



# News & Views

**Greater Providence Chapter**  
**Parents, Families, Friends and Allies United with**  
**LGBT People to Move Equality Forward**

Volume 15, Number 4

July/August 2014

## PFLAG Pride 2014!

The sun shown bright and the temperature was just right for the 39th Annual Pride Fest celebration on June 21, 2014. PFLAG of Greater Providence by a number of volunteers handing out and pinning attendees with their popular rainbow ribbons. Pinning sometimes proved challenging; but everyone was excited to receive them. Our volunteers helped spread the message of unconditional love and support to both members of the LGBTQ community and their families and friends throughout the day and to let them know we are available when they need us.



Alli, Mark and Ethan Bloom with Mark's mom and PFLAG member Joan Bloom



PFLAG Board Members Dianne Ordog, Jane Eastman, Jim Rotondo and Christine Noel.

A special thank you is in order for our Pride Committee Members: Joan Bloom, Jill Duff, Jane Eastman and Jim Rotondo for all their hard work in organizing, setting

up and taking down our booth that day and in recruiting all the other volunteers who helped out during the day! It was a great day and congratulations to all of you!

Please enjoy our PFLAG Pride Day photos here and on Page 2!

**Next year's RI Pride Fest:**  
**Saturday, June 20th, 2015**

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## Parents, Families, Friends and Allies United with LGBT People to Move Equality Forward

### Our Mission

**PFLAG** promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and inter-sex persons and their families and friends through:

**SUPPORT:** To support parents on their journey to understand and accept their gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender children; and to help children, of whatever age, to understand and come out into loving relationships with their families;

**EDUCATION:** To enlighten an ill-informed public,

**ADVOCACY:** To end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

**PFLAG** provides an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity and expression, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

**PFLAG** is a volunteer grass-roots, tax-exempt, non-profit organization, not affiliated with any political or religious institution.

**PFLAG** is a welcoming place for parents and friends of all members of the LGBTQ community, but we are much more than that. Those who identify as gay, lesbian bisexual, transgender, or queer are also encouraged to attend our meetings., with or without their family members. Parents and friends may come with or without their loved ones who are members of the LGBTQ community.

Confidentiality is assured.

### PFLAG/Greater Providence

**President:** Sandra Richard

**Vice-President:** Jane Eastman

**Treasurer:** Peter Sharkey

**Secretary:** Denise Messier Reynolds

**Members-at-Large:** Jill Duff, Roy Eastman, Barbara Metz, Scott Mirani, Christine Noel, Dianne & Joe Ordog, James Rotundo

**Ex-Officio Past President:** Myra Shays

**Newsletter Editor:** Sandra Richard

**WE'RE  
HERE  
FOR YOU!**

# news from our chapter

## More Photos from Pride Fest 2014!



PFLAG Greater Providence Chapter Founder Myra Shays, PFLAG Members Rich Hite and Doreen LePage



Katelyn Orsi with daughters Zena & Gabrielle



Taylor Andrews with his grandmother Lo Donahue



Joseph Morra and Nate Zane of Options Magazine



TGI RI Network volunteers, Dominique Pistone, Alice Raulino, Kyle Cabral



Lavallee family enjoying Pride





## RI PFLAG Families Celebrate Marriage Equality with Coast to Coast Weddings!



Officiant Veronica Appolonia, Brides Lara Backman and Annabelle Richard

Love was definitely in the air this summer for two of our PFLAG families as they celebrated the nuptials of their children. Former Board member, Joan Bloom's son Carl Bloom married his partner Christopher Reed on June 28, 2014 in Newport, RI. And, on July 19, 2014, PFLAG President Sandra Richard's daughter Annabelle Richard married her partner Lara Backman in an outdoor ceremony at Lincoln Park in West Seattle, WA. You can find out more about them in the documentary film *TransJourney* which premieres at the RI International Film Festival on August 9, 2014. See Page 4 for more information.

