



PFLAG of Cape Cod

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
Transgender, Queer and Questioning People

PFLAG NEWSLETTER Spring-Summer 2017

Change of Command

Following the unexpected departure in February of our President, Drey Annachie, Denise LaBarre stepped up to serve as interim-President for the remainder of the fiscal year. We thank Drey for her dedicated service to PFLAG Cape Cod as Secretary, Vice President and President. We are indebted to Denise for her willingness to serve in this important role. Also recently departing the Board is Diane Titcomb. Diane served as Secretary, and was very involved in many activities including last year's P'Town Parade float event, and leading the scholarship award effort for the past two years. Thanks, Diane!

2017 Scholarship Recipient

This year's \$3,000 scholarship recipient, from a total of 12 extremely worthy applicants, is Jonathan Peters of Sturgis Charter School in Hyannis!

When he was 15, Jonathan came out and shortly thereafter entered Sturgis Charter School as an out-and-proud gay teenager. At Sturgis, he joined clubs geared toward social justice and diversity, and embarked on what would become a future in activism. He created the Youth OUTreach Program (which focuses on helping and mentoring other LGBT students), became a feminist,

and was involved in numerous activities and organizations in and out of school, including playing basketball, and serving as an intern assistant basketball coach at Sturgis.

After attending a 10-day leadership-in-action summit in Washington, DC following his sophomore year, Jonathan was inspired to



Jonathan Peters receiving scholarship award from PFLAG Cape Cod President Denise LaBarre.

create a conference geared toward developing a higher level of comfort in disclosing and discussing gender identity and sexual orientation among high school students and student athletes. After 15

intense months of organizing and fundraising, the conference was held in October 2016 at the Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis. Titled *"Identifying the Intersection of Athletics, LGBTQ Diversity and Anti-bullying Rhetoric,"* the event was attended by over 150 students, coaches, and community organizers from Cape Cod and elsewhere in Massachusetts. PFLAG of Cape Cod was a co-sponsor. The hugely successful event was the crowning achievement of his high school career and garnered widespread media attention and coverage! This fall, Jonathan will attend Hofstra University where he plans to study sociology and psychology.

PFLAG of Cape Cod thanks Jonathan for his many contributions to the LGBTQ community, congratulates him for being awarded this year's scholarship, and wishes him much success on a very promising future!

(For more information and videos from the conference, go to:

www.sturgissoundings.wordpress.com
and select the event from the Winter 2017 Menu.)

Safe Plates

On March 8th, the Waquoit Congregational Church hosted "Safe Plates", a fundraising comfort food buffet that benefited local groups promoting safety and acceptance, including PFLAG of Cape Cod, No Place for Hate-Falmouth, Engage Falmouth, and Cape Cod Shelter and Domestic Violence Services.

The hugely successful event drew a hungry crowd of over 300 people to feast on buttermilk fried chicken, baked macaroni and cheese, broccoli slaw, butternut squash lasagna, and apple crisp prepared by Laura Higgins-Baltzley, award-winning chef and owner of the **Buffalo Jump**, and Annie

Konner-Higgins, owner of **Peck O' Dirt Farm**. Along with Pastor Nell Fields of W.C.C., the chefs were assisted by a friendly staff of volunteers from the various organizations that benefited from the event. It was a warm and friendly community gathering that left people satisfied not only by the delicious food, but also from knowing they were helping out four worthy local organizations! *(For video from the event, go to www.fctv.org and enter "Safe Plates" in the search field.)*



Join us in celebrating our LGBTQ Community at **Cape Cod Pride** on Saturday, June 24th, from noon to 3:00, at Morse Pond School, 323 Jones Road, Falmouth. Entertainment by **Zoe Lewis** (starts at 1:00), plus games, activities, food, vendors, raffle, and more. **The first 400 attendees receive a FREE Cape Cod Pride tote bag!** Contact capecodpride.org for more information. See you there!

Support PFLAG Cape Cod on Amazon!

How would you like to help PFLAG of Cape Cod raise funds while shopping at Amazon? It's simple. Just go to **smile.amazon.com** and select *PFLAG Brewster-Cape Cod* from the list of worthy organizations. Then every time you shop through smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to PFLAG Cape Cod. It doesn't get any easier than that!

