

Youngstown  
Chapter  
Summer/Fall  
2016

# PFLAG Rag

Visit our website at  
[www.youngstownpflag.org](http://www.youngstownpflag.org)



## Calendar

Tue, 10/11: National Coming-Out Day

Last day to register to vote (If you voted in the primary or if you have received from the Secretary of State a letter asking if you want an absentee ballot, you are registered. Otherwise, get registered!)

Listen for music by LGBT composers on WYSU thanks to Sandy and Wade Driscoll in the name of Youngstown PFLAG.

6:30: PFLAG Meeting: Seminar on foster care and adoption by LGBT families, by Cynthia Wallis, MA, at St. John's.

Thu, 10/20, 6-9: Pancake dinner at St. John's, a fund-raiser for Full Spectrum

Sat, 10/22, 7:30: Pride Night at *Fun Home* in Cleveland (See blurb on page 7.)

Tue, 11/8: Election Day

6:30: PFLAG Meeting

Fri, 12/9, 6-8: Holiday Gala with Denise Russell, dinner and drinks at Holiday Inn in Boardman



President:  
Marguerite Felice  
Vice-President:  
Toni Schildcrout  
Secretary:  
Sandy Driscoll  
Treasurer:  
Steven Schilderout  
Trustees:  
Tom Beck  
Jeff Vargo  
Newsletter Editor:  
Tom Copeland

## Regular Meetings

PFLAG-Youngstown, 2nd Tuesday, 6:30, at St. John's

Transgender Support Group, 2nd Sunday, 6-8, at St. John's (Full Spectrum)

Sexuality Support Group, 2nd Thursday, 6-8, at St. John's (Full Spectrum)

## Political Forum

On September 20 PFLAG Youngstown was addressed by representatives of Democrats, Republicans, and the Green Party, who discussed how their parties' platforms bear on LGBT concerns.

Attorney David Betras, chair of the Mahoning County Democratic Party, the highest-ranking guest, read with passion the long list of promises included in the party platform (see p. 2).

Tracey Winbush, the first African-American member of the county's elections board and "the

first woman on it in 11 years" (David Skolnick, Vindy.com, 2/6/13), emphasized her perception that the Republican party hopes to reduce harmful conflict by uniting all citizens as Americans, entitled to hold widely differing moral codes but respecting equality under the law.

Jim Villani, a long-time Green Party activist, fielded the inevitable question about how votes for Dr. Jill Stein might lead to a Republican victory. He said that even if Trump should win, he would continue to be at odds with both parties and so, his hands tied, would necessarily be guided by his advisors. He did not offer any opinion concerning these advisors' political views.

# Democratic LGBT Platform

— [www.demconvention.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Democratic-Party-Platform-7.21.16-no-lines.pdf](http://www.demconvention.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Democratic-Party-Platform-7.21.16-no-lines.pdf)

Kerry Eleveld of *Daily Kos* writes, “Not only does the platform celebrate last year’s Supreme Court victory legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide, it pushes for protecting LGBT Americans in housing, public accommodations, employment, and more through both ‘sex’ discrimination laws and passing federal legislation explicitly protecting gay and trans individuals. The platform also denounces the many state-sponsored efforts to target LGBT folks through so-called religious freedom laws—which are described as the ‘misuse of religion’ to discriminate—and laws restricting ‘the right to access public spaces,’ such as the HB2 bathroom bill in North Carolina” (7/25/16).

