



Lavender Notes

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

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June 2020 - Volume 26 Issue 6



Tribute for a Life-Well-Lived

Charles Thomas Grote

Lavender Seniors lost another of its own on 8th April 2020. Fortunately for him and David C. Smith, his partner of 48 years, they were able to shelter-in-place together in their San Leandro home while Charles lost his long battle with bladder cancer. He was 70 years old.

"Charles had two goals during the last few years," David recalls. "He wanted to make it to three-score-and-ten – 70 – which he did with an extra month to spare. Once we knew the seriousness of his illness a couple years back, we had also targeted him making it at least to our golden – 50th – anniversary, which would have been in June 2022. Though I'm literally desolate without him, I'm happy that he reached 50 per cent of those end-of-life goals! How many of us can say we left this world batting .500?"



Charles was born 7th March 1950 in Cincinnati, Ohio. He met his "long-time companion" in 1972, when David was 38 and Charles was 22. They officially began their life together on 14 June 1972.

Like any couple, David and Charles had their ups and downs over the years. One of the most harrowing incidents in their 48 years together happened when they'd been together about seven years and were still living in



Mendocino County. They were on their way to vacation in Reno when the Ranchero and trailer it was pulling flipped over, flattening both.

"We both walked away unscathed," David recalls.

"Charles used to say that we got a second chance at life together. If we could overcome that, we could survive anything! And we did – 'til now!"

Though it's a bit difficult to see in this old news clipping from 14 September 1979, there's an inset in the upper right of Charles looking a bit forlorn as the tow truck staff started cleaning up the rubble.

"One of our inside jokes over the last few years," David says, "is that I hooked up with a man so much younger than me in order that I'd have someone to take care of me in my old age. Then it became clear he was going to move on before me and the love he'd leave behind would have to sustain me. It's been a 'good ride,' as the young people say. I will miss him terribly."

Charles was active at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. He also regularly attended various Lavender Seniors events, including the Second Saturday Rainbow Lunch and the Third Wednesday LGBTQ Film Series.

STORIES OF OUR LIVES

Judge Tara Mary Anne Flanagan

It all started in Grants Pass, Oregon. When she was a 12-year-old paper-girl, she delivered the Daily Courier - Josephine County's newspaper of record – after school each day. One of Tara's favorite customers among the county buildings – at the county courthouse – was a judge whose influence has affected her to this day.

"This judge – who always paid his bill on time! – sometimes chatted with me in his chambers," Tara recalls. "I saw all these books, leather chairs and mahogany desks and thought this guy really had a very learned and respected position. Since he was off the bench by late afternoon, he would share little stories about what goes on in a courtroom. This was a pretty appealing set-up to me, so I decided at a very early age that this was the career I wanted! My career dream was set!"

Tara was born in San Francisco in October 1963, the sixth of seven siblings – three boys and four girls. Her mother was one of 13 children born to Ukrainian immigrants on the Alberta prairies of Canada. Her father was in the Merchant Marines, which meant he was gone a lot.

"That meant that Mom was basically a single mother trying to manage seven kids most of the time," Tara says. "My parents divorced when I was a toddler. Later, she married my stepfather – another merchant marine – a marriage which ended by the time I was in junior high."



Tara – 1st & 2nd grade (tooth lost in accidental fall onto the concrete from 10-meter diving board)

Since their mother needed a change of scenery after her second divorce, she moved Tara and her siblings from the East Bay to Grants Pass, Oregon, a town of about 13,000 at the time. That move lasted for three years, from 7th to 9th grade.

"At first, I hated the thought of leaving my friends, the Bay Area and all its action," Tara recalls. "I remember thinking 'just KILL me, Mom!' But the fact is, the move was not nearly as bad as I feared it would be. In fact, having that paper route, earning my own money for the first time and having more freedom to explore in a small-town setting gave me a taste of independence, helping set the stage for my future."

The family of Mom and seven children returned to the East Bay when Tara was 14 years old.

"I guess Mom had the break that she needed," Tara says. "She decided that Grants Pass was a bit too red-necked and small-minded for her at the time. She wanted a better place to raise her kids. There was actually an active KKK chapter in town, which didn't reflect our family's values, so she felt it was important to get us out of there, a decision I'm grateful for."

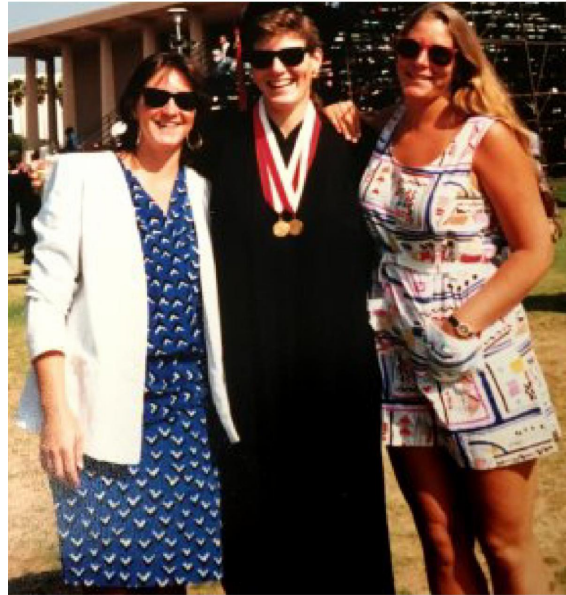
Tara attended Ygnacio Valley High School in Concord, where she was a star student and athlete.

"My focus during those years was getting to college on an athletic scholarship," Tara recalls. "I kept my grades up, was active in student government, but most of all, loved participating in sports, particularly basketball. When I look back on it, most of my coaches – in high school and in college – were lesbians. Yes, I had my obligatory boy prom date, but I wasn't really into it. I was more interested in hanging out with my teammates, who were all girls."

After high school graduation, she did get the dreamed-of athletic scholarship,

playing basketball for CSU in Northridge, which was called North Los Angeles until 1938, when it was declared too confusing and renamed.

"We were a very good team," Tara recalls, "making it to March Madness in my senior year. During my junior year, however, a girlfriend introduced me to women's rugby, a game I knew very little about, not even knowing the rules. At my girlfriends' games, people sized me up and suggested I should play, but my basketball scholarship forbade me from playing other sports. Who knew I would ultimately get totally into this 'new' sport!?"



Tara with two of her sisters, graduation, CSU-Northridge, 1987

Tara graduated in 1987 with a B.S. in Industrial Recreation – focusing on corporate wellness and fitness. Her first job was as recreation director at a North Hollywood senior retirement home, where she not only ran the recreation program, put also played an advocacy role, accompanying seniors to medical, dental and social security appointments, among other things. This gave her another taste of being helpful to others, always an essential part of who she is.

It was during this time that her passion for women's rugby began to take hold.

"Once I was free of the basketball scholarship-related constraints, I was drawn to this sport that I once thought of as 'too rough' for me," Tara says. "But one day, they were short one person – unfair for fourteen to play against fifteen – so I borrowed somebody's jersey and almost immediately took to the game naturally – like a fish to water, you might say. It was a great combination of all the sports I never played while I was growing up. I'm still grateful to the Irish girlfriend who introduced me to rugby, since it turned out to be a very good sport for me – and changed my life in so many ways!"

Tara began playing rugby more and more, experiencing recognition and success. She began being selected for all-star teams.

"Then word got out in the late 80s that there would be a first-ever Women's Rugby World Cup in 1991," Tara recalls, almost reliving the excitement. "I set my sights on being chosen for that team! I played in tournaments all over the country. I was big, strong and fast for a person my size. While I was doing graduate work at UCLA, I participated on their women's rugby team, as well as in a local club. I got selected for the U.S. national team – the Eagles – which would be competing at the April 1991 World Cup in Cardiff, Wales! What an adventure!"

Since the team members were scattered around the U.S., it was impossible to arrange to train together before heading to Wales.

"About one-quarter of us were in Southern California," Tara recalls, "with another quarter from Tallahassee, another quarter in the Boston area – the

rest from other places around the country. Though we'd all played against each other, most of us had never been on the same team. So it was literally a week before the competition that we actually were in the same place – Cardiff, Wales – to practice with each other rather than competing against each other."

The team was coached by a Welshman from Boston and a South African as assistant coach.



