

# Lavender Notes

A PROJECT OF BAY AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES (BACS)

May, 2012

## OUR MISSION

Improving the lives of LGBT older adults with outreach, education, and Advocacy

## SERVICES:

Friendly Visits

Monthly Lunches

Educational Events

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Potluck Saturday:  
May 12th,

Photovoice Meeting:  
May 14th

Oakland Lunch  
Bunch: May 18th,  
Fremont Lunch:  
May 25th

See Calendar Page for more information!

Volume 16, Issue 5

LAVENDER  
SENIORS  
of the East Bay

## OLDER AMERICANS MONTH!

Since 1963, communities across our nation have joined in the annual commemoration of *Older Americans Month*. This proud tradition shows our commitment to celebrating the contributions and achievements of older Americans. Engaging with seniors is good for all. Studies show interactions with seniors enrich our lives and that providing opportunities for seniors to fully participate in volunteerism, social networking, the arts, exercise, and faith based organizations has significant health benefits. **Reach out this month!**

## LONG TERM CARE...

Do you have a Long-term Care Plan? Like many people, when it comes to long term care, you probably have put off planning for the future. Reaching financial goals and retirement security may be difficult for all of us. This could be especially true for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. Many laws, programs and services simply do not provide equal protection and support. Join us with Renee Brown, LTCI, for one of two educational seminars on the "who, what, when, where, how, and why" of planning for a long life in the LGBT community. Long term care insurance may help protect personal savings and retirement assets. For many, long-term care insurance is an affordable solution. To receive your free planning guide, attend one of the upcoming seminars or contact Renee Brown, LTCI directly at 510-657-8753 or by email at [Rbrown@genworthlhc.com](mailto:Rbrown@genworthlhc.com).

## BOOK REVIEW

Fit To Serve: Reflections on A Secret life, Private Struggle, And Public Battle to Become The First Openly Gay U. S. Ambassador By Ambassador James C. Hormel And Erin Martin The elaborate book title almost says it all. Hormel was appointed the first openly gay ambassador to be appointed. But his time as our representative to Luxembourg, 1999-2000 was no bed of roses. Pat Robinson immediately accused (Cont'd Pg 2)

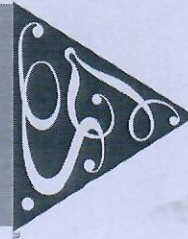
## PHOTOVOICE

On April 9 Photovoice volunteers delivered a ground breaking presentation to the San Leandro Senior Center staff. The personal stories these volunteers told as part of the presentation where so inspiring they convinced the Director of the senior center to provide Lavender Seniors with a free space to hold monthly (Cont'd Pg 2)

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**BOOK REVIEW****Lavender Notes****CARA CORNER**

(Cont'd from front page) him of pedophilia. The right winger had a field day but the Europeans loved him. Hormel was born to the wealthy Hormel Meat Company heritage, founded by his grandfather in 1891. The family was often visited by celebrities such as George Burns and Gracie Allen.

Jim's finest achievement was the founding of the special gay collection that is housed at the San Francisco Public Library. Conservative politicians charged that he personally selected the materials for the library. But only the staff performs that function. His tenure as Ambassador to Luxemborg was an inspiring success. Hormel concludes the book by reviewing what remains to be done such as the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act. James Hormel now has a loving partner, Michael Nguyen and is still just getting warmed up for future battles on the human rights front.

**Honor Your Elders – May 18, 2012 Senior Lobby Day** CARA is sponsoring a lobby day event in Sacramento to highlight the important issues that seniors care about and visit with our elected officials to discuss these issues. This event is usually led by our members who live in or around Sacramento, on behalf of the 900,000 members CARA represents across the State. We will be holding meetings with all of our State legislators, in their districts – all on one day – May 18th. This way, many more seniors around the State can participate and speak directly to their elected representatives on the issues we care about. The CARA Action Teams (CATs) are coordinating most of the visits with Assemblymembers and Senators. If you would like to participate in a meeting with your State legislators, please call CARA at 510-663-4086 (Northern CA) or 714-244-7776 (Southern CA) to sign up.