The Democratic Platform (<https://www.democrats.org/party-platform>) contains two planks directly related to LGBT persons:

## **Guaranteeing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights**

Democrats applaud last year’s decision by the Supreme Court that recognized that LGBT people—like other Americans—have the right to marry the person they love. But there is still much work to be done. LGBT kids continue to be bullied at school, restaurants can refuse to serve transgender people, and same-sex couples are at risk of being evicted from their homes. That is unacceptable and must change. Democrats will fight for the continued development of sex discrimination law to cover LGBT people. We will also fight for comprehensive federal non-discrimination protections for all LGBT Americans, to guarantee equal rights in areas such as housing, employment, public accommodations, credit, jury service, education, and federal funding. We will oppose all state efforts to discriminate against LGBT individuals, including legislation that restricts the right to access public spaces. We support a progressive vision of religious freedom that respects pluralism and rejects the misuse of religion to discriminate. We will combat LGBT youth homelessness and improve school climates. We will support LGBT elders, ensure access to necessary health care, and protect LGBT people from violence—including ending the crisis of violence against transgender Americans. We will also promote LGBT human rights and ensure America’s foreign policy is inclusive of LGBT people around the world.

## **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People**

Democrats believe that LGBT rights are human rights and that American foreign policy should advance the ability of all persons to live with dignity, security, and respect, regardless of who they are or who they love. We applaud President Obama’s historic Presidential Memorandum on International Initiatives to Advance the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Persons, which combats criminalization, protects refugees, and provides foreign assistance. We will continue to stand with LGBT people around the world, including fighting efforts by any nation to infringe on LGBT rights or ignore abuse.

# Republican LGBT Platform

In a video interview on *Democracy Now* Amy Goodman quoted Gregory T. Angelo, the president of the Log Cabin Republicans, to the effect that the Republican platform is “the most anti-LGBT platform in the party’s 162-year history.” She added, “The platform opposes same-sex marriage, appears to endorse so-called conversion therapy by [referring to] ‘the right of parents to determine the proper treatment or therapy for their minor children,’ [and] also criticizes the Department of Education’s recommendation that schools allow transgender students to use the bathrooms that match their gender identity” (July 21, 2016).

However, a California delegate to the Republican convention, Charles Moran, blamed Ted Cruz for what he called “a 19th century style platform.” Moran pointed out that Trump has denied having read the platform, which is non-binding in any case. Although he admitted that Pence’s endorsement of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act raises questions, he said he expects Pence to moderate his stance when he finds himself representing an entire country.

On the other hand, another interviewee, Alana Jochum, says that what “make America great again” really means is “make America straight again.”

Additionally, in his summary of the platform for *The Huffington Post*, Matt Fuller writes, “The platform . . . states ‘that man-made law must be consistent with God-given, natural rights. . . .’”

Read the platform at < [https://www.scribd.com/document/318660213/RNC-Platform#from\\_embed?content=10079&ad\\_](https://www.scribd.com/document/318660213/RNC-Platform#from_embed?content=10079&ad_)

# Green Party LGBT Platform

— [www.gp.org/social\\_justice\\_2016/#sjCivilRights](http://www.gp.org/social_justice_2016/#sjCivilRights)

In keeping with the Green Key Values of diversity, social justice and feminism, we support full legal and political equality for all persons, regardless of sex, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity, characteristics, and expression.

The Green Party affirms the rights of all individuals to freely choose intimate partners, regardless of their sex, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

The Green Party recognizes the equal rights of persons who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, intersex, trans-sexual, queer, or transgender to housing, jobs, civil marriage, medical benefits, child custody, and in all areas of life including equal tax treatment.

The Green Party will be inclusive of language in local, state and federal anti-discrimination law that ensures the rights of intersex individuals and prohibits discrimination based on gender identity, characteristics, and expression as well as on sex, gender, or sexual orientation. We are opposed to intersex genital mutilation.

The Green Party affirms the right of all persons to self-determination with regard to gender identity and sex. We therefore support the right of intersex and trans-gender individuals to be free from coercion and involuntary assignment of gender or sex. We affirm the right of access to medical and surgical treatment for assignment or reassignment of gender or sex, based on informed consent.

We will pursue legislation against all forms of hate crimes, including those directed against people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, transgender, and inter-sex. Offenders must pay compensation to the LGBTIQ people who have suffered violence and injustice.

The Green Party will end all Federal military and civilian aid to national governments whose laws result in the imprisonment or otherwise bring harm to citizens and residents based on sexual

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orientation, or gender identity, characteristics, and expression.