P'town Carnival Parade

Time to start getting ready for one of the most anticipated events of the year: the Provincetown Carnival Parade! This year's Carnival theme is *Gods & Goddesses*, with the highlight of the week being the parade taking place on Thursday, August 17, starting at 3:00. PFLAG's "Love Boat" float won the award for Best Small Float in last year's *Back to the 80's*-themed Carnival parade, so let's see if we can keep the winning streak going! If you're interested in being on the Float Committee, or simply helping out, please contact Joe Lima by June 30th at joe@pflagcapecod.org so we can schedule a planning meeting. And if you've never been in the Carnival parade, then be prepared to have a great time as you're warmly and enthusiastically greeted by the crowds lining Commercial Street!

Outreach

On April 9, Russell Haddock-LaBarre, his friend Eddie, and Denise LaBarre were invited to speak at Pilgrim Church, in Harwich Port. Reverend Dr. Susan Cartmell warmly received them, and about 25 of the congregation gathered to listen to the speakers' personal "journeys" in order to help them learn more about the LGBTQ community in an effort to become an open and affirming congregation.

Russell told his story about being transgender and some of the problems he has encountered. He spoke about his own beliefs and spirituality, and answered many questions from the congregation about the challenges of being a trans male. He also discussed how important it was for people who wish to practice their religion to have a safe place to do so without fear of judgment.

Denise discussed her experience raising a lesbian daughter and supporting Russell

throughout his transition. Denise also mentioned how important it was to pass the MA house bill banning conversion therapy for children

About one month later, Denise found out that the church members had voted to become an open and affirming congregation.

PFLAG Cape Cod T-shirts on Sale!

Summer's here, so it's time to wear your PFLAG Cape Cod t-shirt! Our latest design, launched last year, features the PFLAG logo on the front, and a vibrant, rainbow-striped Cape Cod on the back with the phrase "*supporting LGBTQ... and you!*". The 100% cotton t-shirts come in two styles: white unisex crew neck and sand-colored ladies v-neck. They're only \$17, and are available at most monthly support meetings and events, or by contacting: joe@pflagcapecod.org (there is an additional charge for shipping). Wear one with pride!



LGBTQ Group Meetings

PFLAG/Brewster, 3rd Monday of each month, 7 PM, First Parish UU Church, 1969 Main St., Brewster (Rte. 6A, near Rte. 124).

PFLAG/Falmouth, last Tuesday of each month, 7 PM, Falmouth Jewish Congregation, 7 Hatchville Rd., E. Falmouth.

Thrive at CIGSYA: 56 Barnstable Rd, Hyannis, open Wednesdays 4-6:30 pm, www.wethrive.us

Falmouth Gay Men's Group: www.FalmouthMensGroup.org

GALE Fund (Gay and Lesbian Equity Fund) www.galefund.org

Lesbian Groups: www.meetup.com/CapeCodWomen

Transgender Support: every 2nd Wed, 7pm, First Parish Winslow House, Rte. 124 at 6A. winslowgroup2016@outlook.com

LGBT Seniors Group: 4th Friday of each month at 6:00 pm. Orleans COA, 150 Rock Harbor Rd.

PFLAG of Greater Boston: www.gbpf.org

Helpline: 866-427-3524

Support Group for Parents of Transgender Youth:

When the support group for Parents of Transgender Youth was started 3 years ago in West Barnstable, it was well-attended and served to meet the specific needs of those parents. In recent months, however, attendance has steadily declined. Therefore, the decision was made to discontinue this support group. Parents of transgender and non-binary youth are still welcome to attend the two monthly PFLAG meetings in Falmouth and Brewster. If interest is expressed in restoring this group then we will consider restarting it, possibly at a different location. Let us know!

PFLAG of Cape Cod

PO Box 262, Marstons Mills, MA 02648

MISSION: By meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG realizes its vision through **support** for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ, **Education** for ourselves and others about the unique issues and challenges facing people who are LGBTQ, and **Advocacy** in our communities to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ.

MEMBERSHIP: Dues-paying members support the efforts of PFLAG locally and nationally. Fifteen dollars of the annual membership fee goes to PFLAG National. Our fiscal year begins October 1.

OFFICERS & BOARD: Denise La Barre (President), Joe Lima (Treasurer), Eric Nelson, Terry Norgeot, Grant Pike, Rona Robinson, and Ali Sands.

NEWSLETTER: Editor - Eric Nelson

Email: editor@pflagCapeCod.org

WEBSITE: www.pflagCapeCod.org

FACEBOOK: "PFLAG Cape Cod"

Membership Application PFLAG of Cape Cod

___\$45 Family ___\$30 Individual ___\$15 Limited income. \$___ Additional donation for local chapter

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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