In the paragraphs that follow, Carl Bloom provides us with some personal insight into his feelings about getting married and some of his apprehensions as he and Chris planned their wedding:

It wasn't until Chris, my then-fiancé, and I climbed the steps of the Newport City Hall, that I realized the magnitude of the event that awaited us, only 4 short days later. Although we had been engaged for over eight months by that time, and had spent most every free minute of that period planning and preparing, the reality of getting married hadn't truly sunk in. As we entered the historic building, seeking direction to the City Clerk's Office, it dawned on me; "This is really happening."

Even as a boy growing up in a typical and rather traditional family, I somehow never

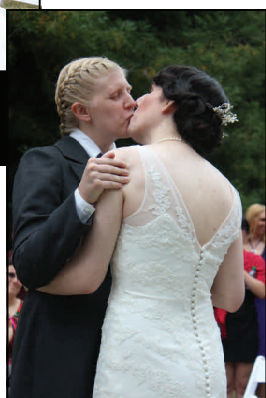
really thought about being married as an adult. While I knew there was something "different" about me from the time of elementary school, I certainly didn't have the maturity or self-awareness to understand that my sexual orientation might be a factor in predicting the relationships of my adulthood. Nonetheless, I didn't identify with the image of having a woman as a life partner. As I later came to understand and accept my identity as a gay man, it was the thought of not having children, rather than not getting married, that I experienced with a sense of loss. At that time, in the mid-90's, the concept of same-sex couples or gay and lesbian individuals having children wasn't common, or certainly not as visible, as it is today. That

being the case, I – for a while – was saddened by the belief that children were not a likelihood in my future. Thankfully, times have changed and I could –

although I have chosen not to – have children and do admire a number of my gay friends who have become outstanding fathers.

While the topic of same-sex marriage has been debated in the public eye for over a decade now, I –

perhaps selfishly – never paid too much attention nor had particularly strong feelings about the matter. Before Chris, I had never



Lara & Annabelle wedding kiss



Newlyweds Carl Bloom and Chris Reed on their wedding day.

Accordingly, it wasn't until more recently that the idea of being married was "on my radar." After several months of hinting about the possibility of marriage with one another, I decided I would ask Chris to marry me. As I thought through multiple scenarios of how I might "pop the question," I also decided on a watch, rather than a ring, as an engagement

gift. Although both Chris and I have been open and comfortable with our sexual orientation for years, I did experience a sense of hesitation as I entered the jewelry store to purchase his watch. I was pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm and genuine excitement of the salesman as I shared my intention to propose to Chris. In the course of our interaction, the salesman brought his associate, a rather imposing former professional athlete (we later learned), into our conversation to share his thoughts on the options for same sex couples purchasing engagement gifts and wedding rings. I realized then that my own fears and stereotypes had unfairly prompted me to expect some level of awkwardness and discomfort in this process. Instead, I was met with congratulatory handshakes and insistence that Chris come in for them to meet him. This very pleasant and supportive experience prompted us to return for the purchase of our wedding bands a few months later.

After proposing to Chris on my birthday last September, I dove – with great enthusiasm – into planning mode. Despite my outstanding experience with the purchase of his engagement watch, I found that I had a sense of hesitance as I began to contact vendors, expecting awkward conversations as I clarified that I was marrying a man, rather than a woman. In retrospect, I'm pleased to say that not a single person conveyed any hesitation or discomfort through the entire 9 months of

planning. In fact, it truly was a "non-issue"; while no one expressed any concern, neither did we encounter anyone who went "over the top" with excitement, suggesting there was something particularly different or unusual about our wedding. I imagine what we experienced was the typical joy and support afforded



(L-R) Joan & son Carl Bloom, Chris & mother Clara Reed.

been in a relationship that gave me the feeling of "This is the one."

opposite-sex couples as they plan for their big day. I was surprised, too, by the multitude of resources and products available for gay weddings (Pinterest was a big help!). The hours we spent combing through double groom-themed cake-toppers, invitations, and decorations reflects how much things are changing.