The Green Party will enact a policy that the U.S. Government recognize all international marriages and legal equivalents, such as civil unions, in processing visitor and immigration visas.

The Green Party would end security surveillance and covert infiltration of organizations that promote equal rights on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

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# Libertarian Party LGBT Platform

— <http://www.lp.org/files/2016%20LP%20Platform%20.pdf>

## 1.4 Personal Relationships

Sexual orientation, preference, gender, or gender identity should have no impact on the government's treatment of individuals, such as in current marriage, child custody, adoption, immigration or military service laws. Government does not have the authority to define, license or restrict personal relationships. Consenting adults should be free to choose their own sexual practices and personal relationships.

## 3.5 Rights and Discrimination

Libertarians embrace the concept that all people are born with certain inherent rights. We reject the idea that a natural right can ever impose an obligation upon others to fulfill that "right." We condemn bigotry as irrational and repugnant. Government should neither deny nor abridge any individual's human right based upon sex, wealth, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, personal habits, political preference or sexual orientation. Members of private organizations retain their rights to set whatever standards of association they deem appropriate, and individuals are free to respond with ostracism, boycotts and other free-market solutions.

# What Is PFLAG?

## Our Vision

We, the parents, families and friends of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, celebrate diversity and envision a society that embraces everyone, including those of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Only with respect, dignity and equality for all will we reach our full potential as human beings, individually and collectively. PFLAG welcomes the participation and support of all who share in, and hope to realize this vision.

## Our Mission

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

## Our Strategic Goals

1. Build the capacity of our organization at every level so that we may have all the resources, in the form of information, people and funding, necessary to move forward in our work with the greatest possible effect.
2. Create a world in which our young people may grow up and be educated with freedom from fear of violence, bullying and other forms of discrim-

ination, regardless of their real or perceived gender identity or sexual orientation or that of their families.

3. Make our vision and our message accessible to the broadest range of ethnic and cultural communities, ending the isolation of families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender family members within those communities.
4. Work toward full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons within their chosen communities of faith.
5. Create a society in which all LGBT persons may openly and safely pursue the career path of their choice, and may be valued and encouraged to grow to their full potential in the workplace.
6. Create a society in which all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons may enjoy, in every aspect of their lives, full civil and legal equality and may participate fully in all the rights, privileges and obligations of full citizenship in this country.

We welcome the participation and support of all who share in our Vision and Mission and who hope to realize our goals.

—See more at <<http://community.pflag.org/page.aspx?pid=237#sthash.WpB2s9T6.dpuf>>.

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## Join Us

If you are joining as a new member, please send your name, email, postal address, and phone number to [youngstownpflag@aol.com](mailto:youngstownpflag@aol.com). You may submit your dues payment of \$25 per household plus any optional donation using PayPal at our website: [youngstownareapflag@gmail.com](mailto:youngstownareapflag@gmail.com).

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## Submissions

*The Youngstown Area PFLAG Rag* needs your input. There are four issues annually, having the following deadlines: March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1. Send submissions (including pictures) to [tcpeland@neo.rr.com](mailto:tcpeland@neo.rr.com) or to

Youngstown Area PFLAG  
313 N. Belle Vista Ave.  
Youngstown, OH 44509



### Disclaimer

The views expressed in these pages are not necessarily those of the executive board, editor, or chapter.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 in the Parish House of St. John's Episcopal Church (lower level), 323 Wick Avenue, Youngstown, OH.

# September Is Membership Renewal Month

Thank you for your interest in Youngstown Area PFLAG. We hope PFLAG has been helpful to you, but we also hope you can be helpful to us. We need you as a member and we need your financial support.

Our new fiscal year runs October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017. To become a new member, to renew your membership, or to make a donation, take advantage of paying electronically and securely by credit or debit card from our Website <<http://www.youngstownpflag.org/>>. Just click the "Donate" button, and proceed. If we don't have your current contact information, please send an email to [youngstownareapflag@gmail.com](mailto:youngstownareapflag@gmail.com) with the information requested below. A similar information form can be downloaded from the Website and attached to your email.