The U.S. "Eagles" winning the first-ever Women's Rugby World Cup in Cardiff, Wales, April 1991

"During the two weeks of competition, we defeated Holland, Russia and New Zealand," Tara recalls, "meaning we'd be in the finals against England. We WON the first-ever Women's Rugby World Cup! It was one of the most exciting days of my life! We still honor the anniversary of that win – we had our 25th anniversary in 2016 and will celebrate our 30th next year, presuming we can all travel by then! We had a Zoom cocktail hour for our 29th last month, since we are now all over the U.S. and the world (e.g., Fiji, Europe and Canada)."

The team received an invitation to the G.H.W. Bush White House, where they were hosted by Barbara Bush, because the President was called away that day due to a Middle-East crisis.

"Since the U.S. is not really a rugby nation, there was little fanfare on our return from the World Cup. But we were very happy to be acknowledged by the administration," Tara says. "It was exciting for a bunch of lesbian Democrats to be invited to the pinnacle of American society by the Republican White House. We had high tea, speeches and were received in the Blue Room. We were each introduced to the First Lady, who shook each of our hands and said a few kind words to each of us. Afterward, she posed for photographs with us; in one, somewhat awkwardly, but good-naturedly, hefting a rugby ball like it surely weighed twenty pounds!"



Judge Flanagan's preparations for the next World Cup – Edinburgh, Scotland, 1994 – were complicated by the January 1994 Northridge earthquake. The loss of home and lack of initial access to contents – particularly books, law school applications and rugby gear – was extremely frustrating.

"For several months before the Second World Cup, I struggled with homelessness, finding another place to live, reclaiming what I could from our demolished red-tagged building, and so on," Tara recalls. "I had run out in my pajamas at 4:30 am the morning of the earthquake. When you have no home, no bed, no place of your own, it's hard to focus on such luxuries as World Cup preparations. When we were finally allowed home for a brief period, the first things I grabbed were my athletic equipment and my World Cup medal! About one-third of us were the same team members as the Cardiff World Cup three years earlier. As it turned out, we lost in the Final this time to England, so they evened the score between us. You win some and you lose some – that's what sports are all about."

In June 2017, the 1991 team was inducted into the U.S. Rugby Hall of Fame in San Diego. Each team member has a Hall of Fame trophy cup with all team members' names etched in the glass.

Meanwhile, Tara had finished paralegal school at UCLA's Law School and had begun working at a big L.A. civil-litigation law firm. While she worked full-time as a law clerk, she also started her four-year "night-school" trek toward earning a law degree at Southwestern School of Law. She graduated in 1998. After working in a blue-chip Orange County law firm, doing civil litigation, she became a Deputy District Attorney in L.A. County, working in Criminal Law.

Tara came out as a freshman in college.

"Growing up, I always felt very different from my siblings and most other students," Tara says. "I was the most athletic in my family and always felt very different from other young people. My first semester in college, I looked around me and saw that virtually all of my friends were lesbian or gay – 'maybe I AM gay!' When I finally figured it out – I love women! – I just accepted it and moved on with my life. I had my share of hurt feelings when, for instance, the championship intramural softball team I was on didn't invite me back the second year – 'Tara won't be on the team this year!' It seems the guy who helped organize the teams didn't want a lesbian on the team."

Coming out to her family and on the job was relatively painless, except for some initial resistance from her Mom and a homophobic secretary at work who was using the law office phone to recruit people to vote for the anti-same-sex-marriage Prop. 22.

"My mother wasn't too supportive in the beginning," Tara says, "but – since I'd put myself through school, paying my own way and getting scholarships – neither she nor my siblings held any power over me to change who I was. I was out at school, at work and with my family – and I'd been successful in many ways."

Her mother died in 2016. All three sisters are still in her life, though all three brothers have passed away. She still has cousins in both Canada and the U.S.

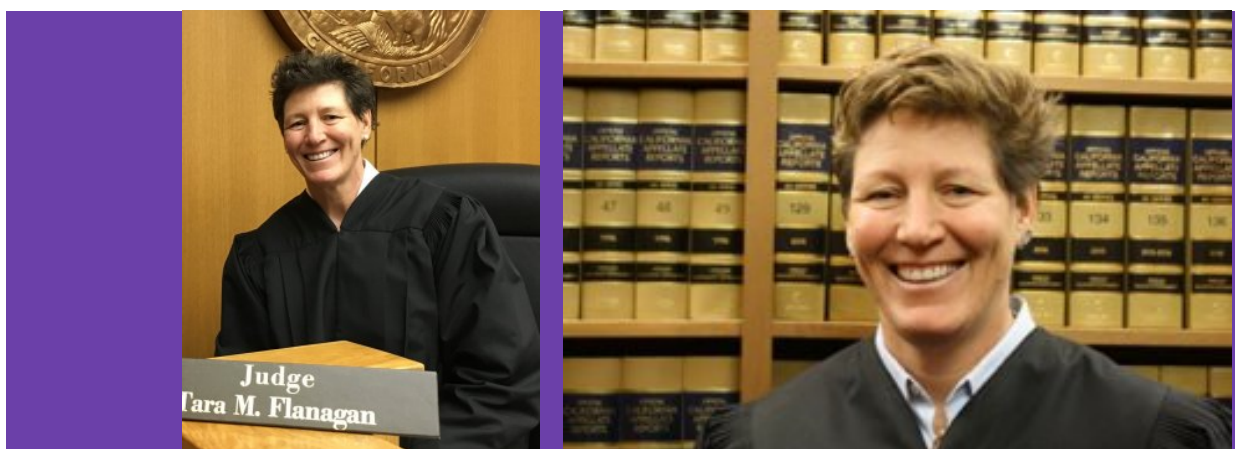
While she was Deputy D.A., she was given an award for domestic violence prosecutions. She and her girlfriend decided to move back to the Bay area, where Tara would be able to work with Legal Aid, focusing on domestic violence, a particular interest of hers. Unfortunately, the personal side of that equation didn't work out – she and her long-time domestic partner divorced in 2010.

Her trajectory toward judgeship – begun when she was 12 years old – came to a head in 1998.

"When I was in my first year of law school, I went to an LGBTQ Bar organization event at the home of Judge Stephen Lachs," Tara recalls. "Jerry Brown had appointed him to the Los Angeles County bench during his first term. Here was this openly gay man living in a beautiful home. Once again – like in Grants Pass 40 years ago – I thought to myself 'I could do this!' When I met a gay judge, it confirmed to me that becoming a judge was indeed possible."

"Fast forward a decade or so. I was at a Chinese New Year's event in 2012, scheduled for surgery on an old rugby injury the next day. A group of lawyers approached me with the news that African-American Judge Carl Morris was retiring and they'd like me to run for his seat. Since it's a 'diversity' seat – and nobody else who's running fit that category – they said I would have their support. The catch was that the next day was the filing deadline. I went home that night – single, with nobody to run this by – stewing that I had no pot of gold and no rich benefactors. The next morning I rushed to the Registrar of Actions, filed my candidacy, and took a deep breath. When my best friend picked me up for my rotator-cuff surgery, she asked me what I'd done today. 'Oh, I filed to run for judge!' She became my campaign manager and I won in a three-way race! I am so thankful for the support from the Democratic Party and lots of friends I didn't even know I had."

When she was sworn in, she was assigned to family law court, which was very exciting for her.



Judge Tara M. Flanagan, elected in 2012

Because judges change assignments every few years, Judge Flanagan has been sitting in the Juvenile Dependency Division for about a year.

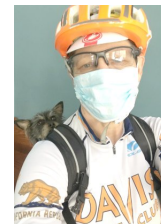
"It's been a steep learning curve for me, particularly learning about how and when Children's Protective Services gets involved," Tara admits. "There are a lot of LGBTQ youth – some who have been disowned by their parents – who can decide at age 18 to stay in the system until age 21 as long as they stay in school. When I'm dealing with lesbian, gay or trans kids with no family, having an out lesbian sitting on the bench can help them see a reflection of themselves and feel hopeful that their life, too, can get better. There are so many diverse families, parents and youth – this is an important responsibility for me – it guides me in my judging."

Tara is involved with the International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges. She will become the group's president in August for two years.

