

# Outword

The background of the cover is a warm, golden-yellow sunset scene. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of a man and a woman are shown in profile, facing each other as if about to kiss. The sky is filled with several small, dark birds in flight. To the left, there is a silhouette of a bare tree. The overall mood is romantic and serene.

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## **Waiting on the Court for Equality**

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## **Halloween Fun Photos - Oh My!**

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## **Let the Fall Entertainment Begin!**

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# Letters & Announcements

## Law Students Invited to Compete in Moot Court

The Williams Institute Moot Court Competition is the only national competition dedicated exclusively to the areas of sexual orientation and gender identity law.

The competition is designed to promote and recognize the finest oral and written advocacy on a significant problem in sexual orientation and gender identity

law. Last year, over 30 teams from ABA-accredited law schools across the country registered to compete.

The final round will take place on Friday, April 8, 2011 during the Williams Institute's 10th Annual Update & Anniversary Celebration.

December 1, 2010 is the last day to register for the competition. For more information and competition entry guidelines, visit [www.law.ucla.edu/WilliamsInstitute/programs/SeventhAnnualWIMootCourt.html](http://www.law.ucla.edu/WilliamsInstitute/programs/SeventhAnnualWIMootCourt.html)

## "Bring in the Harvest" Food Drive

The Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Center's 20 Somethings and Friday Night Youth Groups went Trick or Canning on Halloween, and collected over 200 pounds of food!

With the recent devastating fire at the River City Food Bank, the plan is to donate the food there.

The two groups, and the Center, are challenging the community to match and exceed their Halloween collections with a goal of 500 pounds of food for their "Bring in the Harvest!" campaign.

Please bring non-perishable food items and grocery bags to the Center, 1927 L Street, in Midtown Sacramento between now and Thanksgiving. The Center is open for donations Monday through Friday, noon to 6 p.m. Group meeting times for those attending

groups, or other times by appointment. Contact the Center at 916-442-0185. Don't forget the Second Saturday Art Show at the Center, November 13, 6-9 p.m.

Thank-you for your support of this deserving community service organization located only eight blocks from the Gay & Lesbian Center.

## Thanks from PFLAG Dear Outword,

PFLAG of Greater Placer County would like to thank-you for allowing us to be the recipient of the donations from Drag Queen Bingo held at Hamburger Patties on Wednesday, September 22.

Thank-you Fred, Hamburger Patties for hosting and of course, the Drag Queen Bingo crew and the star of the evening, Rusty Nails!

Everyone had such a fun evening and PFLAG of Greater Placer County received \$1,069 that we

will use to continue our mission of supporting the LGBTQ community and educating the public.

Thank-you again for this wonderful opportunity and your continued support!

**Lori Ennis, President  
PFLAG of Greater Placer County**

## Military/Veteran Suicide Prevention Seminar

The Sacramento Valley Veterans (SVV) will host a seminar focused on veterans and suicide prevention.

The night's speaker will be Janet Lial, the local VA's Suicide Prevention Coordinator, who will discuss this topic with the purpose of informing veterans and their loved ones.

All veterans from all eras and all orientations are welcome to attend this seminar, and it is open to all veteran organizations in the area.

The seminar will be held Wednesday, Nov. 17, at 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 2620 Capitol Ave.

For more information, call 916-436-7676 or visit [SacLGBTVeterans.org](http://SacLGBTVeterans.org)



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# Dept. of Education Issues Guidance on Bullying

The Department of Education has issued guidance to support educators in combating bullying in schools by clarifying when student bullying may violate federal education anti-discrimination laws.

The guidance, issued Oct. 26, also makes clear that while current laws enforced by the department do not protect against harassment based on religion or sexual orientation, they do include protection against harassment of members of religious groups based on shared ethnic characteristics as well as

will host a conference to raise awareness and equip young people, parents, educators, coaches and other community leaders with tools to prevent bullying and harassment.

The conference goal is to build upon efforts led by the U.S. Department of Education and other

**“We have an obligation to ensure that our schools are safe for all of our kids. Every single young person deserves the opportunity to learn and grow and achieve their potential, without having to worry about the constant threat of harassment.”**

gender and sexual harassment of LGBT individuals.

The guidance, which comes in the form of a “Dear Colleague” letter sent to schools, colleges and universities, explains educators’ legal obligations to protect students from student-on-student racial and national origin harassment, sexual and gender-based harassment and disability harassment.

The letter provides examples of harassment and illustrates how a school should respond in each case.

The White House and Department of Education also announced next steps to address bullying and harassment in schools.

Early next year, the White House

federal agencies to spark a dialogue on the ways in which communities can come together to prevent bullying and harassment.

“We’ve got to dispel the myth that bullying is just a normal rite of passage, or an inevitable part of growing up. It’s not,” said President Obama in a released statement. “We have an obligation to ensure that our schools are safe for all of our kids. Every single young person deserves the opportunity to learn and grow and achieve their potential, without having to worry about the constant threat of harassment.”

Following the release of the guidance, the Department plans to

hold technical assistance workshops around the country in early 2011 to help educators better understand their obligations and the resources available to take prompt and effective steps that will end harassment and bullying in schools and on college campuses.

“Students cannot learn if they feel threatened or harassed,” said Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Russlynn Ali. “We want to keep students safe and learning, and today’s guidance will help us do that.”

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# Tax Guide for Domestic Partners

**L**ambda Legal has released a short guide aimed at tax professionals and California's registered domestic partners explaining the consequences of a significant shift in federal tax policy as they file their tax returns for 2010.