From your \$25 membership dues (per household), we send \$15 to National PFLAG, and our chapter uses the remaining \$10. There is no extra charge to receive our quarterly newsletter by email. Please consider an additional tax deductible donation, which will fund our local programs, awards, brochures, supplies, and meeting expenses. We are all volunteers with no paid staff, and we depend on your continuing help in furthering LGBT equality through our mission of support, education, and advocacy. Thank you!

If you prefer to pay by check, please include the information requested below.

- New
- Renewal
- Change of contact information. Please fill in form below.
- \$25.00 Household membership for fiscal year 2016-17
- \$5.00 Newsletter postal subscription (if you don't receive it electronically)
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Additional donation

Total payment \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Youngstown Area PFLAG.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to

Youngstown Area PFLAG, 2201 Goleta Ave., Youngstown, OH 44504

If you have a question about dues or your membership status, please contact us at [youngstownareapflag@gmail.com](mailto:youngstownareapflag@gmail.com)

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## Speaking Engagements

**Representatives from PFLAG-Youngstown (Tom Beck, Marguerite, and Steve) have spoken recently to staff of Elkton Prison (June 23) and the Bankruptcy Court (June 20) to raise awareness of LGBT issues. Representatives will be visiting the Tri-County Association of Social Workers on December 14. Marguerite will address the Daybreak Youth Shelter staff on October 13.**

## 2016 Pride Festival, Downtown Youngstown, August 22



PFLAG tent at Pride, shared with Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown



Pictures Courtesy of Tom Beck



### Queer Figures

The AFA claims to have obtained 1.4 million signatures on a petition asking Target to discontinue its practice of allowing customers to use the changing room matching their gender identity (Newsletter 7/14/16).

Oddly, 1.4 million US citizens identify as transgender according to a study done at the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law (NPR 6/30/16).

Yet the Equality Act, introduced in 2015 to extend full civil rights to all American citizens, has as yet garnered only 62,205 signatures, despite Orlando (see and sign at [http://act.credoaction.com/sign/Equality\\_Act\\_2016?t=4&akid=18678.1366457.oQ6vGA](http://act.credoaction.com/sign/Equality_Act_2016?t=4&akid=18678.1366457.oQ6vGA)).

### The Bathroom Directive: How States Line Up

—from Mike Ludwig's "Protecting Transgender Rights Is Not Dangerous, but Discrimination Is," *Truthout | News Analysis*, 7/29/16

**Against:** Arkansas, Kansas, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wyoming, Texas, Alabama, Arizona, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Tennessee, Maine, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Utah, Georgia

**For:** California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Vermont, the District of Columbia

## National PFLAG Urges All to Support Legislation

“The LGBT Data Inclusion Act, H.R. 5373, would increase the accuracy of population surveys by requiring all agencies that collect demographic information to include questions about sexual orientation and gender identity. These questions will be mandatory to ask and optional for all respondents to answer to ensure safety in reporting. This bill would provide access to much-needed demographic data about the lives of LGBTQ individuals. The LGBT Data Inclusion Act, championed by Rep. Raul Grijalva and supported by Laverne Cox, has the full endorsement and active engagement of PFLAG National” (*Policy Matters*, 6/30/16).

“The LGBT Pride Act (H.R. 5855) . . . would have LGBTQ people treated the same as every other protected class of people under federal law by requiring the CDC to begin collecting sexual orientation and gender identity data under the National Death Reporting System.” This bill was “introduced by Reps. Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18), David Cicilline (RI-1), Mark Takano (CA-41) and Mark Pocan (WI-2)” (<https://www.pflag.org/take-action/lgbt-pride-act>).

PRIDE Night @ FUN HOME, October 22, 2016 @ 7:30 PM EST

Celebrate LGBTQ History Month and the Opening of the National Tour of Fun Home in Cleveland. <https://groupmatics.events/#/event/PRIDENIGHT>  
Join us as we welcome the 2015 Tony Award-winning musical, *Fun Home* to Cleveland. We are showing our appreciation not only to an amazing show that chose to kick off its national tour here in Cleveland, but also to all organizations that are a part of the LGBTQ community. This performance will be the show's final one in Cleveland.