Where Chris and I live in Colorado, Civil Unions are legally recognized but same-sex

(Continued on Page 4)

## PFLAG Family Weddings (Continued from Page 3)

marriage is not. (NOTE: This is being contested regularly in local counties as reported in the local news). For this reason, and as I am a native of Rhode Island, we decided to get married in Newport. Although I was raised in the Catholic Church, and Chris in a Baptist family, neither religion recognizes gay marriage. The absence of a religious framework for our wedding allowed us to create our own, very personalized ceremony, along with the guidance of a wonderful Officiant we found through friends.

When it all came together on an absolutely gorgeous day in late June, our wedding was perfect in every way possible. As I promised my eternal love to my husband, ninety dear friends and family members surrounded us. In that moment, I truly felt blessed and so very fortunate. In addition to sharing a commitment with my wonderful life partner, the unconditional love and heartfelt joy of our families and friends made the day complete. The collection of guests reflected the richness of our lives, with friends from childhood and our adult years, classmates, colleagues, friends' parents and friends of our parents; a beautiful mix of people, both gay and straight, and ranging in age from 6 to almost 80. It was an incredible feeling to have so many wonderful people joining us to celebrate the love Chris and I have found together.

While I'm flattered by the multiple (mostly straight) friends who remarked, "I've never been to such a touching, meaningful wedding," I don't think this is a reflection of our planning nor of us as a couple. Rather, it is my belief that when two people truly love one another and they are fully accepted and celebrated in their uniqueness and in their entirety, both individually, and as a couple, that love is amplified and can flourish with beauty. In that regard, we are truly blessed.



Carl and Chris first dance

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Credit: Carl Bloom, July 27, 2014

## RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

AUGUST 5th  
THRU THE 10th



Over the past few months we've provided updates on the **TransJourney** documentary being produced by RI filmmaker Alexia Kosmider about our own PFLAG member Sandra Richard and her transgender daughter Annabelle and their close friend

Shannon, who both reside in Seattle, WA. **TransJourney** was accepted into the Rhode Island International Film Festival, one of the largest film venues in the New England area. This short documentary (50 mins.) will make its **World Premiere on Saturday, August 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the RISD Metcalf Auditorium at 20 North Main Street, Providence, RI.** **TransJourney** explores three women's personal journeys and the ways that their lives

have become intertwined, and made stronger, because of each other. Alexia Kosmider is a Senior Lecturer at the Rhode Island School of Design in the Department of Liberal Arts and teaches courses in English and Queer Studies.

You can find more information about this film and a number of other LGBTQ films being screened at various locations throughout Rhode Island between August 5th through August 10th by visiting the film festival website: <http://www.riiff.org>. Search for "TransJourney" to view the film's trailer and obtain ticket information (only \$10!).



PFLAG Board showing their support for **TransJourney**. (L-R) Top: Joe & Dianne Ordog, Peter Sharkey, Jim Rotondo. Bottom: Myra Shays, Scott Mirani, Denise Messier-Reynolds and Barb Metz.





## FACT SHEET: Advancing The Human Rights Of LGBT Persons Globally

The White House, Press Release  
Office of the Press Secretary, June 24, 2014

On June 24, 2014, the White House hosted the first-ever Global Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Human Rights Forum, bringing together the faith community, private sector, philanthropy, HIV and other health advocates, LGBT activists from around the world, and the broader human rights community to discuss how to work together with the U.S. government and others to promote respect for the human rights of LGBT individuals around the world. Participants discussed, among other topics, how to counter legislation that impinges on the rights of LGBT persons, the increasing enforcement in some countries of discriminatory laws that have been dormant for some time, and other threats to LGBT individuals globally.

The Forum is part of the U.S. government's ongoing efforts to use diplomacy and assistance to promote and protect the human rights of LGBT persons around the world. These efforts, which are governed by the landmark *Presidential Memorandum of December 2011* on "International Initiatives to Advance the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Persons," also include the following:

- Combatting criminalization of LGBT status or conduct abroad.
- Protecting human rights and advancing non-discrimination through diplomatic and public engagement and foreign assistance.
- Responding to human rights abuses of LGBT persons abroad.

