



News and Views

The Newsletter of the Lubbock Chapter
of Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Support • Education • Advocacy

Summer 2011

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Ellen Ratner Coming to Lubbock!

PFLAG Lubbock is excited to announce a very special guest speaker coming to Lubbock this fall: **Ellen Ratner!**

Ms. Ellen Ratner currently serves as the White House Correspondent and Bureau Chief for The Talk Radio News Service. She covers the White House and provides reports to talk radio stations from Congress. She is also a reporter at the United Nations for The Talk Radio News' New York bureau. You might also catch Ms. Ratner as a guest on *The Strategy Room* for Fox News Channel.

PFLAG Lubbock will keep you updated on the details of Ms. Ratner's visit this fall. We can't wait to host her here in West Texas and we hope you'll be just as excited as we are.

Transgender Support Group

When: Tuesday, July 19, 2011
Beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Where: St. John's United Methodist Church
Conference Room, 15th and University Ave.



For information on support for the transgender community, please contact Jennifer Starre, PFLAG Lubbock Transgender Coordinator at acutehq@yahoo.com.

THE PFLAG MISSION

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, 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.

Looking Ahead

July Pride Café

When: Friday, July 22, 6-9 p.m.

Where: Belly's Café
1406 Ave. Q (at 14th & Q), Lubbock

OUTwest Lubbock has begun a new Lubbock GLBT social tradition. It's called Pride Café, to be held monthly at Belly's. This month's Café is scheduled for Friday, July 22.

July's Pride Café will be New York themed, to celebrate New York's landmark victory for marriage equality. OUTwest will provide some mini "New York" cheesecakes, and "Big Apple" dippers. You can also feel free to order yourself some dinner from the full Belly's menu, or try some of Belly's drink specials—maybe a Long Island iced tea!

August Pride Café—Sponsored by PFLAG

When: Friday, August 26, 6-9 p.m.

Where: Belly's Café
1406 Ave. Q (at 14th & Q), Lubbock

PFLAG Lubbock is proud to help sponsor OUTwest's Pride Café this August.

Come to Belly's on Friday, August 26, from 6-9 p.m. and enjoy good company and good food here in Lubbock. We'll tell you more about our upcoming guest speaker, Ellen Ratner, and about PFLAG's events for the remainder of 2011.



Report from our Summer Picnic

It was a fantastic summer picnic again for PFLAG Lubbock this year at the home of John Gray and Ron Nance.

PFLAG members and friends enjoyed a variety of great food and drink, and socialized in the beauti-

ful, shaded backyard at John and Ron's home.

Rustin Furlow, PFLAG Lubbock's Vice President for Membership and Scholarships, took the opportunity to introduce our three Lola Marie Drew Scholarship winners for 2011 and talk a little about each of our honored guests, including what causes were most important to them.

Our scholarship winners are pictured here, from left to right: Ricky Waite, Marissa Jimenez, and Ross Herring; along with Rustin Furlow.

These students will all attend Texas Tech University in the fall. They are bright, motivated, and passionate about equality, and PFLAG Lubbock is so proud to help sponsor their education with a Lola Marie Drew scholarship award.

We wish our scholarship winners good luck in their upcoming school year, and extend our immense gratitude to Ron and John for hosting once again.



*Friday,
July 22nd
6 - 9 PM*



*Hosted by the OUTwest Lubbock Pride Committee
Sponsored by Belly's Cafe*

Enjoy a relaxing, social time with friends, family and "family" (#EY4Y).
Nearly a month after Marriage Equality won in New York we got New York Themed snacks covered, but if you are really hungry check out any of Belly's delicious menu items sure to make your belly happy.



It may be dry in West Texas, but don't forget about Belly's great drink specials sure to wet your whistle!! Feel free to stick around after 9 p.m. for Belly's Karaoke party!

Keeping with the New York theme, We'll be showing LGBT-themed "Sex and the City" episodes (what episode wasn't LGBT-themed, right?)

Meet Your New Officers

The New Faces of PFLAG Lubbock

PFLAG Lubbock added five new officers to its Board in 2011.

This month, we'll meet our final new officer for 2011: Angel Alvarado, who works at publicity in the college and community areas.

**Angel Alvarado Publicity Co-Chair
College/Community**

Angel Alvarado
Hometown: Odessa, Texas
Occupation: Server

How long have you been with PFLAG Lubbock?

I have been a member of PFLAG since November of 2010.

What inspired you to get involved as an officer of PFLAG Lubbock?

I just wanted to be able to contribute more to the organization. I have always felt that I am capable of making a change in this world, and my little contribution to the organization is a reassurance that I am on the right path.

Why do you think it's important to support PFLAG Lubbock?