What the Event Includes (for \$50):

- 1) A discounted performance ticket
- 2) One free drink ticket
- 3) An exclusive post-show party with the cast of *Fun Home*

Tickets: <https://groupmatics.events/#/event/PRIDENIGHT>

## Tony Perkins Rebuked

Kerry Eleveld of *Daily Kos* reported on June 21 that on that day Angela Peoples, a member of GetEQUAL, interrupted Donald Trump's meeting with evangelical Christian leaders to accuse a guest of Trump, Family Research Council's Tony Perkins, of helping to create the climate that gave rise to the murders at Pulse in Orlando: “You are responsible for hate and lies—a culture that has fueled violence against our community . . . You are responsible . . . for all of this violence. Do you see those 49 people that were murdered in Orlando? YOU created that environment, sir. . . . We don't want your prayers, Tony Perkins. We don't want your lies. We want you to stop being homophobic, we want you to stop the hate speech.”



Perkins is described by Kate Nelson as a “Christian lobbyist who preached that God sends natural disasters to punish gays” (*Independent* 8/18/16).



However, when faced suddenly with a flood “of near Biblical proportions” (his own words) that destroyed his home and those of 80%

of his parishioners, forcing him and his family to escape in a canoe, Perkins not only found comfort in having lived “off ‘God's provisions’ following the flood” (Ibid.) but also, in reporting the disaster on his radio show with guest host Ken Klukowski, gave listeners to understand that God employs natural disasters “. . . to sanctify you and to use this as an incredible, encouraging spiritual exercise to take you to the next level in your walk with an almighty and gracious God who does all things well” (quoted by Walter Einkenkelin *Daily Kos*, 8/18/16).

## Excerpts from “Reimagining Safety for Queer and Trans Communities in Wake of Orlando”

— Tina Vasquez, *Rewire.news* Jun 23, 2016

House Democrats held a sit-in on gun control this week as a direct response to the Orlando shooting. Though Alan Pelaez Lopez—an Afro-Latinx, gender-nonconforming immigrant, poet, and member of the organization Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement—agrees that gun control is important and should be considered by Congress, they [sic] said it can also feel like the community affected by the shooting almost always gets erased from those discussions.

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What’s become clear, according to . . . Gutierrez, is that after a tragedy like Orlando, white LGBTQ members want to feel united, but many don’t want to discuss how things like race and citizenship status affect feelings of safety. Instead, some will push for a greater police presence at events.



.....  
“The white LGBTQ community doesn’t face the criminalization and policing that our community faces every day. Not just at Pride, but every day, everywhere we go. That’s our life,” Gutierrez said. “If you don’t listen to us when it comes to these issues of safety, you’re not just erasing us from a tragedy that impacted us, but you’re really hurting us.”

As Gutierrez explained, in the hours after the shooting, some media coverage failed to mention Pulse was a gay club, failed to mention it was people of color who were killed on Latino night, and failed to mention that trans women were performing just before the shooting broke out. Gutierrez told *Rewire* he felt like his community and their pain was being erased. . . .

## Stonewall: A Monument to . . . ?

Possibly from fear of unruly behavior at the ceremony that would transform the Stonewall Inn into a national monument, the invitations specified that nothing political was to occur. It was rather like inviting people to a silent concert, and at least one of the invitees, Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, who participated in the famous 1969 demonstration, declined “[t]o go and sit there and be a quiet little nigger,” aware that the guest list alone was a political statement. Among the guests, say Dunham and Meronek of *Truthout*, was “NYPD Commissioner Bill Bratton, who has been consistently criticized by LGBTQ activists for supporting policies such as ‘stop-and-frisk’ searches and ‘broken windows’ policing—both of which target low-income trans and gender nonconforming people of color, as well as other people of color.”

