

Lavender Notes

A Project of the Tides Center

November 2011

Our Mission

Improving the lives of LGBT seniors with outreach, education, and advocacy.

Services

Friendly Visits
Monthly Lunches
Educational Events

Upcoming Events

Anniversary Potluck

Photo Voice Meeting

Monday, November 14th
6:30 p.m. San Leandro Community Church

Changes at Lavender Seniors

Lavender Seniors has always been a fiscally sponsored organization. That means that we are not our own 501c3 non-profit instead we are sponsored by one. Currently our fiscal agent is the Tides Center which provides HR, legal, and accounting services. In order to respond to both the economy and the demands of an agency that has expanded services to the community, Lavender Seniors is changing its fiscal agent from Tides Center to Bay Area Community Services (BACS). BACS is one of if not the largest providers of social services for seniors in Alameda County. The new sponsorship will provide staff around contracted services such as the Fremont lunch and the Friendly Visitor program as well as fundraising/development and volunteer coordination. BACS will also be able to provide LGBT culturally sensitive case management, adult day care, congregate meal programs, and more. There will be no changes in the services Lavender Seniors provides only changes in the operational structure.

There will still be an Advisory Board to oversee and support the strategic direction of programs, special initiatives, outreach, and advocacy efforts. The San Leandro Community Church will still house lunches, newsletter mailings, coalition meetings, and other programs that serve mid Alameda County.

Director Dan Ashbrook will be relocating to BACS in downtown Oakland and taking on a new role that focuses on development and management of all aging services including Lavender Seniors' programs. This transition is currently in process and is expected to be complete by January 1, 2012.

As our LGBT elder community ages, this new program structure will allow Lavender Seniors to be more responsive to their needs both in terms of services and advocacy.

During the transition Carmen Chiong will be the interim Project Director. She has decades of experience in non-profit management especially around social justice causes for women. Please welcome Carmen Chiong

Carmen Chiong is the new Interim Director for Lavender Seniors. Carmen took a temporary leave from the Board of Directors to assist Lavender Seniors through the transitional process. Carmen comes with twenty years career with non-profit organizations in San Francisco and New York. Her positions included broad range of non-profit areas, such as human rights and civil liberties; women and children issues; international relations and conflict resolution; criminal justice; mental health; housing; and education. Carmen was very active in the Latino LGBT community in New York, with such organizations as The Audrey Lorde Project (the first LGBT community center for people of color), Las Buenas Amigas, the oldest Latina Lesbian organization in the country, and other LGBT organizations and groups.

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**LAVENDER
SENIORS**
of the East Bay

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Book Review

One Nation Under Sex: How The Private Lives of Presidents, First Ladies And Their Lovers Changed The Course of American History

By Larry Flynt and David Eisenbach, PhD

The intimate personal lives of public figures has long mesmerized the curious public. The White House figures are not immune from this process. Larry Flynt, of Hustler Magazine fame has teamed up with a history professor from Columbia University to probe the lesser known aspects of private scandal.

We have long known about Ben Franklin's intrigues with the Court ladies of Paris. But how many of us know about the only gay president to occupy the White House? President James Buchanan and his vice president, Will Rufus King were closely tied together for 16 years. Buchanan adopted a pro-slavery stance. The two of them were known around political circles as the "Siamese twins." King was nicknamed "Aunt Fancy" and Buchanan was referred to as "Miss Nancy."

Then there was the controversy about Lincoln and his bed partners who slept together in narrow beds. Honest Abe was alleged to have an affair with Joshua Speed for four years. It was rumored that Speed was the love of Lincoln's life and that he had difficulty relating with women.

There were also numerous jokes circulating about J. Edgar Hoover and his constant companion Clyde Tolson. The forthcoming film about Hoover directed by Clint Eastwood may shed some light.

Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt certainly had their difficulties and Eleanor had an intimate relationship with Lorena Hickok.

Of course in recent times we have witnessed the usual upheavals with John Kennedy, Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky.

Flynt and Eisenbach have done a workman like job of exploring the issue of presidential morality. But certainly we need to grow up and adopt the European attitude toward the private lives of our public heroes. What these folks do in their personal moments pale in comparison to what they achieve in moments of grave crisis involving the destiny of the nation and the world at large. Many of our greatest presidents such as FDR and Jefferson have achieved greatness in spite of any confidential flaws

.-Frank Howell

CARA Corner

Super Committee Threats to Social Security, Medicare & Medicaid (MediCAL)

This fall, the Super Committee, established by the President will recommend legislation to reduce the deficit by \$1.5 trillion over 10 years. The recommendations must be sent to Congress by November 23rd and Congress must vote by December 23rd. It is possible that this legislation will recommend cuts to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid in the name of deficit reduction. The following are some of the proposals you may hear about and an explanation of how they would impact your retirement security:

The Chained CPI: Prior deficit reduction negotiations have proposed changing the formula used to calculate the annual COLA to the so-called chained CPI, which would cut the benefits of those receiving Social Security today. After 10 years average benefits would be cut by about \$600 a year, after 20 years by about \$1,000/yr.

