

# LAVENDER NOTES

Official Newsletter of Lavender Seniors of the East Bay  
A Project of the Tides Center



1395 Bancroft Avenue  
(510) 667-9655

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info@lavenderseniors.org

www.lavenderseniors.org

Volume 10, Issue 5

May 2005

## A Word from Barbara...

*E* Thank you, all, for your enthusiastic welcome for me this month.

As I have told those of you whom I have met, I am thrilled to be at Lavender Seniors! I have had the chance to meet some of you and look forward to meeting many more of you in the days to come. My first few weeks here have been full of learning about Lavender Seniors, proposal writing, and meeting fantastic people doing great things for the LGBT community. I am just astounded by what I am experiencing. At the meeting of the National Center for Lesbian Rights on April 21, I met with local LGBT leaders who discussed our opportunity to present LGBT issues to the White House Conference on Aging. I again was really taken aback by

the power that we have in our community up here. We are in the early stages of setting up a planning meeting for the morning June 15<sup>th</sup>. I would like for you to get an idea of what the White House Conference on Aging is all about. This excerpt is taken from the American Society on Aging, Spring 2002 report:

### Laying the Groundwork for the White House Conference on Aging

by Sandy Warshaw

"The federal Older Americans Act, reauthorized by Congress in 2000, calls for a White House Conference on Aging (WHCOA) before the end of 2005. The upcoming conference is a critical opportunity for organizations and individuals to ensure that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) elders

*(Continued on page 6)*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**MAY 14, NOON-2PM; LAVENDER SENIORS MONTHLY POTLUCK. 1395 BANCROFT AVENUE, SAN LEANDRO. POTLUCKS ARE SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH, SO PLAN AHEAD.**

**MAY 19, 12:30-2:30 PM: LAVENDER LUNCH BUNCH. LAKESIDE PARK GREDEN CENTER, 666 BEELEVUE, IN OAKLAND, CATERED FOOD: FREE. CO-SPONSORED BY**

**OAKLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES. OPEN TO ALL LGBT SENIORS. THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

**MAY 20, 11 AM - 2 PM: CITY OF OAKLAND, AGING & ADULT SERVICES, 3RD ANNUAL OLDER AMERICANS MONTH. FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA (IN FRONT OF CITY HALL). SPEAKER, ENTERTAINMENT, RESOURCE BOOTHS, SENIOR ART EXHIBIT, AWARDS CEREMONY. LAVENDER SENIORS WILL HAVE A TABLE AT THE EVENT.**

*Lavender Seniors of the East Bay is funded by individual donors as well as Alameda County Area Agency on Aging, Alameda County Leather Corps, The California Endowment, City of Oakland, Evelyn & Walter Haas, Jr. Fund, The Horizons Foundation, The True North Foundation, Royal Grand Ducal Council of Alameda County, The San Francisco Foundation, Sociological Initiatives Foundation, East Bay Community Foundation & Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.*

*We gratefully acknowledge the support of all Friends of Lavender Seniors.*



## Lavender Notes

is the newsletter of  
Lavender Seniors of the East  
Bay

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Lavender Seniors of the East Bay is to improve the quality of life of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender seniors (age 55 and older) through community outreach, advocacy, and education.

#### ADVISORY BOARD

*Frank Howell & Ina Mae Murri, Co-Chairs*  
*Jeanine DeBacker, Secretary*  
*Bobbie Jarvis, Treasurer*  
*Meg Bruynell, Michael Mitchell, &*  
*Natalie Zarchin, Members at-Large*

#### NEXT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Call the office at (510) 667-9655 for information. Interested persons are welcome & public comments will be taken.