The LGBTQ community has much to celebrate, it is true, but let us remember that every wave may have surfers that are parasites rather than allies. In their 7/2 article in *Truthout*, Dunham and Meronek allege, “While it may be true that large corporations increasingly employ gays and lesbians, these hires are predominantly white and predominantly cisgender. Even more, the growth of tech industries in cities such as New York, San Francisco, and Seattle continues to displace longstanding communities [by] bringing in hoards of high-paid corporate workers. What often goes unspoken is that lower-income LGBTQ people, especially communities of color, are forced out when white, wealthy, and highly educated gays and lesbians move in.” Beware too when corporations sponsor gay pride festivals, hijacking them like Christmas, for commercial profit.

While transgender prisoners conduct hunger strikes for appropriate housing and queer kids must live on the streets or starve and police raid bath houses and people who marry on Sunday are fired for it on Monday, what does it mean to monumentalize Stonewall?

# Religion No License to Discriminate

Religious exemptions from laws that protect civil rights, which have proliferated as a backlash to the swift progress of pro-LGBT legislation, are now meeting resistance.

Associated Press journalist Darch Costello reports that a “California bill would prevent LGBT discrimination at religious schools. A bill [SB1146] moving through the Democratic controlled Legislature would remove a longstanding exemption from anti-discrimination laws for religious institutions, potentially exposing the schools to civil rights lawsuits from students and employees” (7/30/16).

According to Jeff Amy, U.S. District Judge Carlton Reeves blocked a Mississippi law that would have permitted civil servants and merchants to deny services to same-sex couples on the grounds of religious objections to same-sex marriage,” and Reeves has also denied Governor Phil Bryant’s request to allow the law to go into effect until a ruling is made on his appeal. Amy says the law “would allow individual county clerks to cite religious objections to recuse themselves from issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples, and would protect merchants who refuse services to lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender people. It could affect adoptions and foster care, business practices and school bathroom policies” (Associated Press, 8/2/16).

Such laws may soon be stricken wholesale from the states’ codes if H.R. 5272 becomes law. Known as the Do No Harm Act, this anti-discrimination bill, endorsed by National PFLAG, “would promote equal protections for LGBTQ individuals. This piece of legislation is intended to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA) which allows for religious exemptions from certain laws if these are claimed to infringe on one’s religious beliefs. Under the premise that an individual’s freedoms should not inflict harm or limit access for another individual, Do No Harm would make certain

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religious exemption claims cannot be misused to deny government-provided goods or services to LGBTQ individuals or override workplace protections.

“The primary champions of Do No Harm are original sponsors are Rep. Joseph Kennedy [D-MA-4] and Rep. Robert “Bobby” Scott [D-VA-3]. Do No Harm was recently referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice and currently has 21 cosponsors in the House” (*Policy Matters* 8/12/16).

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## Pope Says Gays Deserve Apology from Church

— Daniel Politi, *Slate*, 6/26/16

Pope Francis told a group of journalists that the Catholic Church and Christians owe gays an apology for the way the church has treated them in the past. Yet Francis also made clear that gays aren’t particularly special, saying that they are just one of several groups of people who deserve an apology. He uttered his words aboard the papal plane, where he was asked if he agreed with recent comments by a top adviser that the church should apologize to gays.



He first said that homosexuals “should not be discriminated against” and then added: “I think the church must not only apologize ... to a gay person it offended, but we must apologize to the poor, to women who have been exploited, to children forced into labor, apologize for having blessed so many weapons.”

This apology shouldn’t just be institutional, but rather Christians themselves are the ones who must apologize, Francis said. “The church must say it is sorry for not having behaved as it should many times, many times—when I say the ‘Church,’ I mean we Christians because the Church is holy; we are the sinners,” the pope said. “We Christians must say we are sorry.”

