



# News & Views



**Celebrating Real Family Values**

Helpline 209.527.0776

P.O. Box 4311 • Modesto, CA 95352-4311

www.pflagmodesto.org

## In Remembrance of Ashlie - "Taken far too soon"



For those of you who come to Bingo, this familiar face was missing in March. She passed away February 21, 2009, and in the words of Jacquie Whitecloud, Vice President of PFLAG Modesto, "... was taken far too soon."

Ashlie was originally born as Gabriel Jordan Teacher on June 2, 1992. She transitioned to "Ashlie Anna" a year ago February. Her family name at that time changed to Vilmur. The family has asked that donations in Ashlie's memory be sent to the Children's Hospital and Research Center Oakland, 747 52nd

Street, Oakland, CA 94609. She was treated with great care and dignity at this facility. "In memorium" gifts may also be sent to PFLAG Modesto, PO Box 4311, Modesto, CA 95352.

We will miss Ashlie's bright smile, quick wit and youthful energy at our PFLAG Bingo meetings.

### OUR WISH LIST

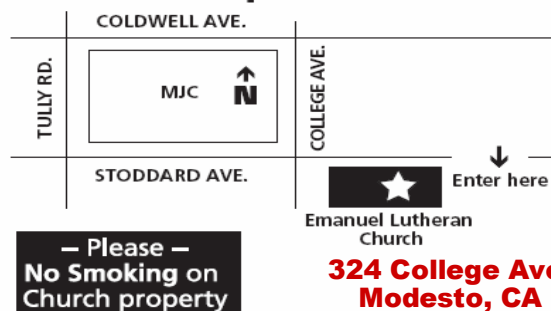
Please check out PFLAG Modesto's wish list at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and make a contribution to our library by purchasing a book. Just go to [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and click on "gifts and wish lists" in the blue bar at the top of the page. Type in "PFLAG Modesto" when the "search wish lists and registries" field appears. Have the book shipped to you and bring it to a meeting so we can thank you!

Looking for a way to \*give back\* to PFLAG Modesto, or just want to volunteer? The board is looking for a recording secretary to take minutes at the quarterly board meetings and monthly operations committee meetings. Contact Marilyn Mettler at [klizard@sprynet.com](mailto:klizard@sprynet.com) for details about the position. Thank you!

PFLAG Mission Statement: PFLAG promotes the health and well being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons 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.

Have news to share or an item of interest? Want to receive the PFLAG Modesto newsletter electronically? Contact Marilyn Mettler at [klizard@sprynet.com](mailto:klizard@sprynet.com), leave a message on the helpline at 527-0776 or drop a line to P.O. Box 4311, Modesto, 95352

### Location Map:



## Dates to Remember

### Meeting days

1st and 3rd Tuesdays every month

**7 pm Support**  
**8 pm Program**

### April 7

John Ervin, Director of Community Affairs and Chairperson of Modesto City Schools Diversity Task Force will be our "**Safe Schools**" program

### April 19

## Birdcage

Is an informal, monthly social gathering for GLBTs, allies and friends. Join the group at

**Bacchus**

**1200 "I" Street, downtown**  
**5-9 PM**

Contact **Patrick Pokorny** at **404-0538** or **ndskills1@sbcglobal.net**

### GLBTQ YOUTH GROUP

**April 8 & 22 7-9 pm**

College Avenue Congregational Church, corner of College and Orangeburg Avenues

### PFLAG group in Oakdale!

**April 15 7-8:30 pm**

Golden Oaks Conference Room  
**1425 West "H", Oakdale**  
[pflagoakdale@dishmail.net](mailto:pflagoakdale@dishmail.net)

Please join the group in Oakdale!

### April 21

## PFLAG Bingo

**SAVE THE DATE!****Saturday, September 19, 2009****11am to 7pm****Graceada Park  
Modesto, CA**

This years theme is "Right to Love". This outdoor community celebration of GLBT Pride will feature live music, entertainment, food, family and fun.

Stanislaus PRIDE Day celebrates **PRIDE** (People Respecting Individuality, Diversity and Equality) in the Central Valley and is the only celebration of its kind from Sacramento to Fresno!. Last year over 2300 people attended the event, and this year promises to draw an even larger crowd.

**SAVE THE DATE!****Other ways to volunteer for PFLAG...**

Contact Marilyn Mettler at [klizard@sprynet.com](mailto:klizard@sprynet.com)

**Are you a member of a service group?**

**\*Come tell us what your group does.\***

**Are you a member of a union?**

**\*Help us form a coalition\***

**Do you speak Spanish?**

**\*We occasionally need translators\***

**\*Occasionally we will need phone bank volunteers\***

**Some websites of interest:**

HeartStrong: [heartstrong.org](http://heartstrong.org)

Owl Empire of Stanislaus County, Inc. (OESCI): [oesci.org](http://oesci.org)

PFLAG National: [pflag.org](http://pflag.org) .

Stanislaus Community Assistance Project (SCAP):

[scap4.org](http://scap4.org) , 2209 Coffee Rd. Suite A , Modesto

Stanislaus PRIDE Center: [stanpride.org](http://stanpride.org)

**Visit a local open and accepting Spiritual Organization:**

College Avenue Congregational Church - 1341 College Ave., Modesto: [cacc-ucc.org/menu](http://cacc-ucc.org/menu)

First United Methodist Church - 850 16th Street, Modesto: [fumcmoesto.org](http://fumcmoesto.org)

Unitarian Universalist Church - 2172 Kiernan Ave.,

**Poster Design Competition for Stanislaus PRIDE Day 2009**

The Stanislaus PRIDE Committee is having a poster design competition to find a unique design to represent Stanislaus PRIDE Day 2009. The theme this year is "Right to Love".

Amateur and professional artists are encouraged to submit their original works for consideration.

There is no cost or limit to the number of submissions.

**Winning Poster Design Details**

The winner will receive \$100 and recognition as the \*Official Poster Artist\*. The winning design will be reproduced and distributed as the official Stanislaus PRIDE Day event poster. It will be incorporated into other digital and printed materials, and featured on the Stanislaus PRIDE Day website. The deadline for submission is

Wednesday, April 8, 2009.

Full contest details and entry form available at [www.spcpride.org](http://www.spcpride.org)

**Tentative Programs for 2009**

**January 6...** Owl Empire-speaker to inform about purpose of group

**February 3...**Betsy Eudey from Cal State Stanislaus to speak about new Degree in Gender Studies PLUS Estrella Garcia, Collaborative Project Methamphetamine Study Thesis

**March 3...**Gay Straight Alliance with advisor

**April 7...**Safe Schools Program

**May 5...**Mother's Day program

**June 2...**Father's Day program

**July 7...**GLBT veteran speaker, gay military

**August 4...**Attorney to speak about legalities of domestic partnerships vs. marriage

**September 1...**GLBTQ Teen Group at CACC to speak about their group purpose, activities

**October 6...**Clergy panel, question and answer

**November 3...**Transgender Remembrance Day

**December 1...**Holiday Potluck