



Everyone Is Welcome– By Cecelia

What does it mean to feel welcome? It means that when you step into Sno Valley Senior Center you feel the positive energy of belonging. You might be greeted with a warm smile, a caring hug or a friendly hello. In the many years that I have been a participant, a volunteer and a member, I have experienced SVSC as an inviting place where I can be myself. My wife and I are treated like any other couple attending programs and classes. The fact that we are Rainbow Elders does not affect our feelings of acceptance and belonging.

So you might think, "Well, everything is great. No need for improvement." But we can do better. We have a wish. We would like to create a multigenerational community of those identifying as LGBTQIA+, their families, friends and allies. Many Rainbow Seniors remember the fear of rejection. The FESH program provides the opportunity to feel included and explore ways to develop connections.

PRIDE activities are a reaffirming way to celebrate LGBTQIA+ people, but here at Sno-Valley Senior Center everyone is always welcome.

Join Sno-Valley Senior Center on Thursday, June 23 at noon for a Pride-themed lunch! Call 425-333-4152 to reserve your lunch in advance and wear your rainbow colors, and share in a fun lunch with goodies!

2nd Rainbow on the Eastside Gallery Show for Eastside LGBTQIA+ Artists | May 31-June 30

Gallery hours are weekdays 10am-4pm. Come meet the curator and artists at the Artists' Reception on **Thursday, June 16th from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm!** Location: Centro Cultural Mexicano, 7945 Gilman St, Redmond, WA 98052



Anacortes First Annual PRIDE Parade | Saturday, June 18 from 11am-noon

Picnic and talent showcase from 1-5pm at Causland Park. Learn more at www.anacortespride.org

Olympic Pride | Saturday, June 25 from 10am-4pm

Food, goods, art, crafts, music, fun! Held at Pope Marine Park. Sponsored by our Olympic Pride Partners. For more information go to olympicpride.org



Seattle Pride in the Park, Saturday, June 4th at Volunteer Park

After two years in cyberspace, we are back in person to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community during Pride Month. We will begin our *Family Reunion* (this year's theme!) at the beginning of Pride Month with *Seattle Pride in the Park*.

This free-to-attend event will feature a can't-miss lineup of local LGBTQIA+ performances co-curated in partnership with *Taking B(l)ack Pride*, activities, food trucks, an alcohol garden, non-profit booths and much more. *Seattle Pride in the Park* is open to all ages with family events available throughout the day including Drag Queen Storytime with Cookie Couture.

Seattle Pride Parade – Sunday, June 26, 4th Ave, Downtown Seattle

The *Seattle Pride Parade* wraps up Pride Month on the last weekend of June. Over 400,000 parade-goers are expected, and we want you to be one of them! The *Seattle Pride Parade* is our opportunity to come together as a full force Family Reunion and commemorate the past, celebrate new wins for equality, and get encouragement for the work yet to come.



King County

Veterans, Seniors & Human Services Levy

Stonewall—June 27th and 28th, 1969: It has been 53 years since the Stonewall Riots when police raided the Stonewall Inn, a bar and hot hang out spot for the gay, lesbian and transgender community in Greenwich Village, New York. In 1969 it was illegal in every state except Illinois to be gay. Bars and restaurants would be shut down for serving gay patrons. Police raids were common place but the Stonewall Raid was unique in the fact the LGBTQ+ patrons fought back, launching an uprising and standing up to the police officers barricading them in the Inn. Although many were hurt, surprisingly nobody was killed. In response the next night after the riots, supporters showed up chanting “gay power” and “we shall overcome” and the Stonewall Inn became a gathering point from that day forward for LGBTQ+ activists.

Although Stonewall wasn't the start of the gay rights movement, the riot was a turning point. The first Gay Pride parade called the Christopher Street Liberation March, was one year later, June 28th, 1970. Several hundred people marched up 6th Avenue to Central Park, gathering supporters along the way. Other cities like Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston and Chicago also organized their own Pride celebrations the same year—fueling a world wide gay rights movement in Canada, Britain, France, Germany, Australia and New Zealand to name a few.— Source www.history.com

What does the Rainbow Flag stand for and who created it? The rainbow flag was created in 1978 by designer, Vietnam War veteran and then drag performer, Gilbert Baker. He was commissioned to create a flag by another gay icon, politician Harvey Milk, for San Francisco’s annual pride parade. Colors represent togetherness since LGBTQ+ people come in all different races, ages and genders.

The original flag featured 8 colors, each having a different meaning. At the top was hot pink, which represented sex, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sunlight, green for nature, turquoise for art, indigo for harmony and violet for spirit. The colors of baby blue, pink, brown, black and light yellow were added to the flag in the last 20 years represent transgender, people of color, bisexual and pansexual communities all making up the greater rainbow community. Sources. History.com and perceptionprograms.inc.ry.com

Pride Word Search

- CELEBRATION
- COLORS
- GILBERT BAKER
- GREENWICH
- HARVEY MILK
- MARCH
- MOVEMENT
- PARADE
- PRIDE
- RAINBOW
- RIOT
- STONEWALL
- TOGETHERNESS