Asked about her future goals, she stated:

"I used to think I might like to go up the judicial ladder to a higher court. But I'm very satisfied to be at the trial level now. I think it's important for people to see themselves represented on the bench. Through international programs and outreach to youth, I'd like to see diversity on the bench increased even more in the coming years. One of my other goals, of course, is to meet someone special and one day get married, now that we can."

Tara is also an avid long-distance cyclist, having just ridden the 1200-kilometer Paris-Brest-Paris race – the oldest bike race in the world – completed in 90 hours. She spends a lot of time in training, as well.



Tara Flanagan – training, competing and relaxing in the saddle – frequently with her pooch on her back

Asked for any advice she might have for LGBTQ individuals of any age, but most particularly youth in our community, she offered the following:

"I would say – first and foremost – always be yourself rather than someone else or who society might WANT you to be. That can be exhausting, depleting and terribly untrue. Secondly, set a goal for yourself, write it down and stay true to that. And finally, ask people for help. People who help you may not always look like you but most people want to help somebody else achieve their goals. I've been very fortunate – many people took an interest in me, helping me along the way. I asked for help and I try to pass that forward to people of all ages. We all want to help and sometimes need to be helped ourselves!"

Thank you, Tara, for sharing so much of your life with us. Once we're all out-and-about again, we will take you up on your offer to come and speak to the Lavender Seniors Third Friday Lunch Bunch about the amazing work you're doing locally, nationally and internationally!



BOOK REVIEW

Becoming

By Michelle Obama

Michelle Obama tells us that she has lived many lives: a lawyer, vice president at a hospital, director of a nonprofit that reaches out to the youth.

Detractors have called her an "angry black woman".

Michelle leaves out nothing. She tells us what it's like to have a Secret Service officer constantly watching her daughters to make sure they behave like good little girls. She and President Obama are still active in public life and there is much left to do. Americans should be grateful for the Obamas.

- Frank J. Howell

[Editor's Note: For those who have Netflix access, the 90-minute documentary on Michelle Obama's "Becoming" book-tour is available: <https://www.netflix.com/cr-en/title/81122487>]



BONUS BOOK REVIEW

Swimming in the Dark

By Tomasz Jedrowski



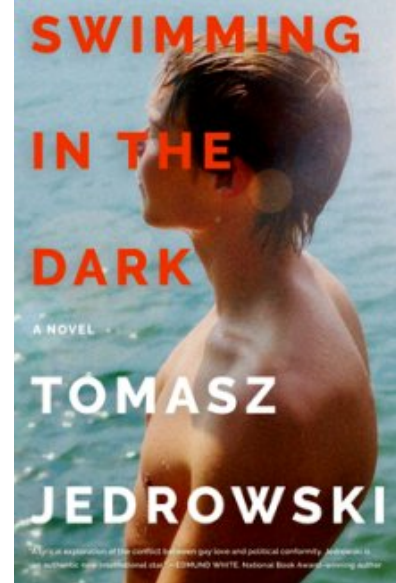
"A typical exploration of the conflict between gay love and political conformity – Jedrowski is an authentic new international star!" – Edmund White, National Book Award-winning author

This book – released in 2020 – takes place mostly in Poland in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when the country was under strict post-war occupation by the Soviet Union and its Communist Party. The author is a gay man of Polish extraction, who dedicated the book – and closed his acknowledgments with "je t'aime" – to his husband, Laurent.

Two boys – falling in love under an authoritarian regime in 1980s Eastern Europe – are beleaguered having to keep their attraction a secret. The threat is not only the usual (e.g., ostracism, rejection, discrimination, and/or gay-bashing), but arrest, torture, imprisonment and even death.

The narrator, Ludwik (LEWD-vik), falls in love

with Janusz (YA-nush) while they are participating in a typical-at-the-time agricultural camp for teenagers – run by “the Party” to help foster hard work and loyalty to the Party. When the two boys are not busy harvesting acres of beets for the country – which has severe food shortages at the time – they meet secretly at a pond in a nearby woods, where they swim, frolic and are soon “making love” in the way teenage boys may do initially. This love evolves, naturally, as the novel proceeds.



In a series of narrative flashbacks – written almost as a never-to-be-sent letter to Janusz from New York – Ludwik notes that Janusz is torn between his love for Ludwik and the need to appear straight to continue being acceptable to the Party. Enter Hania, daughter of a high-up Party official. She plays an important role in the book’s outcome.

Meanwhile, it’s 40 years later, and safety/security of LGBTQ individuals and groups in Poland continues to worsen. One-third of the country today has declared itself “LGBTQ-Free Zones” (see map below), which makes it as unsafe as it was under the Soviets 40 years ago. The Parliament continues considering anti-gay bills such as one that would jail teachers for offering sex education in the schools. In conjunction with COVID-19 and the May 17th International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOT), British Embassy personnel (including the UK Ambassador) wore rainbow surgical masks at meetings in protest.



Jedrowski makes a powerful statement in this book about how some things change and some things stay the same. Either way, love – whether unrequited or not – is a most powerful force.

- John David Dupree, Tinamastes, Costa Rica

Please Donate, if you can!

Lavender Seniors Participating in Give OUT Day

As the logo says – though SF Pride may be canceled this year – LGBTQ Pride is NEVER canceled! Lavender Seniors is a proud 25.5-year-old non-profit organization serving



LGBTQ seniors in the East Bay. The organization depends almost entirely on grants (fewer to come by these days), donations, legacies, fund-raisers (like Give OUT Day) and lots of energy from people willing to be board members, Friendly Visitor volunteers, speaker-panel participants or friends donating their time to staff tables at Pride events, health fairs, library displays, etc.

Once a year we reach out to the community via Horizons Foundation's Give OUT Day (30th June this year, though donations will be accepted for the entire Pride Month, beginning on 1st June). Donations to Lavender Seniors via Give OUT Day can be made by clicking on this hyperlink anytime between 1st and 30th June: <https://www.giveoutday.org/donate/Dti32g>

Two of the Lavender Seniors board members primarily responsible for keeping track of donations, sending thank-you notes to donors, keeping the books, filing the appropriate tax documents with the IRS, etc., are Gwen Boozé, Vice President, and Carmen Chiong, Treasurer.

"As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, we are always operating near the edge to meet our monthly expenses," Gwen says. "When we get a grant from Horizons, the East Bay Foundation on Aging, the Darby Betts Fund, the East Bay Community Foundation, the Tiphane Fund, the San Francisco Foundation, the Grass Roots Gay Foundation, the Ducal Council of Alameda County, the United Way of the Bay Area or – hopefully, beginning again next year – the Area Agency on Aging – you might be able to hear the collective sigh of relief echoing through both Alameda and Contra Costa County! But fund-raisers like Give OUT Day, regular donations or legacies are other ways for the LGBTQ community and their allies to demonstrate that they appreciate the vital work the organization and its volunteers continue to do for LGBTQ seniors."

Give OUT Day is the only national day of giving for the LGBTQ community, raising \$6+ million for 700+ LGBTQ organizations since 2013. Hosted by Horizons Foundation, the world's first LGBTQ community foundation – of, by and for LGBTQ people - Give OUT Day supports diverse LGBTQ organizations – from community centers to advocacy groups, arts groups to sports leagues – in all 50 states, D.C., and Puerto Rico.



Give OUT Day

Help LGBTQ nonprofits earn thousands in prize money! Early giving opens June 1, and Give OUT Day is on June 30, 2020.
www.giveoutday.org

Horizons envisions a world where all LGBTQ people live freely and fully. Horizons invests in LGBTQ nonprofits, strengthens a culture of LGBTQ giving, and builds a permanent endowment to secure our community's future for generations to come.

We know this is a difficult time for many people – sheltering-in-place, sudden unemployment, limited incomes and heavy decisions to make regarding

political campaign contributions, donating to non-profits, etc. If you can find it in your heart – and pocketbook – to help keep Lavender Seniors on task, it would be very much appreciated. For those with no internet access to donate with one click via Give OUT Day, our mailing address is at the end of this newsletter, so you can mail in a check to help support the mission of Lavender Seniors.

Thank you.

CONNECTIONS



Lavender Seniors Seeks Webmaster

We have been “spoiled” over the years by having highly-qualified volunteer (Bert Hendriksen for many years, as well as D’Anne Bruetsch for a while) and reasonably-priced (Lisa Stambaugh) webmasters to help us aging, technically-challenged LGBTQ seniors to maintain a high-quality web-page for our constituents (www.LavenderSeniors.org).

