



Lavender Notes

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

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October 2021 - Volume 27 Issue 10

Robert "Bob" Compton

January 25, 1922 - September 8, 2021

We regret to inform our readers that one of the long-time leaders of the East Bay LGBTQ+ community, Robert "Bob" Compton, passed peacefully on Wednesday, September 8th at his residence at Elmwood Care Center, Berkeley.



Bob in his 90s

His love and devotion to the LGBTQ community was reflected in his years of participation with Lavender Seniors of the East Bay, the Pacific Center, as well as the League of Women Voters.

A lover of nature, reading and politics, Bob always had a natural curiosity concerning life and people. A retired military man and professional social worker, Bob had acquired active listener skills and was a devotee of his Berkeley community. When he was able to navigate his lanky frame to make

the meetings – whether with a walker or in a wheelchair – he was a member of the “We’re Still Here” LGBTQ+ group which met at the North Oakland Senior Center and has continued meeting monthly via Zoom since March 2020.

Bob, who would have celebrated his 100th birthday next January, will, hopefully, be profiled more extensively in next month's issue of *Lavender Notes*. No memorial or funeral arrangements have been made yet at press-time.

We will miss him.

STORIES OF OUR LIVES

Kiku Johnson

Many people/places/events/graduations/weddings and even deaths got somewhat overlooked and/or unacknowledged during this ongoing pandemic of 2020-21. One of the key local people to be overlooked by Lavender Seniors in the “Stories of Our Lives” column was the “new” Executive Director of our sister organization in Contra Costa County, the Rainbow Community Center. Just five weeks before the six Bay Area counties made U.S. history as the first in the country to “lock down,” Kiku Johnson became the ED of RCC. We apologize for the late acknowledgment and celebration of that crucial decision in *Lavender Notes*.



Kiku first saw the light of day in Pontiac, Michigan, just in time to celebrate Independence Day 1973. His parents had met when Kiku’s father was postal manager on a U.S. Navy ship, the *Ashtabula*, ported in the South China Sea. He met his 22-year-old Cantonese- and Mandarin-speaking bride in Hong Kong. This first Hong Kong marriage was subsequently complemented by a Catholic wedding back in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, at the request of Kiku’s father’s family.

When he was five years old, Kiku welcomed his only other sibling, a brother, whom he has felt protective and proud of the rest of his life.

“Ours was a fairly unstable and inconsistent family when I was a kid,” Kiku recalls. “By the time I was 31, I had moved 35 times, some by choice as an adult, but most of it during those growing-up years. Though Dad came home every night promptly at 6:30pm and had dinner with us, he generally retreated immediately afterward and we were left to our own devices with our mother. I don’t think she ever adjusted well to the incredibly limited cultural life in the U.S., to Michigan or to the fact that she had two biracial children. I tried to protect my younger brother from our Midwest community’s stigma toward Asians and the emotional instability of our family, navigating the mostly-working-class and homogenous white communities in which we lived. Neither of us was ever particularly sure where we fit in into that primarily white-

identified Michigan landscape when Mom wouldn't really tell us much about our Asian background or support us in our confusion in the name of mainstreaming our experience. She was, of course, somewhat limited in the English language and communication herself."

Then there was the gender confusion beginning at an early age. Though Kiku was assigned female at birth, he always felt more like a boy from his earliest memories.

"Approaching puberty as Reagan came into power in the '80s added complications to our ever-changing circumstances," Kiku recalls. "Not only were we frequently the only non-white kids in our classes, we were almost always the new kids in school, as well. Though we rarely knew exactly why we were making the next move, the reality was we were both bullied in nearly every school – at least ten of them. Dad was vying for a small-town postmaster position with every move, several times back and forth to similar communities, yet in different home rentals. Meanwhile, the more dysfunctional we became in the school setting, the more abusive our Mom became – she didn't seem to want to hear about the problems we were having – probably because she wasn't adjusting very well herself. The 70's and 80's in the Midwest, and our country overall, did not present as very welcoming to Asians with the storylines of the Vietnam War, defining an "American-made" car industry, plus general distrust and fear of 'foreigners.'"

Kiku was considered a "tomboy", one who many teachers couldn't seem to relate to.