## Casa Madre Donations

The Ursuline Sisters' AIDS Ministry maintains a safe house for children infected with and affected by AIDS where they can go after school to do their homework and have a hot meal at a table with tablecloth and cloth napkins, after which they can play games before being driven home. PFLAG-Youngstown is collecting items for their use. You can bring them to any regular meeting. Here is a partial list provided by Linda Titus, who is in charge of the operation:

150—200 Halloween treats—either wrapped pieces of candy or little trinkets. We do not have anyone with a nut / peanut allergy. We also use swim suits all year as the kids can swim indoors at the Motherhouse at our monthly event. Quite often they do not have suits. We could use either gender from about a 6 yr old size through about 13 years of age.—if anyone would see any on clearance. I've been meaning to look myself.

Little trinkets for Christmas stockings—when it's closer to Christmas I'll need candy too for the stockings. We even do pocket packs of tissues, hand sanitizer, just little stuff you'd put in your kids' stockings.

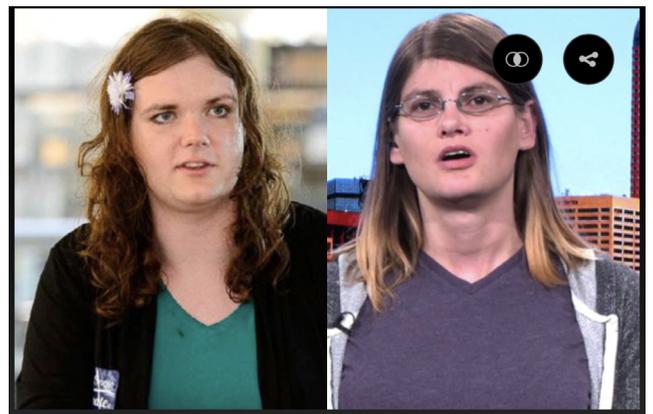
In December we have a Santa Workshop where the kids select and wrap items for their loved ones—usually mom and grandmas, sometimes a sibling or teacher. If anyone has like new items to donate for that it would be great. Items like jewelry, scarves, perfume, knick knacks, candles, picture frames, purses, etc are always good. Sometimes you get stuff like this for free or want to re-gift something that wasn't quite useful that you received. That's all good.

Winter coats are always good. I know that's probably not what you had in mind but just something to throw out there.

Otherwise, just about anything you would need to run a home. Dish soap, we could use a few more spoons and forks, toilet paper, laundry soap, cleaning supplies, Kleenex— etc...

Susan Davis, a very well known social activist in the Transgender and Gay community in NE Ohio, died at age 85 in Akron on September 22. This is a big loss to the LGBTQ community in Northern Ohio. Memorial service will follow at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Akron probably sometime in October. Tom Beck who worked with Susie for many years on social issues, says “she was a personal friend—truly a remarkable person.” Both she and Tom advised the Pride Center when it was just beginning and introduced its founders to Sherrod Brown.

“The *Oxford English Dictionary* added more than 2,000 new words and meanings” in a single week, says *One News Now* (9/15). “Among the new words are ‘fuhgeddaboudit,’ ‘transporter’ from *Star Trek*, and ‘bracketology’—which should make college basketball fans happy around March. Then there’s this one: ‘gender-fluid’—which is defined as relating to a person having or expressing a fluid or unfixed gender identity.” Thus doth the elephantine lexicon join the ranks of the plot against God and the Bible, tainting the unwary scholar with seditious thought.



**Misty Snow (L) and Misty Plowright (R)**

Two women became the first transgender candidates in history to win primary elections: Misty Snow in Utah and Misty Plowright in Colorado.

# Scarlet and Gay: The OSU LGBTQ Alumni Society Scholarship Program

—Brian M. Orefice, Ph.D., Senior Associate Director

Scarlet and Gay: The OSU LGBTQ Alumni Society, is dedicated to making studying at The Ohio State University a financial reality for more LGBTQ students and their allies. We offer nine scholarships to undergraduate students, including one that is dedicated to a student who will be beginning their education at OSU for the 2016-2017 school year. Additional scholarships exist for LGBTQ students who plan to study music, who have financial need, who have worked in the HIV/ AIDS community, or who are living with HIV/AIDS. The scholarships range from \$1,500 - \$2,500 each and will be awarded to students who have demonstrated involvement and dedication to the LGBTQ community. The scholarship brochure and on-line application can be found on our website at <http://alumnigroups.osu.edu/scarletandgay/> under the scholarships tab. The application deadline is March 1, 2016. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Scholarship Chair, Brian Orefice, at [orefice.1@osu.edu](mailto:orefice.1@osu.edu).