Now, Lisa has decided it’s time to retire and move on to all the joys and sorrows of retirement, like so many of us have done or are planning on doing.

As we enter the third month of “sheltering-in-place” and “stay-at-home” orders, it is perhaps even more important that vulnerable (and invincible!) LGBTQ seniors in the East Bay have a reliable and colorful website to go to for information and staying connected with their community.

Therefore, we are looking for any LGBTQ community members – or their allies – who would be willing to take on that task as soon as possible. We would prefer engaging someone who’d want to play the role for at least a year, or, ideally, longer. Someone with creativity, intelligence, website experience, knowledge of our community and a flair for detail would be our first choice.

If you – or anyone you know – might be interested, qualified and have a few hours a month to spend maintaining and sprucing up our internet image, please contact Info@LavenderSeniors.org or leave a message at 510-736-LGBT. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible

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](#) 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!



Alternative LGBTQ On-Line Offerings during Pride Month

Second Saturday / Third Friday Zoom Lunches in June

Since it is unclear when Alameda or Contra Costa County will be reaching Stage 2 in the "re-opening process" – or when North Oakland Senior Center or All Saints Episcopal Church will be opening their doors again, we have cancelled all Lavender Seniors events for June and July.

We will continue the three-month-old Zoom-meeting "tradition" for both the Second Saturday and Third Friday in June and July. In addition – just thinking worst-case scenario – we have set up those dates each month through December (see below for inserting into calendars). That way the same hyperlink can be used each month we're still sheltering in place. Hopefully, we'll be back out-and-about before December and can cancel any of those scheduled for the future.

As for the Lavender Seniors Third Wednesday LGBTQ Film Series, that has also by necessity been cancelled, as well, but this month, we have joined up with the Queer Women of Color Film Festival (see information elsewhere in this newsletter) June 12-14 for on-line access to the films they will be streaming during that weekend.

In addition – since we all might need a good laugh by now – those who are interested in seeing the pilot of "Lady Liberty" – a TV series about an aspiring comedian who learns to embrace her queerness to find her comedic voice, and more importantly, her community (information elsewhere in this newsletter), the time is 5:30 pm on Thursday, 4th of June. The event – co-sponsored by the Frameline Film Festival and the Jewish Film Festival – includes the following promotion:

Join us for a celebration of Jewish culture, Pride month, and badass women filmmakers at the public premiere of Lady Liberty. Director Taylor Lee Nagel, actor and comedian Julia Lindon will screen the public premiere of their new TV series followed by a Comedy Cocktail Hour with surprise guests!

And finally, Frameline is offering on-line the first three episodes of the

upcoming HBO series (eight episodes in Season 1), "Trigonometry" about two women and a man who form a professional, personal and sexual ménage à trois – can they live and love as a trio? (more information about this series elsewhere in this newsletter).

Below are the details for the Second Saturday and Third Friday Zoom meetings:

Gwendolyn Booze and John David Dupree are inviting you to a series of scheduled **Second Saturday Rainbow Lunch** meetings on Zoom.

Topic: **Second Saturday Rainbow Lunch**

Time: Jun 13, 2020 12:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89671026595?pwd=TGRtYkxaTzZGbWFFTTB1WWpQNFPWZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 7102 6595

Password: 153953

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,89671026595#,,1#,153953# US (San Jose)
+12532158782,,89671026595#,,1#,153953# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 896 7102 6595

Password: 153953

Gwendolyn Booze and John David Dupree are inviting you to a series of scheduled **Third Friday Lunch Bunch** meetings on Zoom.

Topic: **Third Friday Lunch Bunch**

Time: Jun 19, 2020 12:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85235825964?pwd=WmptRG5SU2RDVUNyQ1hFWGM2NlZOQT09>

Meeting ID: 852 3582 5964

Password: 569546

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85235825964#,,1#,569546# US (Tacoma)
+13017158592,,85235825964#,,1#,569546# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 852 3582 5964
Password: 569546



Great Plates Delivered

On April 24, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the launch of a first-in-the-nation

"Great Plates Delivered" program, a meal delivery service for California's older adults.

Great Plates Delivered has two purposes:

1. Help seniors and other adults at high risk from COVID-19 to stay home and stay healthy by delivering three nutritious meals a day, and
2. Provide essential economic stimulus to local businesses struggling to stay afloat during the COVID-19 crisis.

Sign up to get meals here. The County is in the process of developing this program and meals are not being delivered at this time. The County will contact interested persons, screen them for eligibility and keep them informed as to when they can expect their first meal.

This food delivery program is designed to provide meals to Alameda County adults age 65 and older and adults age 60-64 who are at high-risk, as defined by the CDC and who are unable to access meals while staying at home and are ineligible for other nutrition programs. Please note that this program is subject to a limited time period and available funding under the State or local Shelter In Place Order.

Individuals residing in Oakland will be referred to the City of Oakland Great Plates Program

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1mAztXbDQmfFMyhFIx5LBTmaPJrxxs4Rda07kdKkCcQ/viewform?edit_requested=true).

More information from the State is [here](#).

Read FAQs about Great Plates [here](#).

Or you can contact ACGreatPlates@acgov.org or call 925-803-7943 with any questions.

Food "Pick-up" Still Available at North Oakland Senior Center

From Kayla Brown, Manager of the North Oakland Senior Center (where Third Friday Lunch Bunch has been held for decades):

Tired of cooking? Low on Food? NOSC is still providing take away lunches! Reservations are required for a Spectrum Lunch at least 72 business hours in advance, before noon. If you would like to make a reservation, please call us at the Center between 10am-2pm at 510-597-5085 or email Kayla at kbrown3@oaklandca.gov. There is a suggested donation of \$3.75/meal for those 60+, though no one is turned away for lack of funds. An April or May menu can be e-mailed to you by request. All meals are chilled and sealed and will need to be reheated in your home. Wednesday's are cold meals. Lunches are picked up at NOSC between 11:45am-12:30pm.

Other Seniors Centers in Alameda and Contra Costa County may also be offering such services. If some other Senior Center may be more convenient for you, it may be well to check with one closer to your home to see what they are offering.

FOUNDER'S CORNER

By Barbara Jue, June 2020

We are in the 3rd month in the Shelter in place directive by the governor, and California launched into the early stages of Phase 2A which allows the process of opening our cities to limited seating in some restaurants, state and county parks being opened though select parking lots closed, beaches opened but select parking lots closed, and we are opening our eyes to a new reality. The need to maintain a social distancing of 6 feet from each other. The need to wear masks when we are out and about. The need to wash our hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and the use of hand sanitizers are among hygiene practices we must adopt.

What did we learn from these last few weeks? Did you notice how loudly the birds seemed to chatter because the morning sunrise was unusually quiet. Did you notice the silent streets that were empty because cars were not being driven by the usual commuters or the BART train could be heard speeding down the track and you could hear the whistle of the AMTRAK trains much more distinctly. Best of all did you notice that you were breathing better? The image of the earth from the satellites reveal landmarks months earlier shrouded in heavy haze now clearly visible as from long ago. Do you remember? Does this tell us we can affect climate change for the better?

As researchers uncover more characteristics of the COVID-19 virus, it is suspect in causing major damage to young infants, young people as well as us oldsters and those not having any underlying medical conditions. In other words, the virus really does not discriminate. So it is very important to follow protective guidelines of Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the CDC.

Several of the large LGBTQ+ organizations have created resource pages for the community to find help where needed.

Equality California provides the following websites for you to find help:

the COVID-19 LGBTQ+ Help Center: covid19.eqca.org

Call the COVID-19 LGBTQ+ Help Line: (323) 448-0126

Email the COVID-19 LGBTQ+ Help Line: covid19@eqca.org.

Alameda County provides the following: <https://covid19.ca.gov/restaurants-deliver-home-meals-for-seniors> to provide guidance on the Great Plates restaurant meal delivery program in Oakland running until June 10.

The State of California umbrella site has additional information under covid19.ca.gov.

