



# THE HODGE-PODGE GAZETTE



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## TIME IS A GIFT TO THE HODGES FAMILY

The gift of time becomes ever more precious as we age. For octogenarian Jean Hodges, time to let go of 25 years of responsibilities for PFLAG leadership was capped in Kansas City, MO, at the National PFLAG Convention where she co-led her last workshop with Bishop Tonyia Rawls and attended her final board meeting with the satisfaction of knowing that PFLAG is in good hands for a bright future. Jean and daughter Beth took their first trip together, a once-in-a-lifetime cruise on the Norwegian Star out of Venice, sailing on the Adriatic to Greek Islands that ended in Santorini and returned via Dubrovnik. A precious time to make memories. For time out from their stressful jobs, Ben and Wayne enjoyed trips to Palm Springs, Italy, Greece, Mazatlán. and Las Vegas---"almost free" with Ben's hotel points and air miles. Grandson Kris indulged in String Cheese concerts over the summer as fun time-out from his dream job with the Mountain Sun Brewery lifting kegs, making deliveries, and learning more about becoming a brew master. Granddaughter Rae moved to Ft. Collins, found work as a paralegal, enrolled in community college to work toward her career goal of becoming an investigative reporter, while sister Rhiannon is training to become a hair stylist. Kate has tried home health care, janitorial work and really wants to finish a makeover of her parents' RV to be able to live in it and travel. Time is expansive for the young.



**Happy Holidays from the Hodges Family and Friends**

### No More Family Secrets

John and Denise each expanded their families after exploring their genealogy on-line. Their DNA revelations led Denise to discover that her father was not her biological father, but it also led to her to find a family that has welcomed her. John met long-lost sisters who had searched for years to find their only brother given up as a baby for adoption. Family reunions have expanded their sense of identity with joy! Read the memoir, *Inheritance*, by Dani Shapiro that has revealed similar family secrets to thousands.

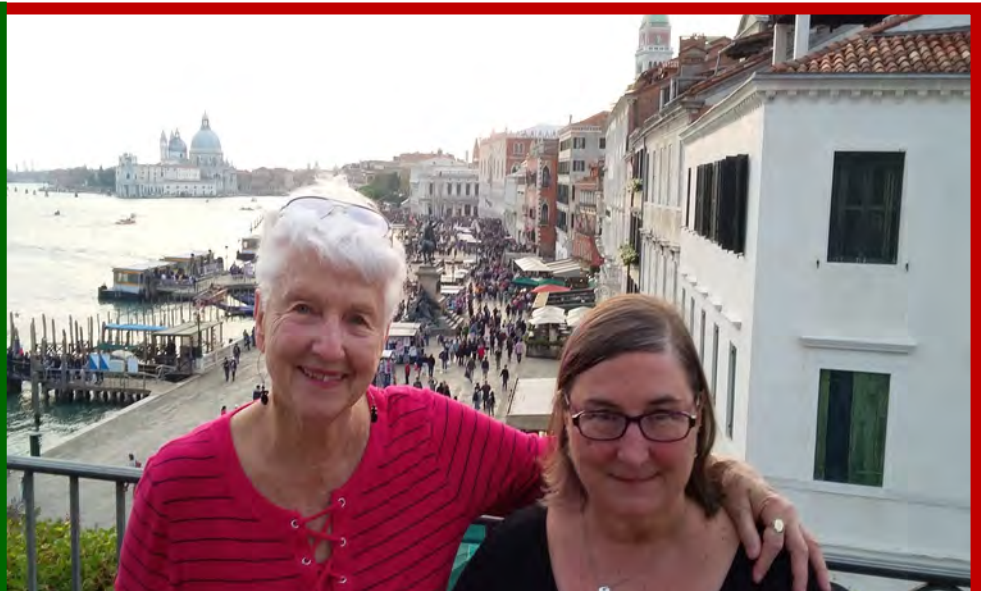
**Time to read:** some 2019 favorites—*Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman; *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah; *Shortest Way Home* by Pete Buttigieg.

**Anne Lamott wrote: " Laughter really is carbonated holiness." May this Holy Season offer you time for remembering the Birth of Love's Light in the midst of darkness....amid smiles & moments of laughter.**  
*From Jean and all the Hodges Family.*





**Proud mom & handsome Kris**



**Jean and Beth overlooking Venice**



**Norwegian "Star" cruises the Greek Isles**



**Ben and Wayne explore Athens**



**Denise with long lost brother & family**



**John with new sisters, Mary & Christine**



**See more Hodges Family photos online at [www.HodgePodgeGazette.com](http://www.HodgePodgeGazette.com)**