"There were a few very special women teachers during those stormy years," Kiku recalls, "who took me under their wings. But mostly I felt alone. In fact, I would say I was very depressed and suicidal for at least a decade of my childhood and young adulthood. We lived in lots of different places in Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties of southern Michigan. When I was just nine years old, Vincent Chin was killed – right before his wedding – in nearby Highland Park. Vincent's two murderers got off with no jail time – they thought he was Japanese and a threat to the Detroit auto industry. All they got was some tiddly fine and minor probation. It became clear that there were no protections for Asian-Americans, something we experience even more boldly and hate-filled in present-day America. Many in our community internalized some of that post-Vietnam-War fear, hatred and low-self-image that really began rearing its ugly head again during the Reagan years."

The family leap-frogged from Southern Michigan to the state's Upper Peninsula, moving many times during Kiku's childhood and youth.

"Some of my happiest times were spent on a family-owned resort, Sandy Shores, on the protected northern side of Lake Michigan," Kiku says. "Though we actually lived in Escanaba several times, we spent nearly every summer there in the 1970s and 1980s, no matter where we lived. With its quaint cottages, black and white TVs, no phones and one of the most beautiful beaches in the world, it was a place where I found peace. When my grandparents passed, however, the property and business were sold and we no longer have family access to this very special place. I still plan on returning there sometime, since the place is bathed with so many great memories of family and friends, just being outside. Even the snow in winter was spectacular

due to the lake effects.”



Days on the Escanaba beach, our playground – Romping around cabins in Sandy Shore – Watching the sunset around a campfire

The story being shown at the time, in the U.S. and within our culture, was that Asian-Americans were expected to excel in science and math, while others retreated into art, drawing, painting and inkwork, reclaiming what they could of their culture.

“For my high school years, our family finally landed in the Oakland County town of Clarkston, where I attended Clarkston High School,” Kiku recalls. “My Asian heritage was still a mystery to me, since my mother really wouldn’t talk about it with us. So I just did what I thought was expected of me. I – like many others in my situation – started dating opposite-sex people, simply for the safety of it. I dated a boy two years younger than me – as it turns out, both he and his ex-wife now live as queer folx, along with several other friends from that time. My ability to leave my ‘home situation’ successfully hinged on my being accepted at a university.”

Kiku sent away for an application for the University of Michigan’s Ann Arbor Art School.



High School Graduation, 1991

“It was a very big deal to be accepted at U of M,” Kiku recalls. “There was no internet, no easy access to good school counselors, so you just had to assert your way through to what you wanted. I started out in the Art program. I lived there residentially for two years, always hustling for jobs to be able to support myself. I worked at a pregnant and parenting teen home for girls, Catholic-run, the Father Patrick Jackson House, which no longer exists. I started community organizing with young women. Of course, we couldn’t talk about safer-sex practices, much less give out condoms. I left the university after two-and-a-half years, becoming a residential living counselor for four summers in Massachusetts, Maine, West Virginia and rural Michigan, holding down two or three jobs to maintain my independence. I wish I’d known about smaller liberal arts colleges when I was planning for post-high-school education and settings - maybe like Oberlin College.”

Through those summer-camp jobs and various other connections, Kiku was introduced to youth work, supporting various positive youth development approaches and learning.

“Since my room was covered as a residential living counselor, I was able to continue my education with Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti,” Kiku says. “I majored in Women’s Studies. I became involved in an array of youth-surveying jobs through the Michigan State University Extension 4-H Urban Youth Program in Willow Run and Ypsilanti. I also worked at Whole Foods Market for five years, being promoted to regional corporate training –

responsible for employee growth and education for 18 stores in Minnesota, Illinois and Michigan. Though it was interesting to educate about customer service and such food-related topics as Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), I yearned for working with youth.”

Through much of the 1990s, Kiku learned from and led a key residential program for high school age youth in rural Clinton, MI, called High/Scope Institute for IDEAS, which subsequently served as an educational foundation for the widely-known national HeadStart program.

“I absolutely fell in love with intentional youth work, particularly working with marginalized, low-income kids,” Kiku recounts. “We brought these young people together with folk dances and folk songs, grew our own food, held Quaker-style meetings, resulting in an ideal approach to youth empowerment and leadership. I got linked up to a lot of other positions, as well, helping provide services that girls and women have desperately needed across the ages. I worked with an exiting sex-worker program and with at-risk adolescents. After traveling to visit my then-boyfriend in San Francisco, however, I targeted being out of Michigan and trying my wings out here in the Bay Area by age 30.”