The COVID19 Resource Document mentioned last month has much information superseded by the state of California's recently established website: covid19.ca.gov. The state website omits other information which may be of interest such as commercial and non-profit suppliers of meal kits, farm to you suppliers and other local information. So if you are desirous of receiving the Lavender Seniors updated COVID19 Resource Document, please drop us a note with the subject line COVID19 Resource Document to info@Lavenderseniors.org or call us leaving a message with your name and e-mail address and/or snail mail address and the document will be sent to you. Currently Lavender Seniors spends over \$300 to send out Lavender Notes via snail mail to our constituents who do not have access to our electronic version of Lavender Notes. We are being prudent with available funds, but want to be sure you all are provided the information you need to safely shelter in place.

Thanks to Jess Forester of FLUXX we have a limited number of donated masks and if you are in need of a face mask or two, please send your request to Info@Lavenderseniors.org or call us at 510 736-5428 giving us your name, email and/or snail mail (speak slowly and repeat) address and phone number. We will send it off to you. We hope to be able to purchase more masks but as you can see the demand for them has created a major shortage and the health care professionals need them the most.

The past month we lost Charles Grote loving partner to David Smith. Charles was a major contributor to the Lavender Seniors exhibit held at the 20th anniversary celebration at NOSC. He had a long battle with cancer and succumbed quietly in his sleep at home. He is missed. Please see the tribute to him elsewhere in this edition of Lavender Notes.

During this strange experience of the COVID19 pandemic, the Lavender Seniors Board pivoted to continue to honor our mission statement. Thanks to each and every one, Victor, Gwen, Ana, Carmen, John David, Melissa and our non-board members but nonetheless vital contributors, Karen and Beckie, we have been able to initiate Zoom meetings, run fundraising campaigns, maintain a connection with our community members both in residential care facilities and isolated at home, and to keep going in support of all of you.

This Pride year 2020 we celebrate 50 years of SF Pride, the 90th birthday of Harvey Milk and the 75 anniversary of the end of WW2. We need to be mindful of the sacrifices of the LGBTQ armed forces members then and now who have made it possible for us to have our celebrations. We thank them for their service.

We are suddenly awakening to a new reality and as we stay sheltered in place, take this time to contemplate your response to it. This event will pass and we each experienced it differently. While we have presented various stories of other lives in the community, either through book or movie reviews, your life

experiences are just as vivid, just as life altering, just as noble in the stream of conscious. Begin a journal, continue a journal, share a journal. We still have telephones to connect with one another.

And if you are feeling the need to have a voice of support, remember there is the Online LGBTQ Caring Community Support Group offered by the Family Caregiver Alliance for those with internet at www.caregiver.org. Available to you also is the Rainbow Support Group sponsored by the Lavender Seniors and the Pacific Center that is using Zoom on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 12:30 pm - 2 pm. Contact D'Anne Bruetsch at Rainbowseniors@Pacifccenter.org or 510 604-9124 for an invitation.

And there is Outstanding Seniors hosted by Beckie Underwood held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 12:30 – 2:00 pm. Contact Outstandingseniors2@gmail.com to receive an invitation to join on the zoom meeting.

The government has also provided mental health hotlines at the following:

- **Disaster Distress Helpline:** Call 800-985-5990 (TTY 800-846-8517) or text TalkWithUs to 66746 for 24/7 support.
- **Crisis Text Line:** Text HOME to 741741 for 24/7 crisis support.
- **California Suicide & Crisis Hotlines:** Find phone numbers and links to all the suicide and crisis hotlines by county in California.
- **California Peer-Run Warm Line:** Call 855-845-7415 for 24/7 non-emergency support.

If you are in need of a more extensive support with a mental health professional the following directory of GAYLESTA should be explored: <https://directory.gaylesta.org/find-a-therapist/?user=find-a-therapist>

Meanwhile here's a fun event that also helps our Women's Cancer Resource Center.

The local band **Ruby's** has partnered to provide a zoom music event. Join them for great dance music and know that you are helping a fantastic non-profit:
Fundraiser for Women's Cancer Resource Center (WCRC)

Dance to a variety of funky, upbeat, and R & B tunes, performed by original artists and DJ-ed by Ruby's lead singer Andrea Prichett. See your friends and yourself dancing on screen, and dance off those sequestered blues!

Thank you all who have made our Zoom Room dances so much fun! This time we want to support WCRC so they can continue to provide on-going FREE services to women with cancer. During this shelter-in-place, WCRC has eliminated their face-to-face services and implemented an entirely new program delivery model, at the same time that demand for their services has increased.

You may DONATE now or during the dance by: texting 44321 and put RUBY in your message, or donate through WCRC's website <https://www.givedirect.org/donate/?cid=1195>

****NOTE REGISTRATION CHANGE****

The event is limited to 100 people. You need to register, and can register in advance by going to:

You'll receive sign-on information by email. See you on your dance floor!

While Lavender Seniors was not one of the Grand Marshal winners for 2020 Pride, we may be considered for nomination in the following year Pride of 2021. That would be quite an honor to be consecutively nominated. Fingers crossed.

Just a reminder - The animals in the zoos of the world are starving to death because the pandemic is keeping away tourists and visitors which pays for their upkeep. If you can, please donate to help them.

And if you haven't yet completed Census 2020, go to [My2020Census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) and complete the simple questions. Make your voice count.

Take care of yourselves and be sure to check on your elder neighbor. Let us know how we can help you at info@lavenderseniors.org or 510 736-5428.

NO BAKE OATMEAL PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

- 1 cup old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1/2 cup Creamy Peanut Butter
- 1/2 cup semisweet chocolate morsels
- 1/2 cup wheat germ or ground flax seed
- 1/3 cup honey
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- Shredded coconut and cocoa powder, optional

Nutrition Information

180 calories, 22g Carbs

Directions

- **Step one**

Stir together oats, peanut butter, chocolate morsels, wheat germ, honey and vanilla until well combined.

- **Step two**

With wet hands, form a tablespoon portion of the mixture into a ball. Roll in shredded coconut or cocoa powder, if desired. Repeat with remaining mixture to make 24 balls.

Tips

- Add 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon to the oat mixture, if desired.
-



LGBTQ+ Events On-Line for Pride Month

For obvious reasons, many LGBTQ-focused events have had to be cancelled or postponed for Pride Month this year (e.g., San Francisco Pride Day, Frameline Film Festival, Castro Valley Pride, Santa Cruz Pride Parade and Festival, etc.). Being a perpetually resourceful population, however, LGBTQ+ individuals and organizations have devised ways to celebrate on-line this year. We'll try to list at least some of them here for your reading/viewing enjoyment:

Queer Women of Color Film Festival

Lavender Seniors has partnered with the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project to provide on-line access for LGBTQ seniors to this year's Film Festival, June 12-14.



Location

After you register for a free ticket, we'll email you viewing information.

Description

This year, QWOCCMAP will premiere 31 brand new films in 3 screenings during the *first-time-ever* online livestream of our entire Queer Women of Color Film Festival, June 12-14, 2020. Our 16th Anniversary Festival Focus "SafeSpace/NoPlace: LGBTQ People of Color," expands discussions about the meaning of safety for LGBTQ+ people of color, both outside on the streets and inside homes typically thought of as safe.

All films are Sub-titled for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, and there will be ASL Interpreters and live open captions during the live introductory remarks and interactive filmmaker Q&As. For more access information, please visit our [Queer Women of Color Film Festival website](#).

Please, only register for yourself. There is no cap on the number of attendees this year. We respectfully request that you do not share the screening program links with your friends and family. Instead, please share the free ticket registration link: <https://bit.ly/2020QWOCCFF>

Frameline44 Pride Showcase

Frameline Virtual Event June 25-28, 2020



Ahead of the Curve, dir. Jen Rainin

In celebration of San Francisco Pride Weekend, Frameline International LGBTQ+ Film Festival will host Frameline44 Pride Showcase, June 25 – 28, 2020. Presented in partnership with the Castro Theatre, this four-day virtual event includes a sneak preview of [Ahead of the Curve](#), as well as return of perennial favorites "Fun in Boys Shorts," "Fun in Girls Shorts," and "Transtastic" shorts, a raucous showcase of the finest in short films. A special screening of Ahead of the Curve will also take place at the West Wind Drive-In Theater in Concord.

The full programming lineup will be announced Wednesday, June 3 and tickets will be on-sale at www.frameline.org beginning Thursday, June 4.

