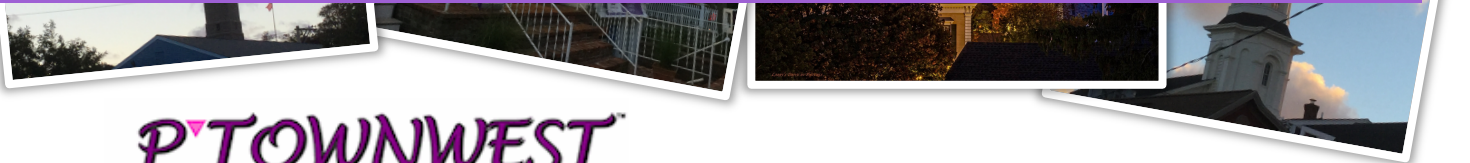


# PTOWNWEST

No Place Like Home



## PTOWNWEST

*The mission of Ptownwest is to reconnect,  
promote and create gay community*

November 2022  
Volume 28

### Lagos Shelter Brings Rare Respite For Nigeria's LGBT+

When Muna and Mary moved in together in Nigeria's Anambra state, they thought they were starting a new life. But that dream quickly became a nightmare for the trans man and his girlfriend after a barrage of insults from neighbours and threats of rape.

They had no choice but to flee.

"It destroyed me, damaged my brain. We didn't even know where to go. I became suicidal," said Muna, 26.

Now the couple lives in a house that looks like any other in their gated community in a poor Lagos suburb.

<https://www.barrons.com/news/lagos-shelter-brings-rare-respite-for-nigeria-s-lgbt-01668408006>

### Foster Care Agencies Report Struggles When Placing LGBT+ Youth

By [Kassie Simmons](#)

Published: Nov. 13, 2022 at 11:04 AM  
EST | Updated: 23 hours ago

WILMINGTON, N.C. (WECT) - Having to go into foster care is often a stressful and traumatic experience for a child. Sometimes, that experience is made worse when agencies can't find a place for them to stay.

Having spent the majority of his childhood in the foster care system, Lou Elwood knows all too well the importance of a supportive home.

"I'm just better overall in every area, I guess," said Elwood. "They helped me a lot with my emotional regulation and being able to talk to people when I have an issue rather than just bottling it up and letting it come out in a bad way."

That wasn't always his life, though. Elwood, who came out as transgender when he was 13, has been through a number of homes that weren't as accepting.

<https://www.wect.com/2022/11/13/foster-care-agencies-report-struggles-when-placing-lgbt-youth/>

## Biden Administration's LGBT Health-Care Policy Rejected by Court

Nov. 13, 2022, 5:16 PM

- Section 1557 doesn't include sexual orientation, gender identity, court says
- Court grants declaratory relief, declines to issue injunction

The Affordable Care Act doesn't prohibit discrimination in health care on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation, a federal district court in Texas ruled.



## Using the Word “Queer” Instead of “Gay”

Nov. 13, 2022

To the Editor:

Re “[Why the Word ‘Gay’ Is Falling Out of Fashion](#),” by Pamela Paul (column, Oct. 24):

I’m a teenager who self-identifies as queer. While Ms. Paul does make the correct assertion that the L.G.B.T.Q.+ community cannot be treated as a monolith, silencing the word “queer” mutes the politically charged history of the community.

As Ms. Paul writes, “queer” does in fact carry many connotations. I argue that the word is supposed to. We are comfortable outside the lines of the binary. It is unacceptable to mislabel anyone, but objecting to the use of “queer” because of the political statement it makes is a nonstarter.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/13/opinion/letters/lgbt-gay-queer.html>

## Influential Priest Defends LGBTQ+ Catholics in Wake of Kerry Priest’s Homily

‘More bluntly, I say to LGBT people, it’s your Church too. If you’re baptised, then you’re as much a part of the church as your local priest or bishop, or even the Pope. It’s your church too.’

<https://extra.ie/2022/11/07/news/lgbt-friendly-priest>

## LGBT+ Italians on Alert Over Meloni as Triumphs in Election

Millions of people wear poppies for Remembrance Day, November 11, to commemorate British armed forces who have given up their lives in conflict.

These paper, metal or fabric flowers are traditionally red with a black centre, often with a green leaf.

Sales of the poppies go towards the Royal British Legion.

There are already various alternatives to the red poppy - including a purple one that remembers animals who served in wartime.

Black poppies commemorate black, African and Caribbean communities' contribution to the war effort - as servicemen and servicewomen, and as civilians.

While [white poppies](#) remember both civilians and soldiers killed in war, as well as those killed or imprisoned for refusing to fight.

Adding to the mix, inaugural LGBT poet Laureate Trudy Howson introduced the concept of a rainbow poppy in 2016.