When Kiku started job-seeking in the Bay Area, he joined Girls Incorporated of Alameda County, located in San Leandro, a program working with middle- and high-school age girls.

“I realized later in my journey that immersing myself in girls’ programs for upwards of 20 years might have been a way I disassociated from my own gender dysphoria,” Kiku says. “Over the first sixteen years of girls-centered programming, I was able to serve in diverse positions, ranging from training and educating colleagues to providing and supervising direct services to writing grants. When I used to look in the mirror, I might think ‘well, you’re a gay person, reluctantly in a female body who doesn’t feel like a woman’ – expressing myself and adding to the definition of diversity. I did not yet have the language, nor was it accessible, to understand the transgender identity that I was truly holding.”

Kiku left some jobs before he had another, most departures stirred by bias, racism, or xenophobia. As he started transitioning from female to male, there was serious transphobia to contend with, as well. He felt confident that some perfect next-step would present itself in meaningful work. Some of these transitions landed him in building and remodeling homes for a couple years in the early 2000’s and later working at Julia Morgan School for Girls in Oakland for a few months. He was always pursuing and gaining new skills, diving into engaging “hands on, minds on, and hearts on” work with short- and long-term life goals.



"One of my short-term goals was to learn how to build a house from the ground up," Kiku reports. "I wanted to know roofing, plumbing, electrical, drywall, the whole nine yards. I love that I feel capable around building and how things are put together and work. I was able to be a physically strong person in a 'female' body in my late 20's. During my time with Girls Leadership, I jumped into improvisational and educational theater work with youth. The moment of reckoning with my gender identity came when working with the last organization before joining Rainbow. I was funded by the CDC to help produce a handbook centering on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) with additional support through Cornell University and the New York State Department of Health. I was personally embracing the journey from being assigned female at birth (AFAB) to the man I embodied in a public-sourced document, requiring that I also address and mitigate both racism and transphobia in my own life experience. My transition process was not fully understood, nor affirmed, while I was doing this work. Fortunately, the board decided to investigate the situation, which was redemptive for me after my transgender identity was outed and named inappropriately by an organization co-founder in conversation with an external human resources consultant."

Earlier, in 2016-17, Kiku had begun seriously considering his transition from female to male.

"A colleague asked me about funding 'top surgery' on behalf of a friend, since I was queer-identified at the time," Kiku recalls. "I didn't even know what that meant! I knew I was an unhappily-endowed 38DD-chested and dysphoric person, who spent most of my life trying not to accentuate my chest. I pursued breast reduction surgery via Kaiser in 2008, which was met at the time with little to no understanding as to the signs and experience of gender dysphoria. Though this experience was fairly negative, they now have a top-notch Multi-Specialty Transition Clinic in Oakland. Even with my breast reduction, however, I wasn't happy with my chest. I had the top surgery and – within three months – decided this was the lane I was supposed to be in. I started fully transitioning for myself, starting weekly testosterone injections and had a hysterectomy in 2019."

Reaction from Kiku's family has been progressively positive overall. He is disconnected from his parents, who returned to Hong Kong seven years ago. If/when that disconnection will ever be repaired is currently unclear.

"My brother was quiet for about six months after I told him what was going on," Kiku recalls. "His questions were largely on the order of 'does this mean our memories are changed or not true'? He has progressed to enthusiastically embracing now. I continue to have consistent communication and visits with him, his wife and his two sons, our extraordinary nephews. He says he recognizes my core and can affirm me with using male pronouns and embraces me as his big bro! My Dad's family is very cautious, appearing not to know what to say about it all. I share little news clippings and speak occasionally with my Dad on WhatsApp. They've all grown up and lived in Michigan, in a different world of exposure from mine. They do their best – and they love me, also, for the core of who I am."



Kiku with his brother, August 2021



Kiku with Nemo Mural done for Nephew, 2005



Kiku with nephews, August 2021

Kiku and his partner, Laura, have been together for 18 years. Her family – also from Michigan – is very supportive of him and has embraced their relationship from the start.