"While we continue to make plans for a full festival in the Fall, we will not let COVID-19 prevent us from celebrating Pride as we have done each June," said James Woolley, Frameline Executive Director. "We are working on a wide range

of creative programming initiatives that will evoke the powerful community experience of the festival format our audience knows and loves. We can't wait to join in the celebration with four days of inspiring queer cinema."

Directed by Jen Rainin, *Ahead of the Curve* is the story of one of the most influential women in lesbian history – most people have never heard of her, though the impact her work continues today. Growing up, Franco Stevens never saw any representation of queer women—she didn't even know it was possible for a woman to be gay. When she realized she was a lesbian, it changed the course of her life.

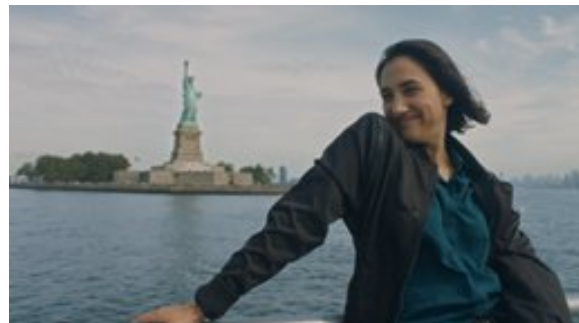
In 1990, Franco created a safe place for lesbians in the form of Curve magazine and helped build a foundation for many of today's intersectional movements. Ahead of the Curve depicts what happens when Franco, faced with the imminent demise of her magazine, turns to young, queer activists to determine how to best to support her community in the face of accelerating threats to the LGBTQ community. Ahead of the Curve will be shown online as well as at the West Wind Solano Drive-In Theater in Concord, California (1611 Solano Way, Concord, CA) during the showcase. Additional details will be announced at a later date.

"In this moment, so many wonderful films set for their festival premieres this year are stuck in limbo. Ahead of the Curve is taking a page from Franco Stevens' playbook and engaging with community to celebrate our lineage and our future. We are thrilled to partner with Frameline to share this sneak peek during the 50th anniversary of Pride," said Jen Rainin, Director.

Previous presentations of the "Fun in Boys Shorts," "Fun in Girls Shorts," and "Transtastic" short film programs have packed the house at the iconic Castro and Roxie Theatres each June. Frameline is pleased to present virtual screenings of these world-famous short film programs.

JFI/Frameline Co-Sponsor Preview of "Lady Liberty"

Since we all might need a good laugh by now – some may be interested in seeing the pilot of "Lady Liberty" – a TV series about an aspiring comedian who learns to embrace her queerness to find her comedic voice, and more importantly, her community.



Join us for a celebration of Jewish culture, Pride month, and bad-ass women filmmakers, writers and comedians at the public premiere of *Lady Liberty*. Director Taylor Lee Nagel, actor and comedian Julia Lindon will join us for a TV + Comedy Cocktail Hour featuring surprise guests!

June 4, 2020; 05:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

5:30pm PST - Introduction + screening of the *Lady Liberty* pilot episode

6:15pm PST - Conversation, Comedy, & Cocktails!

Join us through Zoom (RSVP link below) or watch live on the [JFI Facebook Page](#) This Cinegogue Session LIVE! hosted by PianoFight, co-presented by Frameline, & Sketchfest.

minute “short”, featuring an animated mixed-race couple (Greg and Manuel) – plus a very supportive pet. Greg has never come out to his parents. They don’t know that he’s moving in with his beau, Manuel. The parents unexpectedly show up “to help him pack” and the subject of who he’s moving in with comes up. Available for streaming as of 22nd May.



https://www.lgbtqnation.com/2020/05/pixar-releases-new-animated-short-pride-month-coming-gay/?utm_source=LGBTQ+Nation+Subscribers&utm_campaign=d26d6bae55-20200522_LGBTQ_Nation_Daily_Brief&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c4eab596bd-d26d6bae55-431833035

“Trigonometry” – New HBO Series



From acclaimed playwright **Duncan Macmillan**, and **Effie Woods**, *Trigonometry* is a bold new drama that blends fresh talent and sharp writing and tells the love story of three very different people. Gemma (**Thalissa Teixeira**) and Kieran (**Gary Carr**) love each other deeply. But life in London is wearing them, and their bank account, down. To keep afloat they welcome Ray (**Ariane Labed**) into their small flat. It turns out she’s the missing piece of the puzzle: together the three of them just work. This isn’t just a close friendship – it’s the real thing. Can they live and love as a trio? Or will life get in the way.

From **House Productions** for BBC, **TRIGONOMETRY** is executive produced by BAFTA-winners **Tessa Ross** and **Juliette Howell**. The US premiere of the entire 8 episodes of *Trigonometry* season one will be available when HBO Max launches on **Wednesday, May 27**.

SF Pride 2020 On-Line for 13 Hours

Join us for an Online Celebration and Photo Display to Remember!

San Francisco Pride’s 2020
Online Celebration
Saturday, June 27, 1-9 p.m. and
Sunday, June 28, 2-7 p.m.

Available online at

Get ready for a full 13 hours of programming over two days, live and pre-recorded musical performances, greetings from elected officials, highlights of the accomplishments of Pride's 2020 Community

Grand Marshals and Honorees, conversations, reflections on 50 years of the **Pride movement**, and more, in a weekend-long tribute to LGBTQ+ luminaries and queer solidarity.



In addition: This online version of the **50 Years of Pride** exhibition features over half of the nearly 100 photographs that will be featured in the exhibition at San Francisco City Hall. Spanning five decades of Pride celebrations, 50 Years of Pride honors the LGBTQ community coming into its own in the best of times and the worst of times.



Images drawn from the GLBT Historical Society's archives are joined by photographs held by other institutions, as well as works by over 20 independent queer photographers who have captured Pride over the years.

50 Years of Pride

A photography exhibition coming to San Francisco City Hall, Ground Floor & North Light Court.

Presented by the GLBT Historical Society and the San Francisco Arts Commission Galleries, with the support of San Francisco Pride. To see:

<https://www.glbthistory.org/50-years-of-pride>

Castro Valley Pride

has been cancelled but they are celebrating pride with a drive thru flag giveaway:

KEEP PRIDE ALIVE IN JUNE! This year, Castro Valley Pride would like you to join us in keeping pride alive by displaying your own pride flag at your house or business. We will provide the flags to you at no charge on Saturday, June 6th, at Faith Lutheran Church with our Pride flag drive-thru giveaway event. You will have two options for flags: the rainbow flag or the inclusive flag. We are sad that our usual Castro Valley event has been canceled but excited to keep Pride alive.

THIS IS A DRIVE-THRU EVENT ONLY

We ask that as you come through that you remain in the car, pop your trunk open and a pride team member will drop a bag in. If you don't have a trunk then open your right rear window and we will place your bag in the rear seat of the car. All volunteers will be wearing masks and gloves and follow all guidelines regarding COVID-19. Each bag will also contain a Castro Valley Pride 10 Year Anniversary commemorative item!

'Gen Silent' Documentary Screening and Q&A

June 5th 5:00pm

Happy Honor LGBT Elders Day! Today seems appropriate to announce that on Friday, June 5th, The Clowder Group will be hosting a digital viewing party and Q&A on [Crowdcast](#).

The Q&A will be hosted by [LGBT Aging Project](#)'s Bob Linscott and feature filmmakers [Stu Maddux](#) & [Joseph Applebaum](#) as well as film subject Dr. Melvin W Simms.

The event is FREE, but any donations will go towards our latest film **Minister Of Loneliness**



About this Event

Join us for a screening of this groundbreaking documentary on HIV Long-Term Survivors Awareness Day June 5, 2020

Following the screening, Dr. Melvin W Simms, one of the subjects of the film, as well as a long-term survivor himself, will take questions along with filmmakers.

The Evening:

Introduction by host (and film participant), Bob Linscott of Fenway Health's LGBT Aging Project.

Film screening (approximately 1 hr)

Discussion with film participants and filmmakers

All the above happens at one link emailed as soon as you reserve tickets (don't worry, reminders will be sent!)