Posting a design of the flower on her website, she wrote: "The rainbow poppy is a campaign I'm running to bring attention to the brave soldiers who died for our country during WWI at a time when their sexuality was still criminalised."

<https://www.the-sun.com/news/26300/lgbt-rainbow-poppy-remembrance-day/>

## Maura Healy addresses LGBT Community on Election Night

"I want to say something to every little girl and every young LGBTQ person out there," said Healey during her acceptance speech on Tuesday. "I hope tonight shows you that you can be whatever, whoever you want to be."

<https://www.wvlp.com/news/political-news/maura-healey-addresses-lgbt-community-on-election-night/>

## LGBTQ Scene Among Cuts Made to "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever" for Kuwait Release (Exclusive)

The movie – which features a very short moment of affection between Michaela Coel's and Florence Kasumba's characters – is now in cinemas unedited in the rest of the Gulf, including Saudi Arabia.

The LGBTQ+ representation in [Black Panther: Wakanda Forever](#) might not exactly be extensive – coming down mostly to a blink-and-you'll-miss-it moment of affection between Michaela Coel's character Aneka and Florence Kasumba's Ayo – but it's enough for the moment to have been cut for the film's release in one Gulf country.

[The Hollywood Reporter](#) has learned that while only a very small number of edits have been made to Marvel's all-star sequel for it to be released in Kuwait, amounting to just over 1 minute of cuts in total, this has included the 10-second scene in which Aneka kisses Ayo on the forehead. Also removed, at the request of censors, was a scene in which a woman gives birth to a child and the line, "A god to his people."

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/movies/movie-news/black-panther-wakanda-forever-lgbt-cut-kuwait-1235260118/>

### Call for LGBT Veterans to Share their Stories with review

**A former military fireman is urging LGBT veterans to take part in a review of the impact of a historical ban on homosexuality in the armed forces.**

Carl Austin-Behan, who was Manchester's first openly gay Lord Mayor, was expelled from the Royal Air Force in 1997 because of his sexuality.

He was escorted off base by military police and "lost everything" he had worked for.

He said he was "proud" to lay a wreath in Manchester on Remembrance Sunday.

Until 2000 it was illegal to be gay in the British military - a rule that is thought to have affected about 5,000 people in the armed forces.

Ahead of Remembrance Sunday, Mr Austin-Behan said it was important to get evidence to support the review, which is [examining the impact of the ban](#) on homosexuality in the military.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-manchester-63610448>

### Fifa's Meetings with LGBT Charities are just a "Band-Aid" to Cover Qatar's Oppression, says Arab LGBT Group

As Qatar's World cup draws closer, a LGBT group across the Middle Est accuses Fifa of paying lip-service to LBT rights.

By [Patrick Strudwick](#)  
Special Correspondent  
November 13, 2022 6:00 am(Updated 9:46 pm)

One of the only LGBT organisations based in the Gulf region has accused Fifa of putting a "Band-Aid" over Qatar's treatment of LGBT people by holding meaningless meetings with advocacy groups as a public relations exercise - while privately treating the issues as a "distraction".

"They talked to us, we had so many different calls, and the last I heard from [Fifa] was more than a year ago - and they never followed up," one of the founders of Ahwaa told i.

[Ahwaa](#) has thousands of members throughout North Africa and the Middle East, providing an online platform where young LGBT people can securely communicate. Due to an increase in threats, the co-founder is unable to disclose her name publicly, but spoke to i to ensure the international community and the wider public understand what's happening behind the scenes.

<https://inews.co.uk/news/fifas-meetings-with-lgbt-charities-are-just-a-band-aid-to-cover-qatars-oppression-says-arab-lgbt-group-1963521>

### LGBT Candidates Receive Small Victory in Election Results

Patrick Maloney appeared to be losing his seat in Congress, and a pro-Trump Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey, a popular Democrat in a deeply blue state, coasted to victory Tuesday as predicted, becoming the first lesbian to be elected governor of any state.

Another lesbian candidate for governor, Tina Kotek in Oregon, appeared to be in a position to be the second to do so, running one point ahead of her two opponents as of Wednesday morning. But in a surprise upset, five-term U.S. Rep. Sean gay Republican appears to have defeated a gay Democrat for a U.S. House seat from New York.

Healey's win in Massachusetts made her the first woman to win an election as governor in that state and the first lesbian to win an

election as governor anywhere in the nation. (Bisexual Kate Brown was the first LGBT person to be elected governor when she won a special election bid in 2016; Jared Polis became the first gay man when he was elected governor of Colorado in 2018.)

<https://southfloridagaynews.com/National/lgbt-candidates-receive-small-victory-in-election-results.html>

### **So Many Out Famous People, So Little Time To Scroll**

<https://www.heraldweekly.com/love-is-in-the-air-the-partners-of-famous-lgbt-entertainers/101?xcmg=1>