Because PFLAG Lubbock is an organization that benefits GLBT members of all ages. It serves as a support group as well as a family for those in need of love and acceptance.

Who is a particular hero or inspirational person to you?

My sister, Rosa, she has always been the strongest individual I have ever known. She somehow managed to become successful in life without any support or assistance.

What's your favorite way to stay updated on activism or issues that are important to you?

Twitter, nothing easier than getting all the information you need straight to your phone ... though it may be overwhelming at times!



Anti-Bullying Summer Camp with CONTACT Lubbock

This month, take a stand against bullying with CONTACT Lubbock's summer camp for youth.

According to CONTACT Lubbock, over 5.7 million youth in the United States are estimated to be involved in bullying as either a bully, a target of bullying, or both. CONTACT Lubbock's one-day summer camp is designed to give youth the tools to TAKE A STAND AGAINST BULLYING, build self-esteem, and feel empowered.

TAKE A STAND AGAINST BULLYING Anti-Bullying Camp is \$10 per child and will run from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM at Lakeridge United Methodist Church – Family Activity Center on the following days:

- July 26, 2011: going into 5th grade
- July 27, 2011: going into 6th grade
- July 28, 2011: going into 7th and 8th grade

(There is a limit of 20 participants per day.)

Water and lunch will be provided for all participants. Activities for the day include "Bullies 2 Buddies," changing the negative into the POSITIVE action plan, fun, and games.

Registration deadline is July 20, 2011. To register, visit www.contactlubbock.org, email info@contactlubbock.org, or call 806-765-8393.

Tell Your Story!

PFLAG and Equality Texas are collecting personal stories from the LGBT/ally community.

PFLAG is looking for stories that adhere to the following criteria:

- You are a parent, grandparent, sibling, family member, friend, ally, or member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning community.
- PFLAG played a significant role in either your coming out process (either coming out as LGBTQ or coming out as the parent, family or friend of a LGBTQ person) and/or
- PFLAG gave you the tools and support to come to terms with your identity or the identity of a loved one and/or
- PFLAG gave you the tools to support someone you love through the coming out process and/or
- You came to PFLAG as a way to express or take action on your support for the LGBTQ community.
- You are willing to share your story in writing

in 250 words or less on the PFLAG website so that others may learn from your experience.

You can submit your stories to PFLAG at chapterservices@pflag.org.

Equality Texas is also looking to collect and share stories, as they've announced:

"Tell us about yourself: tell us about your childhood, how you came out, how you live today. Tell us what your dreams and failures are; share with us your most heartbreaking and heartwarming stories. Any kind of entry will be welcomed, be it an essay, a poem, a picture story or a video. You can submit anonymously or have your name and picture as big as our blog will allow.

"By sharing your story with us, we hope to share your story with the world. Not only will it educate and introduce our community to those who do not know us, but your story will serve to inspire others within our community."

For personal submissions to Equality Texas, please email mason@equalitytexas.org.

OUTwest Lubbock Presents BELLY'S ART AUCTION

**PROCEEDS GO TO
OUTWEST LUBBOCK FOR
CELEBRATION & PRIDE OF
THE WEST TEXAS
LGBTQ COMMUNITY**

**Friday, September 9, 2011
6:00 p.m.**

(bidding ends at 8:00 p.m.)

Check out Belly's great menu and drink specials!

BELLY'S CAFÉ

1406 AVE. Q

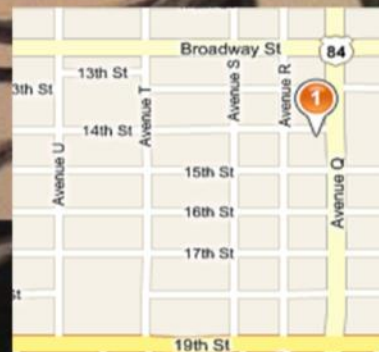
LUBBOCK, TX 79401

(next door to Inkfluence Tattoos)

**belly's
café** 

www.outwestlubbock.org

Find "OUTwest Lubbock" on Facebook



Supporting Those Who Support PFLAG Lubbock

Businesses

Adams Flowers

3532 34th St.
(806) 792-2126
<http://www.adamsflowerstx.com/>

Belly's Café

1406 Ave Q
(806) 853-9001

Ellsworth String Quartet

(806) 799-7227

Kyra Blankenship & Angela Bakersville

Attorneys at Law
(806) 765-5161 or 1-800-364-7021

MassageLubbock.com

Jason Weber R.M.T.
(806) 535-5044 E-mail: jweber1965@hotmail.com

Rainbow Candleworks, Ceramics & Things

(806) 773-0149 (cell); (806) 792-9127 (home)
<http://www.rainbowcandlecompany.com>