Register here: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gen-silent-documentary-screening-and-qa-tickets-105019570362?](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gen-silent-documentary-screening-and-qa-tickets-105019570362?aff=ebdssbonline&fbclid=IwAR2p-tF4wipzaAdgY-HeOwrP9MvazFdi06seNY91pQGT4DHcNsnxAtrTRp0)

[aff=ebdssbonline&fbclid=IwAR2p-tF4wipzaAdgY-HeOwrP9MvazFdi06seNY91pQGT4DHcNsnxAtrTRp0](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gen-silent-documentary-screening-and-qa-tickets-105019570362?aff=ebdssbonline&fbclid=IwAR2p-tF4wipzaAdgY-HeOwrP9MvazFdi06seNY91pQGT4DHcNsnxAtrTRp0)

KQED-TV LGBTQ+ Heritage Month - June 2020

Local PBS station KQED Celebrates LGBTQ+ Heritage Month June 2020 with the following programming line up to educate and entertain us as we shelter in place throughout the month of June. You don't need the internet, just the TV.

Sit back, remember and enjoy!



KQED is proud to celebrate LGBTQ+ Heritage Month in June with a special TV programming lineup. Premiere dates are listed below. Please click on each program for additional air dates and information.

KQED 9

Mon, 6/8 11:30pm Two-Spirit Powwow (NEW)

Attending the powwow is a pioneering act of resistance for the many LGBTQ Native American and Two-Spirit people who still face prejudice and stigma in their communities. The film documents how the powwow's organizers adapt and transform conservative powwow protocol to celebrate queer-positive identities. The film was produced in association with the GLBT Historical Society.

Tues, 6/16 8pm Mae West: American Masters #3008 (NEW)

Dive into the life and career of groundbreaking writer, performer and subversive star Mae West. Over a career spanning eight decades, she broke boundaries and possessed creative and economic powers unheard of for a female entertainer in the 1930s.

11pm Pacific Heartbeat #903 "Born This Way: Awa's Story and The Rogers"

Born This Way: Awa's Story: In New Zealand, Te Awarangi 'Awa' Puna is an openly transgender Maori teen attending her final year at Kapiti College in Wellington, New Zealand. This documentary follows her journey from male to female as we see the support of her family and the hurdles she must overcome.

The Rogers: An intimate glimpse into the lives of those who formed the first visible group of transgender men in the Pacific Islands - The Rogers of Samoa - as they build an outside oven, seek romance, and prepare to perform a traditional men's dance in public.



Still from "Pacific Heartbeat: Awa's Story"

Thurs, 6/18 10pm Man in an Orange Shirt on Masterpiece

Two love stories, sixty years apart, chart the changes and challenges in gay lives in England—from the era of jail terms to the onset of dating apps.



Tues, 6/23 11pm Truly CA: Our State, Our Stories #1403 "Ruminations"

From his early days as a co-founder of legendary gay performance troupe The Cockettes to his golden years reinvention, Rumi Missabu's outlandish tales, both in and out of the spotlight, are a road map through San Francisco's queer art past.

Fri, 6/26 8pm Prideland (NEW)

Prideland opens a window into the world of modern-day LGBTQ+ life in America. The series highlights authentic personal stories brought to life through Burnside's curious, exploratory lens. As an LGBTQ+ advocate, he guides viewers into the South's various LGBTQ+ communities, connecting with people of different backgrounds, locations, experiences and points of view.

Mon, 6/29 11:30pm Reel South #505 "Outspoken"

LGBTQ West Virginians fight to live free from discrimination, calling us to re-imagine the power and longevity of a small town queer community.

Tues, 6/30 8pm The Lavender Scare

The Lavender Scare tells the little-known story of an unrelenting campaign by the federal government during the 1950s to identify and fire all employees suspected of being homosexual.



Still from "The Lavender Scare"

KQED WORLD

Tues, 6/2 5pm America ReFramed #309 "Out in the Silence"

"Out in the Silence" captures the remarkable chain of events that unfold when the announcement of filmmaker Joe Wilson's wedding to another man ignites a firestorm of controversy in his small Pennsylvania hometown.

6pm Reel South #302 "Alabama Bound"

In the months leading up to the Supreme Court decision on marriage equality, gay families in Alabama were busy fighting discriminatory state laws.

Tues, 6/9 4pm We'll Meet Again #106 "Coming Out"

Join Ann Curry as those whose lives were changed by the early days of the gay rights movement reunite.

5pm America ReFramed #222 Broken Heart Land

On an early autumn afternoon, in his parent's ranch in Norman, Oklahoma, gay teen Zack Harrington killed himself. One week earlier, Zack attended a local city council meeting in support of a proposal for LGBTQ History Month in his bible-belt town

Wed, 6/10 4pm P.O.V. #3203 "Call Her Ganda"

When Jennifer Laude, a Filipina trans woman, is brutally murdered by a U.S. Marine, three women intimately invested in the case—an activist attorney (Virgie Suarez), a transgender journalist (Meredith Talusan) and Jennifer's mother (Julita "Nanay" Laude)—galvanize a political uprising, pursuing justice and taking on hardened histories of U.S. imperialism.

Fri, 6/12 5pm Stonewall Uprising: American Experience #2309

When police raided the Stonewall Inn, a popular gay bar in the Greenwich Village section of New York City on June 28, 1969, the street erupted into violent protests that lasted for the next six days. The Stonewall riots, as they came to be known, marked a major turning point in the modern gay civil rights movement in the United States and around the world.



Still from "Stonewall Uprising"

6:30pm The Committee

Fifty years ago, Florida's Legislative Investigative Committee, led by Senator Charley Johns sought to remove homosexuals from Florida's state universities. As a result of the "Johns Committee's" efforts, more than 200 gay and lesbian students and teachers were expelled or fired. Featuring two of the victims and one interrogator, the film exposes the committee's subversive activities and how its effects are still felt today.

Sat, 6/13 5pm Terrence McNally: American Masters #3206

Explore four-time Tony-winning playwright Terrence McNally's six groundbreaking decades in theater, from *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!* and *Master Class* to *Ragtime*, *The Visit* and *Mothers and Sons*. The film also delves into McNally's pursuit of love and inspiration throughout his career, LGBTQ activism, triumph over addiction, and the power of the arts to transform society.

Sun, 6/14 8pm Independent Lens #1820 "Real Boy"

"Real Boy" follows the journey of trans teen Bennett as he navigates adolescence, sobriety, and the physical and emotional ramifications of his changing gender identity

Mon, 6/15 4pm Pacific Heartbeat #802 "Leitis in Waiting"

The story of Tonga's evolving approach to gender fluidity through a character-driven portrait of the most prominent leiti (transgender) in the Kingdom, Joey Mataele, a devout Catholic of royal descent.



Still from "Leitis in Waiting"

Tues, 6/16 4pm Denial: The Dad That Wanted to Change the World

"Denial" falls squarely into a long tradition of documentaries that start by examining one subject before an unexpected twist complicates and enriches the initial investigation. Starting out as an important exploration of energy use

and abuse, the film soon takes a sharp turn into the politics of gender identity.

5pm America ReFramed #804 "Little Miss Westie" (NEW)

A loving and insightful portrait of two transgender siblings - Luca and Ren - and their parents, set in the changing social climate following the 2016 presidential election.

Sat, 6/20 6:30pm Penny: Champion of the Marginalized

Penny: Champion Of The Marginalized is a multi-dimensional portrait of Penny Cooper, a celebrated criminal defense attorney, art collector, supporter of female artists, and protector of the underdog. Cooper's life brims with stories mirroring the profound changes in our country from the 1940s to the present.

Mon, 6/22 4pm Local, USA #304 "The Guys Next Door"

Erik and Sandro, like many married couples, hope to become parents. Their friend Rachel decides she can help by becoming a surrogate for them – even though Rachel and her husband Tony have three biological children of their own. "The Guys Next Door" is a story that redefines choice, generosity, and what it means to be a family in today's America.



Still from "Denial: The Dad That Wanted to Change the World"

Wed, 6/24 4pm P.O.V. #3006 "Memories of a Penitent Heart"

Follow filmmaker Cecilia Aldarondo's investigation-both a love story and a tribute-of a buried conflict around her uncle Miguel's death during a time when AIDS was synonymous with sin.

Fri, 6/26 4pm Considering Matthew Shepard

Considering Matthew Shepard, composed by Artistic Director Craig Hella Johnson and presented by his Austin-based, Grammy-winning Conspirare choral group, is a musical and multimedia response to the anti-gay hate crime 20 years ago that captured the world's attention. Johnson leads the group from the piano.