Raising the Retirement Age:

Raising the normal retirement age beyond age 67, is a 13% benefit cut on top of the 13% cut already made when the retirement age was increased from 65 to 67.

Means-Testing Social Security: Workers contribute to Social Security and earn the right to benefits upon retirement.

Voucherize Medicare: This proposal included in the House Republican budget ends Medicare as we know it. Instead seniors would get a small stipend towards the cost of their health care, which they would need to obtain through a private insurance company. The amount would not be enough to keep up with medical inflation.

Raise Medicare's Eligibility Age: Proposals to raise the age of eligibility from 65 to 67 is a step in the wrong direction. This population faces the most difficulty in obtaining insurance due to chronic health conditions.

Other proposals include instituting a Single Deductible for both Medicare Part A and B; restricting first dollar coverage under Medigap; and requiring a home health Co-payment.

Correction for Rose White Article

Rose A. white was a member of SEIU Local 250. This local is now known as United Health Workers West (UHW).

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay is funded by individuals as well as Alameda County Area Agency on Aging, Alameda County Leather Corps, Kaiser Permanente, City of Oakland, City of Fremont, East Bay Foundation on Aging, Gay Chemists Support Fund, Horizons Foundation, Royal Grand Ducal Council/Alameda County, San Francisco Foundation, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR), and Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. We gratefully acknowledge the support of all Friends of Lavender Seniors.

November 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 Women's Group	4	5
6	7	8	9 Bd. Meeting	10 Senior Men's Group	11	12 Potluck
13	14 Photovoice	15	16	17 Women's Group	18 Lunch Bunch	19 Fellows
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25 South County Lunch	26
27	28	29	30			

Nov. 3rd and 17th - 1:30 PM-3:30PM - Support Discussion Group for Aging Queer Women, (1st and 3rd Thurs.) -The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave. (at Derby) Berkeley

Nov. 9th - 7:00-8:30PM - Lavender Senior Board Meeting (Wed. before Potluck) 1395 Bancroft Ave. San Leandro

Nov. 10th - 1:30PM- Seniors Men's Group. (2nd Thurs.), 2712 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley at the Pacific Center Co-Sponsor: Pacific Center 510-548-8283

Nov. 12th - 12:00 PM-2:00 PM -Lavender Seniors Potluck (2nd Sat.) 1395 Bancroft Ave, San Leandro Program: Film- Out For Justice

Nov. 14th-(2nd Mon.) Photovoice- 6:30PM San Leandro Community Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro

Nov. 18th - 12:30-2:30 PM - Lavender Seniors Lunch Bunch, (3rd Fri.) North Oakland Senior Center, 5714 MLK Jr. Way. (58th St.) Oakland. Sponsored by City of Oakland Aging and Adult Services. Program: TBA

Nov. 19th - Fellows of the East Bay (3rd Sat.) 1823 9th Street (at Hearst), Berkeley. Social Hour 5:00, Dinner 6:00.

Become a "Friend of Lavender Seniors" Today!

Here's my gift of: \$20 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$1000 Other \$_____

Donate online at www.lavenderseniors.org. or send a check made payable to Tides Center / Lavender Seniors or please charge my (circle one): AMEX Mastercard VISA Signature: _____

Card #: _____ Expires: _____/_____/_____


Name: _____ Address _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

I would like to make a monthly pledge of \$_____ Please send me a monthly donation form and envelope.

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

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ADVERTISING RATES * FOR LAVENDER NOTES

Ad Size	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year
Classified Ad	\$2 per line (per month) on a 3-column page			
Business Card	\$30	\$75	\$140	\$250
Quarter Page	\$50	\$125	\$225	\$400
Half Page	\$90	\$220	\$400	\$750
Full Page	\$200	\$450	\$800	\$1400

* Individuals and non-profit organizations who have made an annual contribution of \$25 or more are entitled to discounts of 40% on classified ads and 20% on other ads. Lavender Seniors reserves the right to accept or reject any ad. * Cost for a 1/2 page insert or one-page insert to *Lavender Notes* for one month may be purchased for: Non-Profits, \$250; For-Profits, \$500. Must be received by 10th of preceding month.