#### STAFF

*Barbara Faulkner, Director*  
*Peggy Moore, Outreach Specialist*  
*Mitchell Foudray, Care Coordinator*  
*Nancy Fugett, Administrator*  
*Reva Ross, Student Intern*

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

*Charles A. Aiken*

Lavender Seniors welcomes all persons age 55 and older, their partners, and guests. Cost of production & mail makes necessary a request of \$15 minimum annual donation to receive the newsletter. Visitors & others may receive the newsletter for three months without charge. No one is turned away for lack of funds. For gifts, make checks payable to *Tides Center / Lavender Seniors*. Signed articles represent the opinion of the authors & not necessarily those of Lavender Seniors. Inclusion of a name in this newsletter does not necessarily indicate a person's sexual orientation or gender identity. ▲

## United Way Donors, Remember Lavender Seniors!

**D**o you donate to United Way of the Bay Area? You can support Lavender Seniors by designating your pledge or gift for us. No special code is necessary—just write in “Lavender Seniors”!

### What We Do ...

**F**ounded in 1994, Lavender Seniors of the East Bay provides the following:

- ▲ The LGBT Seniors of Color Project, to improve access to health and human services to LGBT seniors in the African-American, Latino, Native American, Asian, and Pacific Islander communities.
  - ▲ Friendly Visitors Program, to match volunteers with isolated and/or frail LGBT seniors for social support, light household and shopping assistance, and telephone assurance.
  - ▲ Speakers Panel Program, to educate service providers and urge them to change policies and practices to make services more accessible to LGBT seniors.
  - ▲ Potlucks on the second Saturday of each month, to provide a safe and welcoming social environment and information from invited speakers.
  - ▲ Lavender Lunch Bunch, a monthly social gathering with food and drinks provided, on the third Thursday of each month.
  - ▲ Lavender Juniors, to organize support from LGBT non-seniors and guide inter-generational programming.
  - ▲ Monthly discussion groups, co-sponsored and hosted by the Pacific Center (see back page for schedule).
  - ▲ Monthly newsletter, *Lavender Notes*.
  - ▲ A website at [www.lavenderseniors.org](http://www.lavenderseniors.org).
- To get involved as a participant or volunteer, contact us at (510) 667-9655 or [info@lavenderseniors.org](mailto:info@lavenderseniors.org). ▲

# Happy Birthday!

**MAY 1**

JAN FAULKNER  
JIM JOSLIN

**MAY 2**

PETER HART  
JOAN NORRY  
DON "MAMA P" SILVA

**MAY 6**

EDWARD MAJUL

**MAY 7**

LESLIE BRANDT

**MAY 9**

SHIRLEY DENNETT  
ANGELA HUNKLER

**MAY 10**

ANDREA C. CONNELL

**MAY 13**

BILL BAILLIE  
MICKEY BARKER

**MAY 14**

ROLLAND SHERMAN  
MORGAN BRITT

**MAY 16**

ED TANOVITZ

**MAY 20**

TITA CALDWELL  
BERNI MILLER IBARRA

**MAY 21**

JOE HORSINGTON  
NORMA METZ  
MYRA WILLIAMS

**MAY 23**

CAROL MARTIN

**MAY 26**

LYNN RAYBURN

**MAY 28**

SHIRLEY SARTIN

**MAY 29**

JOAN EMERSON

**MAY 30**

FRANCES FRANCO

### Become a "Friend of Lavender Seniors" Today!

Your support is crucial to Lavender Seniors' continuing role as a vital resource to our community.

Become a "Friend of Lavender Seniors." Please take a moment and send your gift today. Your annual giving entitles you to a subscription to our monthly newsletter, *Lavender Notes*.

Here's my gift of:  \$15  \$25\*  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Please give this amount or more if possible.)

Enclosed is a check made payable to Tides Center/Lavender Seniors

Please charge my (circle one): AMEX Mastercard VISA

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address:

\_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me about including Lavender Seniors in my will.