“Laura has been supporting and educating around our communities and Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) her whole adult life,” Kiku says proudly. “She started a Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) at the school where she worked for ten years, leading the diversity conversation there. She left that post about two years ago. She regularly affirms that we have a connection based in spirituality, joy and affirmation. My relationship with Laura is core for my well-being, that’s for sure – and I think she feels the same way.”



Kiku and Laura with her family, Christmas, 2005

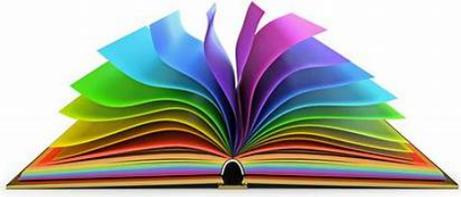


Kiku and Laura, May 2020

When asked for any words of advice he might have for people at forks in the road similar to those he’s taken, he had a few sage words which bode well for the future of Rainbow Community Center:

“Each of us is better off remembering how powerful we are!” Kiku says. “We have heart! It goes beyond our being accepted and deserving of respect from every corner. We are all huge contributors and reflectors with each of our families, our various cultures and intersections. It’s our time to do this – to be heard, seen and valued, arriving at being the best humans we can be!”

Thank you for sharing some of your life with Lavender Seniors, Kiku. We’re hopeful that – once this pandemic is finally conquered – our two organizations will continue collaborating face-to-face to help improve things for at least the East Bay LGBTQI+ community!

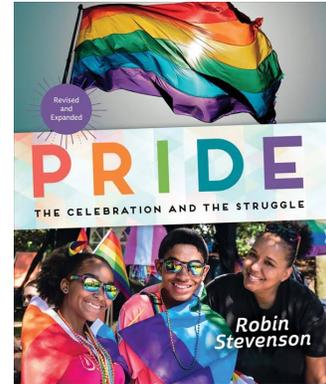


BOOK REVIEW

Pride: The Celebration and the Struggle

By Robin Stevenson

I vividly recall the first three years when a handful of us young gays marched down the main streets of San Francisco. Most lavender folks were afraid to be seen. They were afraid of being arrested by unfriendly cops but gradually the entire community floated to the cause. Market Street became a dynamic symbol of the color pink. In New York City gays defied the police and took over. The men in blue crumbled. We had arrived but it was a battle that lasted all the way to the Supreme Court and the victory of same sex marriage.



The book is loaded with tons of color photos that will endure for generations. Enjoy forever.

- Frank J. Howell



BONUS BOOK REVIEW



October LGBTQ+ Books/Films from your Couch

Many of us – whether we're eligible for our Covid "boosters" soon – or have already received them by now – are still reluctant to go into restaurants, theaters or even libraries, given the number of "breakthrough" infections that continue being reported. One of our own board members – whose mother died from Covid last year – suffered from a breakthrough infection after having both mRNA vaccines. So how can we stay connected with our community, besides telephoning family and friends, attending Zoom gatherings of formerly-face-to-face events like Lavender Seniors' Third Friday Lunch Bunch or Second Saturday Brunch Bunch?

Some of these suggestions involve buying (or borrowing) books, paying rental fees, purchasing all-access or single tickets to film or theater festivals, etc., remembering, of course, that senior rates at most local movie theaters hover around \$10 a pop. Depending on the existence of and size of our entertainment budgets, some or all of these suggestions might be useful.

In chronological order, there are two separate streaming videos and a book that describe the true life and evolution of this 16-year-old British drag queen wannabe, which propelled him to national and international attention. First, there was the 2011 Jenny Popplewell documentary, "Jamie: Drag Queen at 16" about Jamie Campbell, "the lad in a frock," for British television. Fast forward to 2017, when the TV documentary had become such a success that it

opened as a play in London's West End, the "Broadway" of the U.K. – and has developed into a stage musical touring the U.K., South Korea and Japan, so far. It is scheduled to hit the Ahmanson Theater in Los Angeles from 16th January until 20th February 2022. As far as we can determine, it has not been scheduled for the Greater Bay Area yet, though usually SF/SJ comes soon after LA on such tours.



The real-life Jamie Campbell – in drag on the documentary – with his ever-supportive Mom – then there was the book and musical

The book and many lyrics were written by Tom Macrae and are the basis for the hit musical. Now, in 2021, the musical has been made into a two-hour film, "Everybody's Talking about Jamie," which is available on Amazon Prime. The two-minute trailer can be seen on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVBBJ84Ug88>.