**PHOTOVOICE**

(Continued) discussion groups for LGBTs. San Leandro Senior center is also increasing its efforts to provide visible representation of the LGBT community as well as LGBT elder educational opportunities for staff. In addition, Photovoice volunteers delivered a second presentation to the San Leandro Senior Center commission on April 19 and asked that the center declare June as LGBT Pride month. The commission was very moved and strongly considering this request. Photovoice volunteers will continue to work with the senior center in the hopes that a resolution be passed declaring June as LGBT pride month which would increase awareness about the issues LGBT senior face when accessing mainstream senior centers. Thank you to these volunteers and to the San Leandro Senior Center!

**VOLUNTEER CORNER**

Lavender Seniors is expanding its Advisory Board. If you are interested in making a difference in the lives of LGBT elders in Alameda County contact Scott Weinzirl at 510- 318-6113. for more information. Persons with nonprofit management skills, advocacy or senior service experience are encouraged to apply.

**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 of 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.**

Lavender Notes

MAY 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 ♀♀	4	5
6	7	8	9 Board Mtg	10 ♂♂	11	12 LS Potluck!
13	14 Photovoice	15	16	17 ♀♀	18 Lunch Bunch	19 Fellows of the East Bay
20	21	22	23	24 ♂♂	25 Fremont Lunch	26
27	28	29	30	31 ♀♀	1	2 <i>Encore!</i> SLS-Encore.blogspot.com

May 3rd, 17th & 31st –1:30 PM to 3:30 PM: Support Discussion Group for Aging Queer Women, (1st and 3rd Thurs.) -The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave. (at Derby) in Berkeley.

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

May 10th & 24th., 1:30PM: Senior Men's Group. (2nd and 4th Thurs.), 2712 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley at the Pacific Center Co-Sponsor: Pacific Center 510-548-8283

May 12th., 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM: Potluck Lavender Seniors (2nd Sat.) 1395 Bancroft Ave, San Leandro Program: Town Hall Meeting of LGBT Seniors issues

May 14th., 6:30 PM: Photovoice Meeting, Coffee room at 1395 Bancroft Ave, San Leandro

May 18th., 12:30-2:30 PM: Lunch Bunch Sponsored by City of Oakland Aging & Adult Services, North Oakland Senior Center, 5714 MLK Way, Oakland. Program: Long-term Care Insurance presentation provided by Renee Brown, LTCI

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

May 25th., 12:00–2:00PM South County Lunch & Talk About at Fremont Senior Center. Program: Long-term Care Insurance presentation provided by Renee Brown, LTCI

Jun 2nd 1:30-3:30 Encore! The Talk Show for Seniors-Gay Pride! Guests include Dan Ashbrook (Lavender Seniors) (Call: 510-592-3938)

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](http://www.lavenderseniors.org). or send a check made payable to: Lavender Seniors/BACS or please charge my (circle one): AMEX Mastercard VISA Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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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, 1814 Franklin St. 4th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612

**Monica Z. Nowakowski-Carlson, L.C.S.W.**

*Psychotherapy & E.A.P.*

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<b>Business Card</b>	\$30	\$75	\$140	\$250
<b>Quarter Page</b>	\$50	\$125	\$225	\$400
<b>Half Page</b>	\$90	\$220	\$400	\$750
<b>Full Page</b>	\$200	\$450	\$800	\$1400

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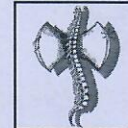
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**Tara FLANAGAN**

For Alameda County Superior Court Judge

The LGBT and Senior Communities deserve a judicial system that treats everyone with dignity and fairness. I'm ready to put my experience to work as your Judge. **Vote Tara for Judge on June 5.**