



## **Eastern Idaho Chapter of PFLAG**

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**SUNDAY OCTOBER 17, 2010**

**CHAPTER MEETING 7 P.M.**

**Unitarian Church  
555 E Street, Idaho Falls**

This month's **PFLAG Chapter meeting** will be a support meeting and a video documentary will be viewed. The title of the video is "Out in the Silence." "Following the story of a small American town confronting a firestorm of controversy ignited by a same-sex wedding announcement in the local newspaper, this gripping documentary illustrates the challenges of being an outsider in a conservative rural community and the change that is possible when courageous people break the silence and search for common ground."

**Please bring a snack to share if you are able; beverages will be provided.**

The Festival of Trees is coming up and our PFLAG Chapter is planning on decorating and donating a Christmas tree for this event. The Festival of Trees will be held Tuesday November 16, through Friday, November 19, 2010 at the Shilo Inn Convention Center in Idaho Falls. Funds raised by the Festival go to the Development Workshop Inc. The funds are used to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Many individuals are on waiting lists to receive training and services, but lack the funding to receive them. The money raised will help enable them to participate in training programs that increase their independence.

**HOLIDAY PARTY WILL BE THE SECOND SUNDAY IN DECEMBER– DEC. 12, 2010!**

**THERE WILL BE NO CHAPTER MEETING IN NOVEMBER. CALL 208-521-7169 IF SUPPORT OR INFORMATION IS NEEDED.**

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**PELOSI VOWS MILITARY BAN WILL END THIS YEAR....Metro Weekly (Wa. DC), Sept 30, 2010**

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi told a crowd at a Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund event this week that "Don't ask, don't tell" will "just be a sad memory" after this year. She further suggested the policy could be ended without a vote in the Senate, where repeal legislation is being held up, saying, "that will happen with or without Congress." Pelosi was on hand to receive the Victory Fund's Gay & Lesbian Leadership Award, in recognition of her career-spanning support for LGBT equality.

**IMMIGRATION BILL INCLUDES PROVISION FOR SAME-SEX COUPLES....Washington (DC)Independent, September 30, 2010**

A comprehensive immigration bill introduced by Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., includes the Uniting American Families Act, a measure that would allow a U.S. citizen to sponsor his or her same-sex partner for naturalization.

**JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING PFLAG CHAPTER.**

The Jackson Wyoming PFLAG Chapter meets monthly on the third Monday evening at St. John's House, which is part of St. John's Episcopal Church. The entrance is on Glenwood. You are welcome to be in touch if you have questions. The meeting runs from 7 -8:30 PM. (Jackson PFLAG, Mark Houser, P.O. Box 2683, Jackson, WY 83001). Phone 307-733-8349 or e-mail at: [JacksonPFLAG@yahoo.com](mailto:JacksonPFLAG@yahoo.com)  
Jackson website [www.jacksonPFLAG.com](http://www.jacksonPFLAG.com)

**MAINE COMMISSION RULES IN FAVOR OF TRANSGENDER MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT, New England Cable News (Boston, MA), Sept 30, 2010**

A recent ruling by the Maine Human Rights Commission is forcing schools across the state to look at how they handle transgender students. The commission said a middle school in Orono discriminated against a transgender student by not allowing the child to use the girls' bathroom....Sarah Holmes--Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity: "This student identifies as a girl, dresses as a girl, perceived by her classmates as a girl." Sarah Holmes is familiar with the student involved in this case. She says people are recognizing they are transgender at an earlier age in part because there is more awareness and parents are more supportive.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP OUR PFLAG CHAPTER !**

- \$ Come to the meetings.**
- \$ Coordinate a program or activity.**
- \$ Tell your Friends and Family about PFLAG**
- \$ Pay annual dues (\$25) if able.**

**PFLAG MISSION STATEMENT**

**PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered persons, and 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.**

**AFTER FLEEING IRAN, GAY REFUGEE SEEKS ASYLUM IN U.S....National Public Radio, Sept 30, 2010**

Ramin Haghjoo survived being shot by forces loyal to Iranian leader Mahmoud Ahmadinejad during the post-election uprising in Iran last year, but after speaking to the media about his escape to Turkey and his homosexuality, Haghjoo fears returning to Tehran. He has applied for political asylum in the U.S., a place from which he believes he can fight for human rights in Iran.

**ARE GAYS SAVING MARRIAGE IN DC? ....The Washington Post, September 30, 2010**

An analysis of the marriage licenses being issued in the District of Columbia shows a 150% increase since same-sex couples gained the right to marry there. "It is a fair assumption that the vast majority were issued to same-sex couples," said David Catania, a D.C. City Council member who worked to bring marriage equality to the city.

**QUOTE FOR THE MONTH**

**"Although some people may not understand what it's like not to have a voice, let me explain to you that what you have done today speaks volumes to the people who desperately need a voice and have a voice and have been waiting so long for this opportunity."**

**Radames "Ray" Velazquez, an openly gay man who was appointed to the Jersey City, N.J., City Council.**

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE**

**WHEN YOU NO LONGER NEED PFLAG**

**PFLAG NEEDS YOU!**