Jacket from 2021 Film – and Film Jamie with Film Mom (recognize her?)

Besides the content of the book, the documentary, the West End musical and the 2021 film, the happy-ish ending of all versions is heartwarming in an era when there is so much transphobic and homophobic political posturing in the U.S. these days.

Particularly sweet for those who have followed Sarah Lancashire's career through such classic PBS offerings as "Last Tango in Halifax" (spoiler: she winds up in a torrid mixed-race lesbian relationship in the series that ran for eight years!) was to discover that – in addition to her many acting talents – she is a lovely singer, as well. Anybody who's ever loved a child or a parent will be moved by her version of "He's My Boy" in Act 2, particularly poignant since she's a single Mom who has stood by her sometimes-rejecting son in spite of his having been disowned by his father as "not the son I wanted". (Also reminiscent of the duet "I'm Not My Father's Son" that Charlie and Lola sing in the stage and, subsequently, updated film version of Cyndi Lauper and Harvey Fierstein's score in "Kinky Boots") – nary a dry eye in the house.

For those who don't have Amazon Prime – but who might be interested in trying it free for 30 days – another option in October is the outstanding film,

"My Name is Pauli Murray," which premieres on Amazon Prime on 1st October.



The directors of "RBG" (about Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg) have collaborated on this film, informing viewers about this powerful pioneering activist of the 20th century. This is a look at the life and ideas of Pauli Murray, a non-binary Black lawyer, activist and poet who influenced both Ruth Bader Ginsburg

and Thurgood Marshall. In fact, even in the trailer, you can hear RBG singing Pauli's praises. The official trailer can be seen at

https://www.imdb.com/video/vi1464516633?playlistId=tt11092594&ref_=tt_pr_ov_vi

The final suggestion for this month has to do with the NewFest (New York) LGBTQ+ Film Festival, which runs eleven days, 15-26 October this year, and is available for streaming anywhere in the country. Though it has a few films duplicated by earlier Frameline (SF) or OutFest (LA) Film Festivals, it has an intriguing line-up of 130+ LGBTQ+ related films that can be seen either individually or with an all-access pass (\$95 to see all the films you can cram into your schedule during those eleven days). Anybody can watch the festival trailer at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CPIaUzAXSIg> and get a taste for what's being offered this year. Plus the entire schedule is available on-line via this link: https://newfest.org/festival/schedule/?mc_cid=1395ba60f5&mc_eid=56f0055e75.



All the best for October – remember we go back to Standard Time on Sunday, 7th November!

- Dr. John David Dupree, Oakland, California

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](#) 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!

Reminder: Lavender Seniors Birthday Program

Lavender Seniors' Friendly Visitor Program – in collaboration with its "Communication Relieves Isolation" program has organized a "birthday acknowledgment" activity with one of our volunteers sending birthday cards to LGBTQ+ seniors and their allies each year.

Anyone whose birthday (year of birth is not necessary, though it is appreciated) hasn't been acknowledged should provide their full name, mailing address and date of birth (with or without year) either via Info@LavenderSeniors.org or by leaving a message at +1-510-736-LGBT and your name will be added to the list. Also, any volunteers who want to assist in this program should make contact, as well.



Letter- and card-writing may seem like a lost art to some, since it appears that many of our grandchildren are not even being taught how to write in script anymore. Many of us aging "Palmer method" script-writers, however, still enjoy seeing a nicely-written card or letter in our snail-mailboxes! It's always nice to be remembered!



Our Identities as LGBTQ+

OK, boys and girls.

Are you smarter than a Millennial???

Put on your thinking caps for Saturday October 9th Rainbow Lunch.

We'll be talking about LGBTQ-ism; how do you identify? And why?

Lavender Seniors invites you to a scheduled meeting on Zoom.