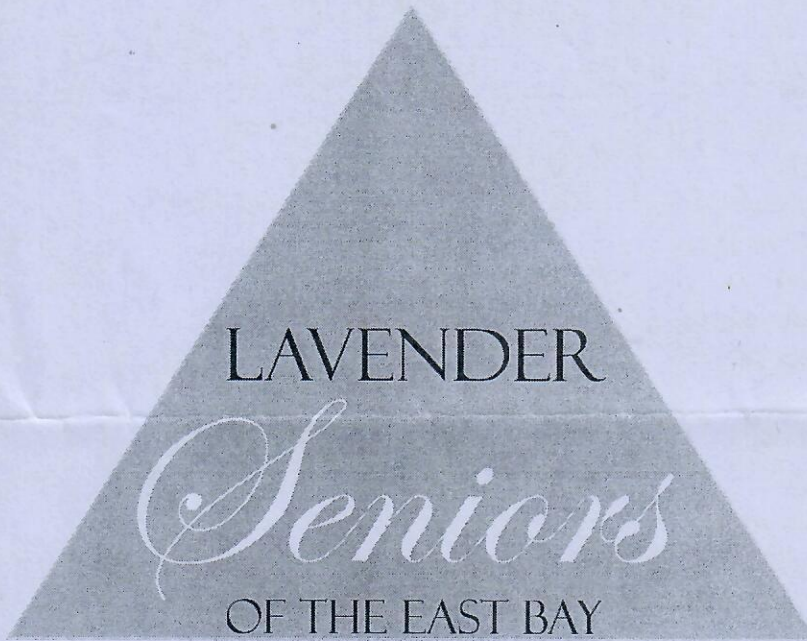
Please contact me about participating in Lavender Seniors' programs and/or volunteering.

Please do **not** list me in Lavender Seniors publications as a "Friend of Lavender Seniors."

**Please mail to Lavender Seniors of the East Bay, 1395 Bancroft Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577**

**Thank you!**

*Lavender Seniors never lends, sells, or gives away its mailing list.*



**OBITUARIES**

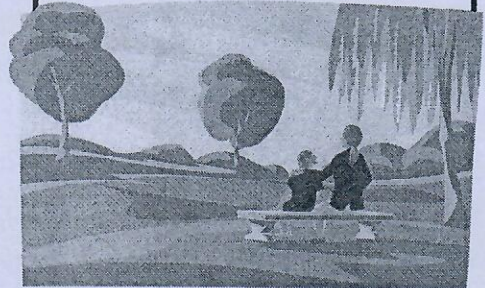
*L*avender Notes regrets to report three members who passed away in April.

**Betty Carleton**

**Martha Walker**

**Jerry Holmes**

Martha passed away on February 20th in Tennessee. This was the only information available at press time. Details will be listed in next month's issue.



**UPTOWN**  
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Giovanna Tanzillo

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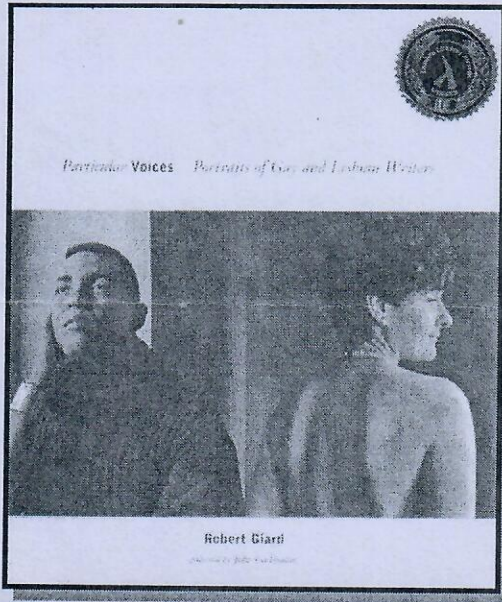
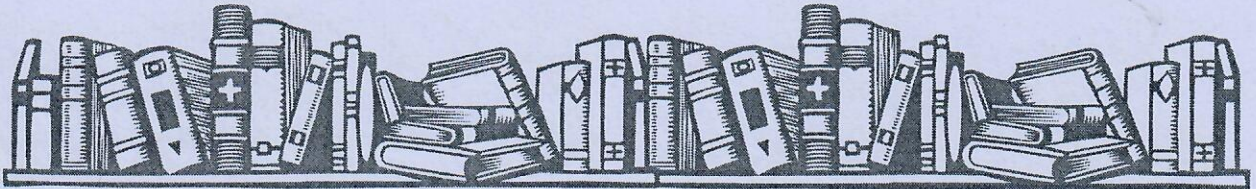
**Bill Paying & Organizing Help**