- Protecting vulnerable LGBT refugees and asylum seekers.
- Engaging international organizations in the fight against LGBT discrimination
- Strengthening U.S. government capacity.

For the entire article, go to: <http://wh.gov/l6dNc>.



## Will Congress take up a comprehensive LGBT rights bill?

A new idea is gaining traction for advancing LGBT rights after controversy over the stalled Employment Non-Discrimination Act: a comprehensive federal non-discrimination bill.

As several LGBT groups have announced they would no longer support ENDA because of its broad religious exemption, the idea of a comprehensive bill stands in contrast to ENDA because it would address discrimination in areas other than the singular issue of employment.

It's for that reason — and not just the religious exemption — that the New York-based LGBT group Queer Nation has urged for the rejection of ENDA in favor of a comprehensive bill that would institute non-discrimination coverage in a plethora of categories.

Andrew Miller, a member of Queer Nation, said in a phone interview with the Washington Blade that his organization doesn't back any version of ENDA — either with or without the expanded religious exemption.

"If you believe, as I do, that LGBT Americans are equal in every way to our fellow Americans, then it makes

sense to pass legislation that affords the same civil protections as our fellow Americans," Miller said. "I think that strategy of incrementalism behind ENDA, telegraphs or signals that LGBT Americans are not equal to our fellow Americans. If we want full equality because we know that we are equal in every way to our fellow citizens, then that's what we should be demanding."

The content of a comprehensive bill isn't clear as the idea is just beginning to take hold, but the general sense is the legislation would aim to eliminate anti-LGBT discrimination across the board and would be introduced in the subsequent Congress. The presence of an employment component would be contingent on the likely event that ENDA won't pass the U.S. House this year before Congress adjourns.

But Miller said his organization has a more concrete view of what issues should be included in the legislation: housing, employment, public accommodations, credit and federal programs.

"I think that what it would be is a bill, a law, that would afford the same civil rights protections that all other Americans have to LGBT Americans," Miller said. "Those protections are from discrimination in not just employment, but in housing and in public accommodations, in housing and credit and federal programs. Those are the categories that are covered by the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Gay people should be afforded all those protections themselves."

Many national LGBT groups have already endorsed the idea of a comprehensive LGBT bill to address discrimination, including the Human Rights Campaign and Freedom to Work. The categories that Queer Nation enumerated (with the exception of federal programs) were along the lines of the categories that HRC President Chad Griffin envisioned for the legislation in an op-ed published in *Buzzfeed* that also explained the organization's continued support for ENDA.

Ian Thompson, legislative representative for the American Civil Liberties Union, said his organization also backs the idea of a comprehensive bill as a means to institute "explicit, effective and, above all, equal protections in federal law" for LGBT people.

(Continued on Page 6.)

## LGBT rights bill *(Continued from Page 5.)*

"The concept of a more comprehensive bill is something that we are supportive of, but what we want to ensure at the end of the day is that LGBT people have explicit, effective and, above all, equal non-discrimination protections in federal law," Thompson said.

In an attempt to build support for a comprehensive bill, Queer Nation has called on House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and the eight openly LGBT members of Congress to endorse the idea.

Drew Hamill, a Pelosi spokesperson, confirmed his boss supports the idea of a comprehensive bill in response to an inquiry from the Washington Blade. Spokespersons for four of the eight openly LGBT members of Congress — Reps. David Cicilline (D-R.I.), Mark Takano (D-Calif.), Sean Patrick Maloney and Mark Pocan (D-Wis.) — said the lawmakers also support the idea of a comprehensive bill.

Another possible approach to enacting comprehensive legislation would be amending the Civil Rights Act of 1964 — which provides protections based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin — to include the categories of sexual orientation and gender identity. Such a move would ensure the religious exemption to discriminate against LGBT people would be the same as it is for other categories of people.

According to some LGBT advocates familiar with ENDA, other civil rights groups are wary of amending the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include LGBT people because it would make the historic law seem too easy to change. Moreover, amending that law wouldn't institute non-discrimination protections for LGBT people in housing because those protections are in the Fair Housing Act of 1968.