Rattan and Wicker Specialties

252034th St.
(806) 793-3455

Sprague's Massage Therapy

(806) 438-2221
E-mail: stressmts@door.net
<http://www.fly.to/smc>

Churches

Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)

4501 University Avenue, (806) 792-5562
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Friday Lambda AA Meeting 8 p.m.
Wednesday Doorways Youth Group 7:00 p.m.
Newsletter available upon request
E-mail: mcclubbocktx@aol.com

St. John's United Methodist Church

1501 University Avenue (across from Tech Campus)
(806) 762-0123
A Reconciling Congregation Sunday mornings:
8:30 a.m. Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. Fellowship Time
9:15 a.m. Sunday School Classes
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
E-mail: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org
www.stjohnslubbock.org

United Congregational Church

1701 E. 10th Street, (806) 744-0747
Member of the United Church of Christ (an officially GLBT supportive denomination, see www.ucc.org)
Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Adult Education at 11:00 a.m.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Lubbock

2801 42nd St.
Lubbock, TX 79413, (806) 799-1617
Adult education: Sundays 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service & Children's Classes: 11:00 a.m.
<http://uulubbock.org>

Organizations

Equality Texas (EQTX)

Equality Texas is the largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered organization in Texas. Working toward the elimination of social, legal & economic discrimination based on sexual orientation & gender identity through lobbying, education, & research directed toward the Texas Legislature & other state governmental agencies
PO Box 2340
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 474-5475 E-mail: info@equalitytexas.org
www.equalitytexas.org

LGBTs Lubbock, Literature, Etc.

<http://www.duanesimolke.com>

OUTwest Lubbock

OUTwest Lubbock is the new virtual GLBTQIA community center. Email contact@outwestlubbock.org for more information or visit www.outwestlubbock.org. Don't forget to check out their YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/outwestlubbock

PFLAG Odessa

Meetings: First Monday of each month.
Contact: Shari Johnson
(sharijohnson@grandecom.net) for more information

Planned Parenthood Association of Lubbock, Inc.

Briercroft Office Park #14
On 58th Street (between Ave Q and Ave P)
(806) 795-7123
Planned Parenthood provides confidential, affordable, quality reproductive health care for women & men. Services include annual exams, HIV and STD testing and treatment; breast and cervical cancer screening; partner testing and treatment for STDs. GLBT and Transgender services and resources are available. Education programs and public speaking for community groups and schools are available.

South Plains College Gay/Straight Alliance

The SPC GSA meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. on the Reese campus. For more information, please contact Skylar Lange, gsaspc@yahoo.com.

SPCAA/Project CHAMPS

3307 Ave. X
(806) 771-0736
M-F 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Project CHAMPS provides confidential medical and social services to clients living with HIV/AIDS. Eligible clients must provide proof of HIV+ status and must live in Texas. Income requirements vary depending on services requested. Contact Project CHAMPS for details and to schedule an Intake. No walk-ins, please. Email pchamps@spcaa.org

Texas Tech Gay/Straight Alliance

For meeting details contact Dee Nguyen at d.nguyen@ttu.edu

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Support Group

Texas Tech University Counseling Center
Meets during the fall & spring semesters
Interested Tech students can call the Counseling

Center at: (806) 742-3674.

Transgender Support—Amarillo

Amarillo MCC hosts a support group for transgender individuals, families and allies of transgender individuals. Meetings are on 2nd Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.; contact Sandra Dunn, sandradunntg@att.net

Underground GSA

Underground GSA was created to provide a place for LGBT members and straight allies to meet and hang out during the summer, winter break, and spring break. This group primarily targets college students, but high school students are welcome. Email: undergroundgsa@yahoo.com

Social

Club Heaven

19th and Buddy Holly Ave. Club Heaven is open Thursday and Saturday nights as a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender accepting club.

Doorways

Doorways is a young adult group meeting at Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. Contact MCC for meeting details and age range.

This Week in Texas (TWIT)

<http://www.thisweekintexas.com>

If you would like to be included in or make corrections to the list of our supporters, feel free to contact us at president@pflaglubbock.org.

CONTACT US:

PFLAG Lubbock
P.O. Box 94493
Lubbock, TX 79493
president@pflaglubbock.org

PFLAG Lubbock holds regular meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at St. John’s United Methodist Church, 1501 University.

PFLAG LUBBOCK MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE(home) _____ PHONE(cell) _____

E-MAIL _____

DUES : Individual - \$35	Couple - \$50
Student - \$25	Student Couple - \$40



Check all that best identify you:

GLBT (GAY, LESBIAN, BI, TRANSGENDERED)

ALLY PARENT/FAMILY

Checks payable to:

PFLAG Lubbock
 PO Box 94493
 Lubbock, TX 79493-4493