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## May Book Review



PARTICULAR VOICES: PORTRAITS OF GAY & LESBIAN WRITERS

EDITED BY ROBERT GIARD

MIT PRESS

Christopher Bram once wrote, "For years books were the only source of information and inspiration for closeted gays and lesbians." As we read lavender literature we are often curious about the private lives of our sources of inspiration. What do they look like and how do they feel? Giard has compiled what may strike some writers as a scissors and paste job, taken from various sources such as *The Gay American History* by Jonathan Katz. Joan Nestle introduces the women's section via *I Wanted To Live Long Enough To Kiss A Woman: The*

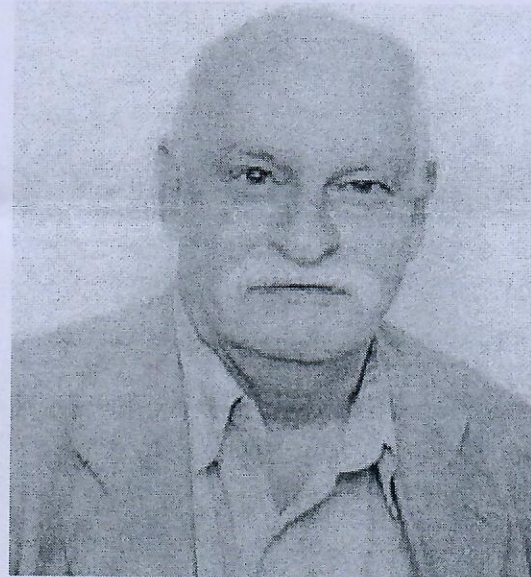
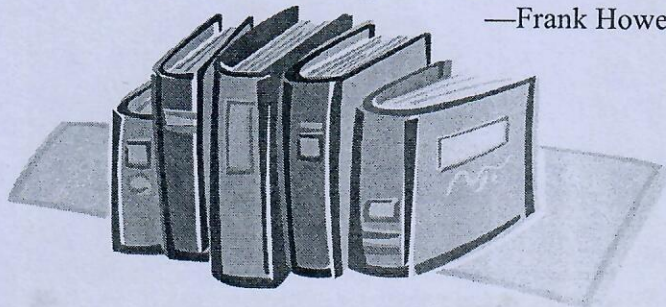
"As we read lavender literature we are often curious about the private lives of our sources of inspiration."

*Life of Lesbian Literature* and Christopher Bram takes us to the gay male perspective in *Mapping The Territory: Gay Men's Writing*.

Some of these literary folk declined to be included and others had passed away. The cream of the pink crop are represented here: Terrence McNally, Larry Kramer, Randy Shilts, John Boswell, Dorothy Allison, Adrienne Rich, Audre Lorde and countless others. I would question including Eleanor Roosevelt and Lorena Hickok. This is wishful thinking on the editor's part. There is no definitive proof of their sexuality.

So, sit back, relax with your favorite drink, and enjoy the ravishing photos and insightful text.

—Frank Howell



FRANK HOWELL

(Continued from page 1)

are included in all policy resolutions and that program wording specifically recognizes the family structures we choose as LGBT people. To make our mark, we must begin to act now. Held

as an official delegate, and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., appointed Lyon. With the help of the others, Martin and Lyon ensured that the term "sexual orientation" was included in several resolutions for the first time in the history of the WHCOA..."

The main principles of the 1995 WHCOA were to value the independence of older adults, to recognize the interdependence of older and younger people, and to ensure the quality of life of all Americans as they age...

every ten years, the WHCOA has served as a catalyst for aging policy since 1961. The first WHCOA provided the basis for what became the Older Americans Act of 1965. That conference and the two that followed prompted the establishment of many of the key programs that represent America's aging policy today: Medicare and Medicaid (1961); the Supplemental Security Income program and the National Institute on Aging (1971); and Social Security reform, expansion of homecare coverage under Medicare, and the Older Americans Act (1981). A priority in the '95 WHCOA was its reaffirmation of the Older Americans Act. The main principles of the 1995 WHCOA were to value the independence of older adults, to recognize the interdependence of older and younger people, and to ensure the quality of life of all Americans as they age...."