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## June Developments

Lakewood City Council unanimously passed nondiscrimination protections covering sexual orientation and gender identity/ expression in employment, housing, and public accommodations.

An amendment to the Military-Construction-Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill would have barred federal contractors from discriminating against employees on the basis of sexual orientation, but the amendment failed 212-213 with 8 abstentions. Ohio representative Tim Ryan

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voted for it, Reps David Joyce and John Johnson against.

Houston's former mayor Anisse Parker, a lesbian, visited Youngstown.

At Pulse in Orlando, who hated whom? Was it an attack by radical Islam against the USA? Was it significant that 80% of the victims were Latino (more than half being Puerto Rican and many others Mexican and Salvadoran)? How much of the hatred was homo- and trans-phobia? Or, as TX Rep Pete Sessions claimed, was the killer merely a huge spoil-sport punishing "young people" having fun? Pick up almost any report and see the thing from a different angle. What really happened there?

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## AFA's Prophecy Fulfilled

—AFA Newsletter 7/14/16

According to East Idaho News, "an Idaho Falls man who police say identifies as transgender was arrested this past Tuesday afternoon after deputies say he took photos of a woman in a fitting room in Target."

The man was booked at a local jail on one felony count of voyeurism. A woman told police that "a man, dressed in women's clothing, had entered a fitting room in the women's clothing section of the store." Police say the suspect was seen taking photos of a woman in a stall next to him while she was changing. According to another witness, "The woman was begging for help as she chased the man out the door..." and "she kept saying she wanted those pictures deleted."

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## NCAA Rebukes NC

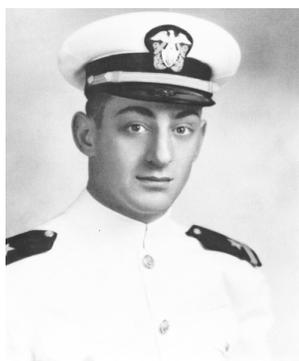
—American Family Association, 9/18/16

This past week the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) pulled all championship events out of North Carolina for the 2016-2017 season . . . because that state passed a law, known as HB 2, which requires men and women to use the restroom or locker room corresponding to the gender on their birth certificate.

## In the Navy!



Sam LaGrone of USNI News reported on July 28 that a Congressional notification, dated July 14, 2016, and “signed by Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, indicated he intended to name a planned Military Sealift Command fleet oiler USNS Harvey Milk (T-AO-206). The ship would be the second of the John Lewis-class oilers being built by General Dynamics NASSCO in San Diego, Calif.”



The Canadian Press is now using the acronym “LGBTQQ2” with the last three additions standing for “queer, questioning and two-spirited.”

See more: <http://www.rainbowresourcecentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/TwoSpirit.pdf>

## Trans Equality in MA

—Mass Equality 7/8/16

Less than a day after it reached his desk, Governor Charlie Baker has signed the Transgender Anti-Discrimination bill (S2407), making Massachusetts the 18th state to fully protect transgender people from discrimination under the law. [The law takes effect October 1.]

## Nickelodeon Introduces First Gay Couple on *The Loud House*

—justjaredjr.com/2016/07/20/

Nickelodeon has just made history on their network, with the introduction of the first gay couple on *The Loud House*.

Wayne Brady and Michael McDonald voiced Harold and Howard

McBride, the dads of Clyde McBride, Lincoln’s nerdy best friend in the episode that aired [July 20].

Clyde’s parents drop him off at Lincoln’s house for a sleepover, along with a comically huge pile of provisions, including a sleeping bag, a humidifier, a dehumidifier, earplugs, allergy medications, and several phone numbers.



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