A more likely scenario for the bill would be an amalgamation of other LGBT non-discrimination bills combined into one piece of legislation.

For example, the employment piece could consist of the version of ENDA with the narrower religious exemption that Polis introduced as a resolution before the House Rules Committee following controversy over the bill in a possible attempt to start a discharge petition on the legislation. The piece related to education may be the Student Non-Discrimination Act, legislation that would prohibit harassment and discrimination against students in K-12 schools.

Another question is whether President Obama would make the push in the final years of his administration to pass a comprehensive bill. Despite the progress seen on LGBT issues under his administration and strongly articulated support for legislation to end discrimination in the workforce, Obama has made no announcement in support of a comprehensive bill.

"I think that would be a very core part of his legacy would be to go beyond advocating for things that other people have put on the table," Cronk said. "I think it would be very powerful for President Obama to say, 'Look, I endorse full equality for LGBT people, and this is what I mean by that.'"

Still, not every LGBT organization is offering a ringing endorsement of a comprehensive bill as the way to advance LGBT rights.

Stacey Long Simmons, policy and government affairs director for the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, was non-committal about backing a singular bill, but insisted the goal should be comprehensive protections.

"While tackling employment discrimination is extremely important, it is but one piece of a much bigger, more wide-ranging set of changes needed to deliver real freedom and justice for all LGBTQ people," Simmons said. "These changes include ending discrimination in housing, health care, education and in our democracy. In other

words, a 360 approach that helps to create a nation where we all can equally access the promise of America. We care less about whether it's done in one comprehensive bill than getting it done comprehensively."

*Credit: Chris Johnson, The Washington Blade, July 29, 2014*



Vancouver fashion designer Tyler-Alan Jacobs is one of hundreds of Vancouverites who identify as two-spirit — a First Nations term for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and other-gender identities. — Rob Newell

## Two spirits, one struggle: The front lines of being First Nations and gay

Shortly after coming out, dancer Tyler-Alan Jacobs was beaten so badly that his right eye was dislodged and the side of his face was caved in. Jacobs woke up in the hospital to the sight of his father leaving the room; his father couldn't bear to look at him.

The pain was excruciating, and the \$30,000 of reconstructive surgery would leave still-visible scars, but the fact that Jacobs had grown up with his attackers made the abuse even harder to move past.

Jacobs, 29, is one of a few hundred Vancouverites that identify as two-spirit — a First Nations term for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, other gendered, and third/fourth gendered individuals.

"I knew that I was gay," he says. "It was hard for me to come out to my family, but everybody already knew." The son of a prominent Squamish Nation councillor and artist, Jacobs says he had the support of his family as he pursued traditionally female crafts such as sewing and beadwork, and experimented with flamboyant fashion after puberty hit. Throughout the rest of his 4,000-person reserve, however, homophobia — a product of the historical trauma of colonization and residential schools — was rampant.

"I went through a really hard time," says Jacobs softly. "I was beaten; more than once. I was choked."

According to the [National Aboriginal Health Organization](#), two-spirited people are more likely to experience violence than heterosexual First Nations and they are twice as likely to experience assault (including physical assault, sexual assault, and assault with a weapon) than LGBT people in the general population.

Like many two-spirit youth, Jacobs ultimately decided to trade his ancestral village for Davie Village, seeking the implied open-mindedness of an urban setting. Once off the reserve, however, two-spirited people often experience the additional pressures of racism

and classism for being aboriginal. Without a strong support network, this can lead to heightened low self-esteem, self-destructive coping mechanisms, and high-risk activities.

Few statistics exist, but a survey of two-spirit youth aged 24 or younger, conducted by the [Urban Native Youth Association](#) in 2004, reported that 38 per cent of the respondents didn't feel accepted in their communities, and 43 percent stated that they were suffering from depression. The results also revealed that 34 per cent felt more likely than non-two-spirit people to think about and attempt suicide, and same percentage agreed that they were more likely to become dependent on alcohol or drugs.