Of the 2,217 delegates who attended the WHCOA in 1995, only four or five were out LGBT people. Led by pioneering lesbian activists Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, this small group worked toward having LGBT concerns recognized in at least one of the final resolutions of the conference. Senator Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., appointed Martin

The article goes on to discuss what we should do organizationally to achieve aggressive goals for the WHCOA. Yes, California was in the lead in 1995...and will be again in 2005. We will ensure that with our own work right here in the Bay Area. I ask you to clear your day for June 15<sup>th</sup> so that you can express your views to be taken to the WHCOA in September, 2005.

—Barbara Faulkner

Susan Levinkind, JD  
Lesbian Tax Mom

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retired folks and  
others with their taxes.*

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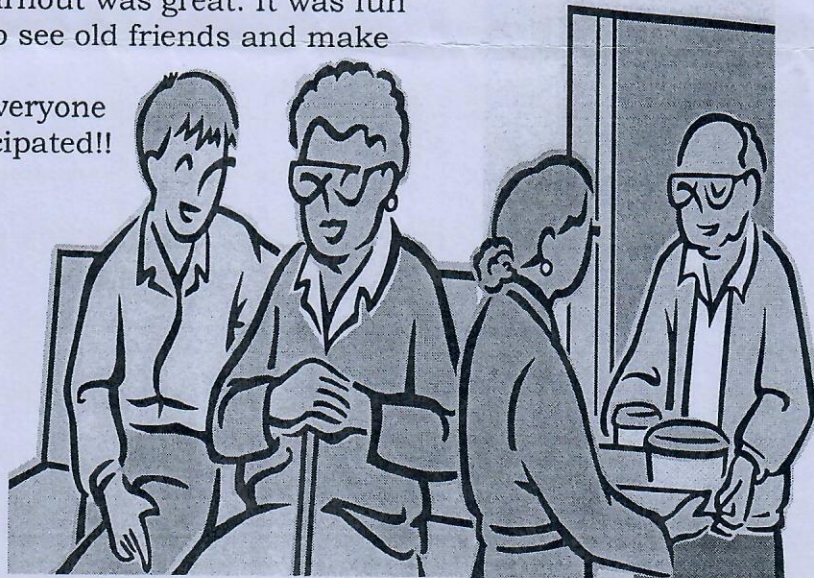
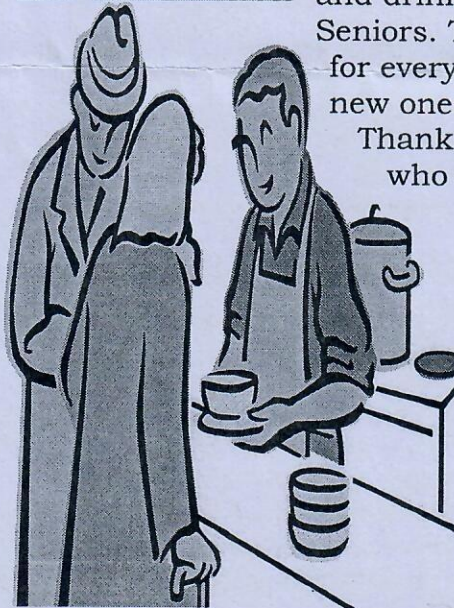
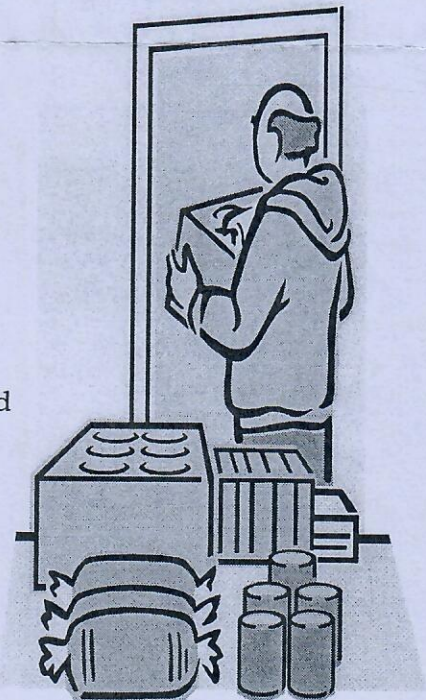
## Volunteer Appreciation Day