Sat, 6/27 4:30pm Poetry in America #204 "This Is Your Home Now—Mark Doty"

A visit to the barbershop sparks a meditation on love, the AIDS crisis, and the satisfaction of getting older.

Sun, 6/28 7pm Doc World #401 "Unsettled—Seeking Refuge in America" (NEW)

Unsettled: Seeking Refuge in America follows the stories of LGBT refugees and asylum seekers from Africa and the Middle East as they flee persecution in their countries of origin to seek better and safer lives in the U.S.

8:30pm Living in the Overlap – Sunday, June 28

Living in the Overlap is the improbably true story of two girls growing up in Brooklyn in the 1940s, falling in love in the Midwest, and making a life together in North Carolina.

Tues, 6/30 4pm Coming Out: A 50 Year History

Transgender teen, Jazz Jennings, narrates this one-hour documentary exploring the history of public gay identity in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) community from the 1950s through today.

5pm America ReFramed #805 "Vision Portraits" (NEW)

Interviewing blind and low vision artists - a photographer, a dancer and a writer - Evans embarks on a quest to learn how other artists have continued to create art and how their journeys might serve as inspiration for his own

Have You Registered for the 2020 Census Yet?

At press time, the East Bay was doing fairly well in completing the census, helping us to all be counted when it comes to calculating legislative representation and allocation of dollars in proportion to population. In Alameda County, 67.5% of households have already completed their census forms; in Contra Costa County, it was even a bit higher: 69.6% of households. But we must be vigilant to ferret out the nearly one-third of Alameda County households and over one-quarter of Contra Costa County households who have NOT checked in yet!

Every year, the federal government distributes more than \$400 billion to states and communities based on census data. The 2010 Census communications campaign is actively promoting this sizable link between census participation, by pointing out that, for instance – if East Bay household registration were to remain at the current level, hundreds of thousands of dollars which should go to these two counties would be lost over the ten years between now and the 2030 census!

Then, at another level, when states and local jurisdictions are trying to decide where to allocate the federal money they've received, the numbers of dollars allocated depends on how represented various communities are in the census count. For example, the LGBTQ community "share" of allocations will be based on how many from that community answered question #3 "same-sex partner/husband/wife", the only measure of the community in this year's census. This obviously leaves out any single LGBTQ individuals living alone or in a group setting, who are not legally married or domestic partners. LGBTQ activists continue trying to improve the census by 2030, so that it includes specific references to sexual orientation and gender identity.

About the 2020 Census

The U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years. The 2020 Census will count everyone who lives in the U.S. as of April 1, 2020. Census statistics help determine the number of seats each state holds in the U.S. House of Representatives and how billions of dollars in federal funds will be allocated by state, local, and federal lawmakers every year for the next 10 years.

Therefore, any LGBTQ seniors in Alameda or Contra Costa County who haven't registered yet with Census 2020 is urged to complete the process as soon as possible. Though the COVID-19 pandemic has caused the Census Bureau to extend the deadline for registering, the earlier the process is completed, the better. The Bureau continues to carefully monitor the situation and follow the guidance of federal, state and local health authorities. Operations are adjusted with two key principles in mind: protecting the health and safety of staff and the public, plus fulfilling its statutory requirement to deliver the 2020 Census counts to the President on schedule.

Some of the changes already incorporated into the pandemic response include:

Nonresponse Followup (NRFU): Census takers will interview households in person. New dates will cover areas previously scheduled for "Early NRFU." This was originally planned for May 13 through July 31st; the schedule for NRFU has been changed to August 11 – October 31.

In-Person Group Quarters Enumeration: Group Quarters that remain as part of in-person group quarters enumeration efforts – originally scheduled for April-June - will now be July 1 – September 3.

Counting measures for other populations (e.g., at soup kitchens, homeless shelters, food vans), which were supposed to be completed by now, are still being finalized. In addition, the process for counting in such venues as community events, grocery stores or in outdoor sites (e.g., under bridges, in parks, all-night businesses, on all-night transportation, in campgrounds, or RV parks), as well as in marinas and hotels (if people do not usually live elsewhere) will likely be extended at least through September.

Reports on recommended apportionments and allocations clearly cannot be forwarded to the President before all of these counts are completed.

Meanwhile, any LGBTQ senior or ally who needs any assistance or has any questions about filling out their census forms, please feel free to contact info@lavenderseniors.org or leave a message at +510-736-LGBT and someone will get back to you.

Lavender Seniors Participant Targeted

Census 2020 Scam Warning

One of Lavender Seniors' participants has notified us of having had the following experience with (allegedly) Census 2020:

Please warn people that there is a 2020 Census scam going on where you get an email that looks legitimate, which says 2020 Census. When you open it, it looks like a government site. They ask you all the regular questions but they also ask for your Social Security Number. Unfortunately, I filled this out and submitted it. Later, I read an article that said beware 2020 census will never send you an email. They will never ask for your Social Security number. I called the Census and they confirmed that I had been scammed. But I am now trying to run around freezing my credit reports, putting alerts on my bank

account and social security, changing passwords, etc. If you have been duped you should do the same. I hope already-vulnerable LGBTQ seniors and their loved ones can protect themselves!

As you may know, Lavender Seniors has received a small grant from the United Way of the Bay Area to assist LGBTQ seniors and their allies with registering for the decennial census, which has been extended to 31st October from the original targeted end-date of 31st July because of complications arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The census is extremely important, since funding decisions and even decisions on how you are represented in the state legislature and Congress will be determined by how comprehensive and accurate the final Census tally is.

If you're in Alameda or Contra Costa County – or stranded elsewhere domestically or internationally, which has been the case with some of our community, due to travel restrictions - and have any questions or concerns about registering for Census 2020, please feel free to contact us at **Info@LavenderSeniors.org** or by leaving a message at (510) 736-LGBT and someone will get back with you to help answer your questions!

Have You Received Your "Stimulus" or Unemployment Check(s) Yet?

As you probably know, Congress passed a \$2.2 trillion **Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act** to provide some relief to Americans who are under sheltering-in-place or staying-at-home orders. This includes a \$1,200 check for each individual (\$2,400 for couples who have filed joint income tax returns) that should arrive by either direct deposit (if the IRS has account numbers) or by mail (taking longer).

Anybody who hasn't received their "stimulus" check should go to the following website to track its status:

<https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>

Anybody eligible for extended Unemployment Insurance benefits can track their application here:

https://www.edd.ca.gov/unemployment/Where_Is_My_Payment.htm



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](#).

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:

(The times are no longer listed in the generic catalog, once you have signed up you will get a link to a catalog with times in your time zone)

LGBTQ Chat 2nd and 4th Mondays

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

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

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.



As of this Publishing, a Shelter-in-Place Order has No Specific ending Date.

Please check with event sponsors to see if they will Meet Virtually this Month.

Dates have been removed from the listings.

Out Standing Seniors - Sponsored by Pacific Center

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tuesdays)

Hayward Senior Center, 22325 N. Third Street, Hayward

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

LezBold Peer Support Group

1:30 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

3:00 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 2:00 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

1:00 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

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

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

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

Living OUT in Livermore - Sponsored by Pacific Center

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. (1st Tuesdays)

Robert Livermore Community Center Senior Services, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore 94550

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

Lavender Seniors Board Meeting

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (2nd Wednesday)

via Zoom

A portion of this meeting is open to the public.

Senior Gay Men's Group

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

see info above for joining us via Zoom

Lavender Seniors LGBTQ Film Series

Cancelled this month due to Coronavirus precautions.

Tri-Valley Rainbows - Sponsored by Pacific Center

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

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

A Peer Support Group is a confidential space for LGBT Seniors 50+ to safely 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

see info above for joining us via Zoom

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay Board of Directors

President: Victor Aguilar Jr

Vice President: Gwendolyn M. Boozé

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Secretary: John David Dupree

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Communication Director: Melissa West

Member: Ana Bagtas (on hiatus)

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay

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

Friendly Visitor Program: (510) 424-7240 or

karen@lavenderseniors.org

Mailing Address: 4123 Broadway,

Ste 818

Oakland, CA 94611

Website: <http://lavenderseniors.org>

Newsletter Editorial
Board:

Beckie Underwood

John David Dupree

Barbara Jue

Contact
Us