Topic: Second Saturday Rainbow Lunch

Time: October 9, 2021 12:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89671026595?pwd=TGR Tb k x a T z Z G b W F F T T B 1 W W p Q N F p W Z z 0 9>

Meeting ID: 896 7102 6595 Password: 153953

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 896 7102 6595 Password: 153953



Focus on the Works of John Singer Sargent

Final Quarterly Museum/Artist Tour 15th October

Lavender Seniors arranged with UCLA's Hammer Museum to conduct four quarterly Museum/Artist Tours in 2021. This month's Third Friday Bunch Zoom Gathering on 15th October will conclude that series with a focus on the prolific works of John Singer Sargent. Born in Florence, Italy, of meandering American parents in 1856, Sargent lived largely as an American expatriate in Europe. Three years before his death (at age 69), he co-founded Grand Central Art Galleries in New York City, where he actively exhibited his work and encouraged others to exhibit their work, as well.



One of many scandals in his life revolved around his famous 1884 portrait of "Madame X", the model for which subsequently was thought by many to have been his long-term "friend," Albert de Belleruche. The portrait was considered to be quite "risqué" for its time, since the model's right shoulder strap was slightly off, indicating, perhaps, the Madame was a slightly-loose woman. Even after he re-did the painting to pull that strap up over the shoulder, the controversy in artistic circles didn't subside. So, he left France and went to England.

Sargent's works – ranging from simple landscape and still life to formal portraits and nude studies – number well over 2,000 oils and watercolors. The UCLA team guiding our tour in October – to be named during early October – will certainly include the "Dr. Pozzie at Home" (below) in the Hammer Museum's collection and one or two others from his portfolio. To show the balance in his work, we are including one male and one female nude study.



Dr. Pozzie at Home



Nude Study of Thomas E. McKeller



Nude Study of an Egyptian Girl

Join a Lavender Seniors Zoom meeting: **Third Friday Lunch Bunch: John Singer Sargent**

Time: Friday, October 15th 2021 – 12 noon – 2pm Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 852 3582 5964 - Passcode: 569546

Dial by your location - +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 852 3582 5964 - Passcode: 569546

We hope you will join us for the last of our 2021 quarterly series of Museum/Artist Tours via the Third Friday Lunch Bunch Zoom gatherings.



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 Wednesdays, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/8, 12/22

This group is intended for participants who identify as LGBTQ, and is an opportunity to connect with others socially in a supportive environment, where participants can share individual and collective experiences. We will create an inclusive place to share our stories with each other and build a sense of community. Facilitated by Jerry W. Brown, Covia Senior Director, Affordable Housing

Growing an Elder Community Mondays, 10/4 – 11/8

In community, we will discover what is beautiful about the latter stages of life, and how getting older, including as a disabled or homebound person, can contribute positively to our culture. This is an opportunity to experience what is noble about being human in the world. Facilitated by David "Lucky" Goff, PhD

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.



Out Standing Seniors - Hayward - Sponsored by Pacific Center

Oct 5 & 19, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tuesdays)

Meets outside on 1st Tues. and via Zoom on 3rd Tues.

email outstandingseniors2@gmail.com for info.

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

Living OUT in Livermore - Sponsored by Pacific Center

Oct 5, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. (1st Tuesdays)

Meets via Zoom email Anne@pacificcenter.org for info.

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

LezBold Peer Support Group

Oct 7 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. (1st Thursday)

Meets via Zoom email lezboldgroup@pacificcenter.org for info.

Find support and like-minded wonderful people!

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

Oct 7,14,21,28 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (Thursdays)

email Anne@pacificcenter.org for current meeting information.

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

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

Oct 6,13,20,27 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. (Wednesdays)

email Anne@pacificcenter.org for current meeting information.

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

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

Oct 1,8,15,22,29 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. (Fridays)

email Anne@pacificcenter.org for current meeting information.

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

Lavender Seniors Board Meeting

Oct 13 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (2nd Wednesday) via Zoom

A portion of this meeting is open to the public.

Lavender Seniors Second Saturday Rainbow Lunch

Oct 19, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. (Our Identities as LGBTQ+)

Tri-Valley Rainbows - Sponsored by Pacific Center

Oct 21, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. (3rd Thursday)

Meets via Zoom email Anne@pacificcenter.org for info.

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

Oakland Third Friday Lunch Bunch

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

Oct 15, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. (Final Quarterly Museum Tour)

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay Board of Directors

President: Victor Aguilar Jr

1st Vice President: Melissa West

Secretary: John David Dupree (on hiatus)

Founding Member: Barbara Jue

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay

Message: 510-736-LGBT (510-736-5428)
Friendly Visitor Program: (510) 424-7240 or
karen@lavenderseniors.org

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