

PTOWNWEST



August 2025-3
Volume 4

Local Happenings

SATURDAYS AT 9 AM, EVERYONE- LGBTQ

JOIN US!!!

If you feel like having coffee together at 9 AM this Saturday. Love to see you!

Where this week? Chelmsford:

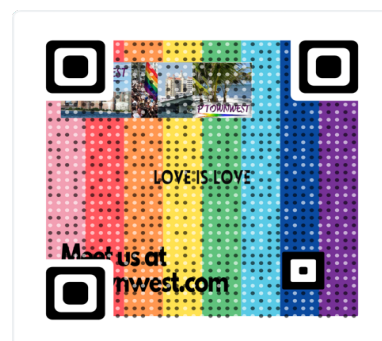
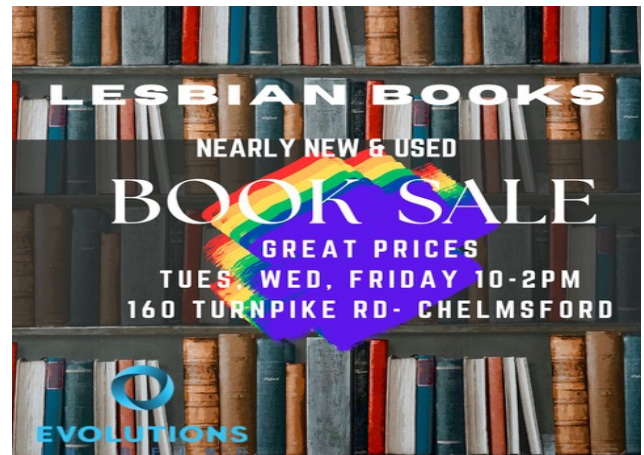
More info: jean@ptownwest.com

Sunday Aug 24th Pride and Joy

Mandarin Asia bistro meetup at 5:30 this Sunday, August 24th

More info: s.a.mcduffee@gmail.com

LESBIAN BOOKS-More
info: jean@ptownwest.com



West Texas A&M Drag Ban Defeated in Court

Obviously drag shows are protected by the First Amendment.

Emma Camp 8.20.2025 10:40 AM

After a yearslong legal battle, West Texas A&M University students can finally host a drag show. On Monday, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit reversed a lower court's decision allowing the university to block an LGBT student group from hosting a charity drag show on campus.

"This is a victory not just for Spectrum WT, but for any public university students at risk of being silenced by campus censors," J.T. Morris, an attorney at the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE), a First Amendment group that filed a lawsuit on behalf of the student group, said in a Monday [press release](#).

<https://reason.com/2025/08/20/west-texas-am-drag-ban-defeated-in-court/>

"Utter Bullshit": Miami Beach Officials say They'll Fight State Order to Remove Rainbow Crosswalk

At a time when Floridians face real challenges, this is a distraction and a solution in search of a problem.'

Miami Beach is expected to soon become the latest locality to receive a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) order to remove its rainbow roadway markings recognizing the LGBTQ community.

City officials say they won't comply easily.

Commissioner Joseph Magazine said on [Facebook](#) that FDOT informed Miami Beach that the city "must remove all 'artistic crosswalks,' specifically the [rainbow-colored crosswalk on Ocean Drive and 12th Street](#), which has for so long stood as a welcoming sign to our LGBT community."

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/752499-utter-bullshit-miami-beach-officials-say-theyll-fight-state-order-to-remove-rainbow-crosswalk/>

New Estimate: 2.8 Million People ages 13 and Older Identify as Transgender in the US

Approximately 2.8 million people aged 13 and older—1.0% of the U.S. population in that age group—identify as transgender, according to new estimates from the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law. This includes about 724,000 youth aged 13 to 17 (3.3% of youth) and around 2.1 million adults aged 18 and older (0.8% of adults).

Transgender individuals tend to be younger than the overall U.S. population, a trend consistently seen in previous research. Three-quarters (76%) of people aged 13 and older who identify as transgender are under 35, compared to 34% of the entire U.S. population in the same age group. One-quarter of individuals who identify as transgender (25%) are between 13 and 17, versus only 8% of the overall population. <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/press/trans-pop-estimates-press-release/>

International News/Events

Activist Arrested for Blasphemy in Morocco for “Allah is a Lesbian” T-shirt

Ibtissame Lachgar, an LGBT rights campaigner and a co-founder of the Alternative Movement for Individual Freedoms, was arrested in Morocco over allegations of blasphemy.

Ibtissame Lachgar, an LGBT rights campaigner and a co-founder of the Alternative Movement for Individual Freedoms, was arrested in [Morocco](#) over allegations of [blasphemy](#) after she posted photos of herself wearing a shirt with the slogan “Allah is a lesbian,” according to international media reports.

The 50-year-old activist remains in custody as the investigation continues. Her lawyer, Naima Elguellaf, told Agence France-Presse the trial is postponed until August 27. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-864352>

Is a Christian King Prepared to Rule a Post-Christian Britain?

Britain’s King Charles III is [receiving praise](#) for his “momentous” commitment to diversity after both a Ramadan meal and an “LGBT+ History Month” lecture were held at Windsor Castle this year—although not, of course, at the same time. The House of Windsor has become a microcosm of the United Kingdom, slowly being squeezed between the pincers of LGBT sexual revolutionaries and an exploding Muslim population (Muhammad [recently became](#) the [most popular name](#) in England for the first time).

In the July 29th annual report of the Royal Collection Trust, which oversees the royal palaces, the Trust boasted that “inclusion and diversity was a key priority this year,” and that an Open Iftar—the meal breaking the fast during Ramadan—was [held](#) in Windsor Castle for the first time in its 1,000 year history. The March event, spearheaded by the Ramadan Tent Project and featuring 350 guests in St. George’s Hall, included two reciters from the Maidenhead Mosque giving the Islamic call to prayer from the hall’s balcony. RCT director Tim Knox emphasized that the event had taken place “with the King’s permission.”

<https://europeanconservative.com/articles/commentary/is-a-christian-king-prepared-to-rule-a-post-christian-britain/>

Plans for Rainbow Quarter Beyond “Wildest Dreams”

Anna Whittaker
Political reporter, BBC Nottingham

“For so many people over the decades, to have had something like a Rainbow Quarter would’ve been beyond their wildest dreams.”

Author and historian CJ DeBarra says Broad Street in Hockley, Nottingham, has “always been the absolute queer heart of the community”.

And now its status looks set to be cemented with a project to establish the city’s first official LGBTQ+ friendly area, similar to [Manchester’s Gay Village](#).

Plans for the Rainbow Quarter - made up of Broad Street, Carlton Street and Heathcote Street - were announced at Notts Pride on 26 July and are still in the early stages, but those behind the project hope it can come to fruition in 2026.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cn8425019elo>