

# Lavender Notes

July 2013

## OUR MISSION

**Improving the lives of LGBT older adults with community building, education, and advocacy.**

## SERVICES:

Friendly Visits

Monthly Lunches

Educational Events

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

San Leandro Potluck  
Saturday 7/13

Oakland Lunch Bunch  
Friday 7/19

Fremont Lunch Bunch  
Friday 7/26

See Calendar on page 3 for more details.

## A Proclamation from President Barack Obama

From the White House, Office of the Press Secretary, May 31, 2013

*For more than two centuries, our Nation has struggled to transform the ideals of liberty and equality from founding promise into lasting reality. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Americans and their allies have been hard at work on the next great chapter of that history – from the patrons of The Stonewall Inn who sparked a movement to service members who can finally be honest about who they love to brave young people who come out and speak out every day.*

*This year, we celebrate LGBT Pride Month at a moment of great hope and progress, recognizing that more needs to be done. Support for LGBT equality is growing, led by a generation which understands that, in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." In the past year, for the first time, voters in multiple States affirmed marriage equality for same-sex couples. State and local governments have taken important steps to provide much-needed protections for transgender Americans.*

*My Administration is a proud partner in the journey toward LGBT equality. We extended hate crimes protections to include attacks based on sexual orientation or gender identity and repealed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." We lifted the HIV entry ban and ensured hospital visitation rights for LGBT patients. Together, we have investigated and addressed pervasive bullying faced by LGBT students, prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in Federal housing, and extended benefits for same-sex domestic partners. Earlier this year, I signed a reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in the implementation of any VAWA-funded program. And because LGBT rights are human rights, my Administration is implementing the first-ever Federal strategy to advance equality for LGBT people around the world.*

*We have witnessed real and lasting change, but our work is not complete. I continue to support a fully inclusive Employment Non-Discrimination Act, as well as the Respect for Marriage Act. My Administration continues to implement the Affordable Care Act, which beginning in 2014, prohibits insurers from denying coverage to consumers based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, as well as the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, which addresses the disparate impact of the HIV epidemic among certain LGBT sub-communities. We have a long way to go, but if we continue on this path together, I am confident that one day soon, from coast to coast, all of our young people will look to the future with the same sense of promise and possibility. I am confident because I have seen the talent, passion, and commitment of LGBT advocates and their allies, and I know that when voices are joined in common purpose, they cannot be stopped.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month. I call upon the people of the United States to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists, and to celebrate the great diversity of the American people.**

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.*

Volume 17, Issue 7

**LAVENDER  
SENIORS**  
*of the East Bay*

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[www.lavenderseniors.org](http://www.lavenderseniors.org)

Lavender Seniors is a project of Bay Area Community Services (BACS)

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## Lavender Notes

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### Hayward and Castro Valley Honor

#### Senior Gay Pride this Month

Show your pride at the Hayward Senior Center, 22325 N. 3rd St., on July 17th at 12:30 and in Castro Valley the next day, the 18th, at the Kenneth Aitken Senior Center, 17800 Redwood Rd., also at 12:30. Both centers are having entertainment by the Oakland East Bay Gay Men's Chorus. Lavender Seniors will provide refreshments...

*You provide the fun!*

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### BOOK REVIEW BY FRANK HOWELL

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#### Family Pride: What LGBT Families Should Know about navigating Home, School, and Safety In Their Neighborhoods by Michael Shelton

Beacon Press-Paperback, \$16.00

**Much** progress has been made in promoting LGBT safety, but danger is still out there. Shelton, a sex therapist, provides a stunning array of facts, both inspiring and chilling:

According to the 2010 Census one third of lesbians are parents and one fifth of gay men are; Southern States have large numbers of gay couples; black and Latino couples are twice as likely to have children; the median household budget of couples with children is \$46,000. COLAGE is the major pro-gay organization that aids gay couples.

Progress always reaps a backlash. Sally Kern, an Oklahoma State legislator proclaims that "homosexuality is a bigger threat to the USA than terrorism." The Southern Poverty Law Center reports that gays are the most frequently attacked minority group. A GLSEN study finds that 12% of lavender students are harassed. LGBT parents are usually not invited to school events.

4,000 Gay Student Alliances are now operating across the country. Many liberal churches are now being friendly to us, especially the United Church of Christ.

We need to pass ENDA to end discrimination in all parts of America. All children need protection.

**Family Pride:...** gives us reason to hope and to keep up the good fight.

**James Frey** passed away last month. He had been living at St. Paul's towers in Oakland.

### No More Free Lunch in Fremont

They'll have to pay, but the regulars enjoy the Lavender Lunch Bunch so much that they've decided to continue meeting and eating on the forth Friday of each month at the Fremont Senior Center. The Center has graciously offered to reserve a table for Lavender Seniors at the noontime seating. Why don't you join them? The Senior Center is popular for its delicious lunches that are prepared fresh in their own kitchen.

For the last eight years, the City of Fremont, recognizing the need for local LGBT Seniors to have a place to socialize, has been generously subsidizing the meal tickets. Unfortunately, the city no longer has money to support the program. Lavender Seniors is grateful for the many years that Fremont has been receptive and supportive to LGBT Seniors, We look forward to continuing our relationship with them in the years to come.

### Fun Floating at San Francisco Pride!

Volunteers from Lavender Seniors had fun representing Oakland and Fremont by marching and riding in the cities' floats at the San Francisco Pride parade. Thanks Marvin, Tomi, Ginger, Cindy, Carol, Frank, Beckie, Dan and Harry!

### CARA CORNER

#### California Alliance for Retired Americans

Politicians continue to press for the Chained CPI benefit cut as a way to reduce the deficit. But the truth is Social Security has not contributed one dime to the deficit. The chained CPI is a cold, calculated benefit cut to our Social Security - and \*some cuts never heal!\*

On Tuesday July 2nd, the Alliance for Retired Americans is mobilizing people in 40 cities across the country to form HUMAN CHAINS AGAINST THE CHAINED CPI.

The Alliance for Retired Americans refuses to allow the budget to be balanced on the backs of seniors and working people. And we are not alone. Millions of Americans agree that the Chained CPI is a bad deal for seniors, veterans, people with disabilities and working families. It's time to show our elected leaders the overwhelming number of people who oppose the chained CPI benefit cut.

Will you form a link in our chain? Find an event happening near you and to RSVP at: [ <http://bit.ly/126hY74> ]

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

Lavender Notes

July 2013



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 BOARD MEETING	11	12	13 <del>Potluck</del>
142	15	16	17	18	19 <u>Oakland Lunch Bunch</u>	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 <u>Fremont-Lunch</u>	27
28	29	30	31			

**July 4 & 18, 1:30PM to 3:30PM, Support Discussion Group for Aging Lesbian Women, (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs.)** The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave. (at Derby) Berkeley

**July 10, 7PM-8PM, Lavender Seniors Advisory Board Meeting** at BACS, 1814 Franklin St. #400 Oakland. A portion of this meeting is open to public.

**July 11 & 23, 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

**July 13, Noon-2PM, Lavender Seniors Potluck, (2<sup>nd</sup> Sat.)** All Saints Episcopal Church 911 Dowling Blvd, San Leandro Program:

**July 19, 12:00-2:00PM, Oakland Lunch Bunch Sponsored by City of Oakland Aging & Adult Services, N. Oakland Sr. Center, 5714 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Program:**

**July 26, Noon-2PM South County Lunch at Fremont Senior Center, 40086 Paseo Padre Parkway. A table will be reserved for Lavender Seniors and friends.**

**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): 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, 1814 Franklin St. 4th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612**

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