ross, Carol Lynley, Mike Doyle, Bruce Vilanch, Nicole Maines, Brendan Scannell, and Montgomery Clift's nephew, Robert Anderson Clift, who co-directs (with his husband) the revealing “Making Montgomery Clift” about the handsome actor many young gay men adored back in the day.

Another Pride Month special, co-sponsored by Frameline and the San Francisco Symphony, there will be a showing of the Oscar-winning 2017 film, “Call Me By Your Name,” accompanied by the Symphony at Davies Hall, Tuesday, 18th June, at 7:30pm. For more information, call 415-864-6000 or see <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2019-20/Film-Call-Me-by-Your-Name-%E2%80%93-Feature-Film-with-the.aspx>.



The gay-themed film accompanied by the San Francisco Symphony

Frameline's mission is to change the world through the power of queer cinema. As a media arts non-profit, Frameline's programs connect filmmakers and audiences in the Bay Area and around the world. Our integrated programs provide critical funding for merging LGBTQ+ filmmakers, reach hundreds of thousands with a collection of more than 250 films distributed globally, inspire thousands of students by sending free films and curricula to schools across the nation through Youth in Motion, create an international stage for the world's best queer film through the San Francisco International LGBTQ+ Film Festival, and champion LGBTQ+ stories year-round with screenings and cinematic events. For more information: <https://www.frameline.org/festival>

Temporary Jobs Available for Census 2020

Census Jobs are available with over 1,000 enumerators hired to count Alameda County residents. The application window is anticipated to be September 2019 – January 2020.

Enumerator work done remotely between April – July 2020 pays at \$25 per hour. Training is required. For more information, go to <https://2020census.gov/jobs>.

Note: The goal of Census 2020 is to ensure every eligible resident completes the Census Survey for 2020. California receives \$76 billion in federal funding based on the state's population. Alameda County receives about 60% of its revenue from Federal and State resources.

Each person not counted equates to a loss of about \$1,958 in funding Per Year. If Alameda County undercounts by only 3%, it would lose \$1 Billion over 10 years. Since the Census is only taken every 10 years, it is imperative that the count be as comprehensive as possible.

**Well Connected
Enriching lives and supporting
well-being.**

(FORMERLY SENIOR CENTER WITHOUT WALLS)

Community Phone Calls

This award-winning program offers activities, education, support groups, and friendly conversation over the phone or online.

Just a few of the things offered:

LGBTQ Chat 2nd and 4th Mondays, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

This group is open to all LGBTQ older adults to connect with others socially in a supportive environment where participants can share individual and collective experiences. Facilitated by Ariel Mellinger, ASW, Support and Wellness Coordinator, Openhouse SF

Music's Memory Lane Tuesdays, 6:00pm – 6:45pm

Each week we'll discuss a hit song, vintage television variety show, or a memorable musician in music history. From Big Band music to the Beatles, we'll dive into our recollections of concerts, lyricists, and pop culture. Facilitated by Steve Maraccini

Perplexing Questions Sundays, 2:00pm – 2:30pm

Have you ever wondered how a fly can walk upside down on the ceiling? Or how a camel can go so long without water? Find out the answers to some head-scratching questions. Facilitated by Sharon Schwartz

View the Current catalog of community phone calls [here](#). Check the [website](#) for more information. To participate in these or other Well Connected telephone activities, or to learn more about their programs, call 877-797-7299 or email coviaconnections@covia.org.



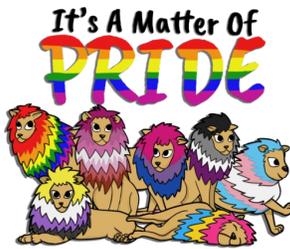
LGBT Online Support Group for Caregivers

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 [LGBT Caring Community Online Support Group](#).



THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

Out Standing Seniors - Sponsored by Pacific Center

June 4 & 18 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tuesdays)
Hayward Senior Center, 22325 N. Third Street, Hayward

[Join Meet-Up](#)

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

LezBold (formerly Aging Lesbian) Peer Support Group

June 6 & 20, 12:30 p.m. (1st and 3rd Thursdays)
The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Avenue (at Derby), Berkeley

Find support and like-minded wonderful people!

Older & Out Therapy Group - Berkeley - Sponsored by Pacific Center

June 7, 14, 21, 28, 3:15 p.m. (Fridays)
North Berkeley Senior Center, 901 Hearst Ave, Berkeley

Free drop-in therapy group for LGBTQ community members age 60+

Older & Out Therapy Group - Oakland - Sponsored by Pacific Center

June 7, 14, 21, 28 2:15 p.m. (Fridays)
Oakland LGBTQ Community Center, 3207 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland

Free drop-in therapy group for LGBTQ community members age 60+

Older & Out Therapy Group - Hayward - Sponsored by Pacific Center

June 3, 10, 17, 24 1:15 p.m. (Mondays)
Hayward Senior Center, 22325 N. Third Street, Hayward

Free drop-in therapy group for LGBTQ community members age 60+

Rainbow Seniors - Sponsored by Pacific Center & Lavender Seniors

June 11 & 25, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. (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. FREE, though donations are welcome.

Living OUT in Livermore - Sponsored by Pacific Center

June 11, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. (2nd Tuesdays)
Robert Livermore Community Center Senior Services, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore 94550 [Join Meet-Up](#)

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

Lavender Seniors Board Meeting

June 12, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (2nd Wednesday)

4300 Bermuda, Oakland

A portion of this meeting is open to the public.

Senior Gay Men's Group

June 6, 13, 20, 27, 1:30 p.m. (Weekly on 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!

Lavender Seniors Second Saturday Rainbow Lunch

June 8, noon - 2:00 p.m.

All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Blvd., San Leandro

This month's program: "FLEX Rides Program" (see info above)

Lavender Seniors LGBTQ Film Series

June 5, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. (3rd Wednesday) ***Date change-1st Wednesday this month only***

San Leandro Library, 300 Estudillo, San Leandro

This month's movie: "Anchor and Hope" (see info above)

Tri-Valley Rainbows - Sponsored by Pacific Center

June 20, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. (3rd Thursday)

City of Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin 94568

Join Meet-up

A Peer Support Group is a safe & confidential space for LGBT Seniors 50+ to share thoughts, feelings, resources, information & to support one another.

Oakland Third Friday Lunch Bunch

Sponsored by City of Oakland Aging/Adult Services & Lavender Seniors of the East Bay

June 21, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

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

This month's program: "Doug Haldeman" (see info above)

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay Board of Directors

President: Victor Aguilar Jr

Vice President: Gwendolyn M. Boozé

Treasurer: Carmen Chiong

Secretary: John David Dupree

Founding Member: Barbara Jue

Member: Melissa West

Member: Ana Bagtas

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay

Message: 510-736-LGBT (510-736-5428)

Friendly Visitor Program: (510) 424-7240 or

Newsletter Editorial
Board:

karen@lavenderseniors.org

Mailing Address: 4123 Broadway,
Ste 818
Oakland, CA 94611

Website: <http://lavenderseniors.org>

Beckie Underwood
John David Dupree
Barbara Jue

Contact Us