*M*itchell, Peggy, Nancy, Reva and Barbara would like to thank all who turned out at our

Volunteer Appreciation day on April 24th. We also have to thank Joe Ware of the Bates House, at 399 Bellevue, Oakland for his gracious hospitality and personal tours of his historic home.

Friendly Visitor, Speaker's Panel, Advisory Board members, and administrative volunteers for the newsletter, website, and general administrative assistance were honored at the event. The food catered by Kismet and drinks were provided by Lavender Seniors. The turnout was great. It was fun for everyone to see old friends and make new ones.

Thanks to everyone who participated!!



# COMMUNITY LISTINGS

## Seniors Men's Afternoon

2nd and 4th Thursdays  
of each month, 1:30—3:30  
pm.

**May 12 & 26**

at Pacific Center,  
2712 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley.

Co-sponsored by Lavender  
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2312 Oregon Street, Suite C  
Berkeley, CA 94705

## Fellows of East Bay

2nd Sunday of each month,  
5:30—8:30 pm.

**May 8**

Social Club for mature men and  
their admirers. Monthly potluck  
dinner and social held at Oak  
Center Towers, 1515 Market  
St., Oakland. Bring food and  
drink to share and a \$4  
donation.

## LAVENDER LUNCH BUNCH

This month's Lunch Bunch  
meets on—

**May 19, 12:20-2:30 PM**

Lakeside Park Garden Center  
666 Bellevue, Oakland

Department of Human Services

Open to all LGBT seniors.  
Third Thursday of each month.



**Saturday, May 14**

**MEAL AT NOON PROGRAM AT 1 P.M.**

*If your name begins with the letter*

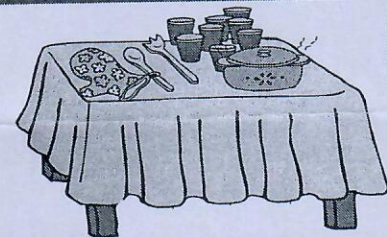
A through G  
H through L  
M through Z

bring Dessert/Fruit  
bring a Main Dish  
bring a Salad

San Leandro BART station Shuttle available. Call one  
day ahead to arrange: 510-667-9655

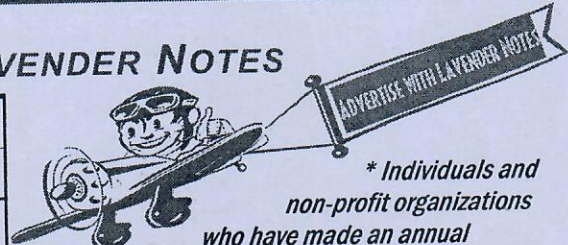
### THIS MONTH'S POTLUCK FEATURES...

Barbara Faulkner, our new  
director, will be at her first  
potluck this month. So, please  
turn out to meet her.



## Advertising Rates\* for LAVENDER NOTES

Ad Size	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
<b>Classified ad</b>	\$2 per line (per month) on a 3 -column page			
<b>Business card</b>	\$25	\$65	\$125	\$235
<b>Quarter page</b>	\$40	\$100	\$185	\$350
<b>Half page</b>	\$75	\$185	\$350	\$650
<b>Full page</b>	\$135	\$350	\$650	\$1,200



*\* Individuals and  
non-profit organizations  
who have made an annual  
contribution of \$25 or more are entitled to  
discounts of 50% on classified ads and 20% on  
ads of other sizes. Lavender Seniors reserves the  
right to accept or reject any ad submitted.*