### Taking back two-spirit

Historically, individuals with cross-gender identity were revered in First Nations cultures and looked to as leaders, visionaries, and healers. Embodying both masculine and feminine traits, two-spirit people were thought to be blessed with the ability to move between gender roles and were given important spiritual responsibilities as result.

In her essay, "N'Tacimowin Innan Nah: Our Coming In Stories", University of Saskatchewan professor and Opaskwayak Cree Nation member Alex Wilson explains that "people make the assumption that the two [in two-spirit] refers to male as one and female as the other, or vice versa. In my view," she writes, "the 'two' refers to a range of possibilities, such as being in a doorway and being able to see both rooms because of perspective."

For some, two-spirit also represents their distinct First Nations experiences and traditions, and the way that culture and gender identity are tied together.

Gender roles were fluid in pre-colonial societies. Words to describe up to six different gender variants, beyond the binary of male and female, have been found in 155 indigenous nations of North America. The Cree, for example, refer to them as Aayahkwew ("neither man nor woman") and the Navajo refer to them as nàdleehé or "one who changes". To help individuals determine the gender they were drawn towards, rites of passage were often used.

It wasn't until the onset of the federally run residential schools in the late 19th century, and the aggressive proliferation of European Christian influences that being gay became stigmatized.

"Only the warrior societies didn't have a place for two-spirit people. Otherwise almost 90 per cent of all other tribes had a place for them," says psychologist and Family Services counsellor Gil Lerat. "When the religious dogma of the residential schools came in, it erased a very rich history."

The results were devastating. "There hasn't been one First Nations gay youth that I've met that hasn't had an enormous amount of internal hatred. Not only hating themselves for being gay, but hating themselves for being native. You have a double whammy there, and I find that's where they struggle a lot with is ego and self love."

As the founder of a two-spirited youth program in Vancouver in the mid-'90s, Lerat's goal was to teach two-spirit youth about that history, instill pride in their identity, and encourage them to go take back their rightful place in their communities in a respectful way.

It's an idea that still resonates. "The native community is now, in a lot of aspects, going back to traditional ways. If you're going to go back to those traditional ways, though," he says, "you've got to go back to acceptance of your two-spirit people."

For 38 years, the Greater Vancouver Native Cultural Society has served as a surrogate family and cultural forum for the two-spirited

adults among them. "When two-spirit people come here from different communities, they still have that huge fear of not knowing anything," says Angus. "The GVNCS offers a home and a comfort zone for them to be in. We always have our doors open, no matter where they are. Even if they're not involved with our events, they have our phone numbers if they need anything."

### The next generation

Jacobs sits in a coffee shop at Granville and Davie wearing a backless halter top he embroidered himself and sporting a freshly pinked coif. He was recently asked to design a one-of-a-kind beaded mocasin for Manitobah Mukluks, dance at the opening of the Khatsahlano street party, and is designing his next clothing collection for Vancouver Fashion Week in September. He has a boyfriend. He has been out for nine years.

As Jacobs smiles, though, he can't keep tears of both sadness and happiness from welling up in his eyes. On the eyebrow above, a scar tells the story of that day in 2005, when wearing an outfit of ripped jeans, studs and gemstones was deemed worthy of nearly beating him to death.

He sits a little taller on his stool. "It built me to be who I am today. I have tough skin and I speak my mind and heart. A lot of people came out after. My cousin came out to his family and thanked me. I remember crying with him."

Jacobs says discovering the meaning of his two-spirit heritage and reconnecting with it was a revelation. Instead of competing against each other, he says his two identities now overlap; and where they meet is where he finds his biggest sources of pride.

"Being proud is the key. I'm proud to be First Nations and gay. I have a big role in two communities and it's an honour to be respected in both."

*Credit: Kelsey Klassen, WE Vancouver, July 30, 2014, copyright 2014*



#### 2014 Northeastern Region PFLAG Conference

September 20, 2014 - 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

West Barnstable Community Building  
2401 Meetinghouse Way, West Barnstable, MA

Continental breakfast, lunch & afternoon snack provided.

Registration Fee: \$20 per person

#### Sessions & Workshops

PFLAG National's Vision for the Future  
Choice of Computer Technology OR Facilitation Skills  
Building Your Chapter's Name in Your Community  
Choice of Transgender 102 OR Building Strong Leaders  
Reaching Beyond Support

#### Friday night bonfire on the beach, 7:00—9:00 p.m.

Sandy Neck Beach, 425 Sandy Neck Road (off 6A) in West Barnstable, make s'mores and meet other PFLAGers!

#### Sunday trip to Provincetown

Participants will meet at 10:00 a.m. and caravan to Provincetown (~1 hour drive). Stroll and shop along Commercial Street and have lunch together. Return on your own timetable.

This event is open to all paid PFLAG Chapter members. Registration deadline is September 10th. For more information and to register contact Amy Mesirow at (508) 737-5832 or (508) 420-0696.



## Chapter Meetings

PFLAG/Greater Providence meets the first Wednesday of each month from 6:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.:

**The MET School**  
325 Public Street  
Providence, Rhode Island

## Upcoming Meetings

September 3, 2014  
October 1, 2014  
November 5, 2014  
December 3, 2014

## Contact Us

**PFLAG/Greater Providence**  
c/o 500 Angell Street, Apt. 212  
Providence, RI 02906  
**(401) 751-7571**

[www.PFLAGprovidence.org](http://www.PFLAGprovidence.org)  
Email: [PFLAGprovidence@gmail.com](mailto:PFLAGprovidence@gmail.com)



### Ideas for Topics/Speakers?

Do you have a specific topic you would like to have addressed by a speaker or know of anyone whom you would like to recommend as a speaker for our Chapter? If so, please contact **Scott at [scmpmr33@gmail.com](mailto:scmpmr33@gmail.com)**.

## Member Resources

### Rhode Island Bi Resource Network

<http://www.ribinetwork.org>  
<http://www.facebook.com/TheOtherBWord>

### SAGE Rhode Island

235 Promenade Street, Suite 500, Box 18  
Providence, RI 02908  
401-528-3259  
<http://www.sageusa.org>

### TGI Network of Rhode Island

PO Box 40365  
Providence, RI 02940  
[info@tginetwork.org](mailto:info@tginetwork.org)  
(401) 441-5058 (voicemail)

### Youth Pride, Inc.

743 Westminster Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 421-5626  
[info@youthprideri.org](mailto:info@youthprideri.org)  
<http://www.youthprideri.org>

### LGBT Caregiver Support Group

Child & Family Elder Care  
Calvary United Methodist Church  
200 Turner Road, Middletown, RI 02842  
[jgrapentine@childandfamilyri.com](mailto:jgrapentine@childandfamilyri.com)  
(401) 848-4119  
1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month from 10:00—11:00 a.m.

## Blogs of Interest

### Faith Topics

**Susan Cottrell**

<http://www.FreedHearts.org>

**Kathy Baldock**

<http://www.canyonwalkerconnections.com>

### LGBTQ Issues

**Think Progress**

<http://thinkprogress.org/lgbt/issue/>

**The Huffington Post**

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tag/lgbt-blogs>

**Parenting a Transgender Child**

**Gender Mom**

<http://gendermom.wordpress.com/>

**Raising My Rainbow**

<http://raisingmyrainbow.com/>

## Facebook Groups of Interest

**The Facebook Transgender Alliance**  
(Closed Support Group)

**Parents of Transgender Children**  
(Closed Support Group)

**The Rhode Island LGBT Center**



E-mail Sandie at [svrichard@cox.net](mailto:svrichard@cox.net) to sign Up to Receive the PFLAG Newsletter by E-mail Only and Help Us Save a Tree (and Post-age too!)



**Greater  
Providence  
Chapter**

## Membership Application

**Yes! I want to be a supporting member of PFLAG.**

Please provide the information requested below and make your check payable to: PFLAG/Greater Providence. You may bring this form with your payment to the next chapter meeting or mail to: PFLAG, c/o 500 Angell Street, Apt. 212, Providence, RI 02906.

☐

Household \$30

☐

Individual \$25

☐

Student/Limited Income \$15

☐

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