The change, announced earlier this year by the Internal Revenue Service, applies to California's registered domestic partners (RDPs) and also may apply to the state's estimated 18,000 legally married same-sex couples, as well as registered domestic partners in Nevada and Washington.

In a change from the approach taken by the Bush Administration, the IRS will now recognize the jointly owned community property income earned by California RDPs, the same way it long has done for different-sex married couples who file separate federal income tax returns.

Recognition of "community income" means couples each will report half of their combined income on their separate returns -- called "income-splitting" -- which can mean big savings for couples with wide disparities in income.

"This change represents one more good step in the direction of

treating same-sex couples who have formalized their relationship under state law the same as married different-sex couples are treated," said Jennifer C. Pizer, National Marriage Project Director for Lambda Legal. "The problem addressed by this new policy highlights what marriage discrimination means -- an endless stream of sometimes small inequalities that often end up costing same-sex couples real dollars as well as their dignity. But let's be clear -- while this is welcome progress towards our community's goal of full legal equality for same-sex couples, the IRS still won't allow us to file a joint tax return or otherwise respect our family relationships, and federal law as a whole still discriminates against us in countless serious ways. This is a small step, but it's a good one."

The document is entitled "The IRS Applies 'Income-Splitting'



## Lambda Legal

Community Property Treatment to California's Registered Domestic Partners: Preliminary Answers to Some Frequently Asked Questions." It was prepared by Pizer, Lambda Legal Staff Attorney Peter C. Renn and tax attorneys at the prestigious Irell & Manella law firm in Los Angeles, with consultation by Wendy E. Hartmann of the Bennett & Erdman law firm, also in Los Angeles, who specializes in estate planning for same-sex couples.

To download Lambda Legal's FAQ explaining the new IRS position about registered domestic partners' community property rights, please go to: [www.lambdalegal.org/ttp-community-property](http://www.lambdalegal.org/ttp-community-property).

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# Appeals Court Hearing Date Announced For Prop 8 Appeal

by Boyce Hinman

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has announced that it will hear oral arguments regarding Proposition 8 on Monday, December 6 starting at 10:00 a.m.

The court will be considering at least two issues: do the proponents of Proposition 8, and the County of Imperial among others, have standing to be heard in the appeals court? Also, did Judge Vaughn Walker err when he decided that Proposition 8 is void because it violates the U.S. constitution?

The hearing will be held at The James R. Browning U.S. Court House, 95 7th St. in San Francisco. October 18 was the deadline for all groups supporting Judge Walker's decision (overturning Proposition 8) to submit briefs

in support of the Judge's decision, and about 30 groups have submitted briefs on the issue. These include a diverse group of supporters of marriage equality from within the LGBTI community, such as; Equality California, National Center For Lesbian Rights, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and Lambda Legal, among others. Many advocacy groups from outside the LGBTI community submitted briefs also have

submitted briefs in opposition to Proposition 8, as did many law groups and organizations in the health professions. California Communities United Institute has put copies of these briefs on their Web site, and you can read them at [www.calcomui.org/prop8courtdocs](http://www.calcomui.org/prop8courtdocs). The most recent links to the documents begin with the date "10-26-10."

Boyce Hinman is the founder of the California Communities United Institute. He can be reached at [b.hinman@calcomui.org](mailto:b.hinman@calcomui.org) or [calcomui.org](http://calcomui.org)

## Don't Ask, Don't Tell to End Next Year?

by Boyce Hinman

A three Judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has issued a stay of U.S. District Court Judge Virginia Phillips' order to immediately terminate "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," effectively allowing the government to continue enforcing DADT and to continue proceedings against any current service members who have violated DADT.

On October 12, Phillips ordered the Pentagon to immediately terminate DADT, which it has been using to discharge openly lesbian or gay members of the U.S. Armed Services. In her final order on the issue, Judge Phillips refused the government's request to stay her order pending any appeal that the government might make to a higher court. Among other things, Judge Phillips said it was unlikely that her opinion would be overturned by the appeals court. However, the appeals court decision on Nov. 1 contradicted Judge Phillips' assumption that the government was unlikely to win on appeal. It noted that "the district court's analysis and conclusions are arguably at odds with the decisions of at least four other Circuit Courts of Appeal."

In other words, the appeals court was claiming that four other U.S. Courts of Appeal have ruled in favor of DADT. The 9th U.S. Court of Appeals gave two other primary reasons for putting Judge Phillips' order on hold until the appeals court has had time to fully consider the issue. First of all, it said the courts have traditionally assumed that acts of Congress are constitutional. When considering requests to stay orders that overturn an act of Congress, appeals courts have traditionally "accorded great weight to the decisions of Congress."

They add that, "These principles do not mean, of course, that the individual rights guaranteed by our Constitution have no place in this calculus, but they do counsel careful consideration before final judgment." In addition, the three judge panel said that this deference to acts of Congress is at its highest level in Congressional acts under its authority to raise and support armies. The panel asserted that "Courts are ill-suited to second-guess military judgments that bear upon military capability and readiness." The panel said it tended to agree

The panel asserted that "Courts are ill-suited to second-guess military judgments..."

2011. The answering brief, from Log Cabin Republicans, who sued to overturn DADT, is due February 22, 2011. The government can reply to the Log Cabin Republicans' brief, if it does so, that reply must be delivered to the appeals court no later than 14 days after the Log Cabin Republicans' answering brief. "The Ninth Circuit's decision to extend the stay is disappointing," said Sacramento Valley Veterans President Tyson Redhouse. "We cannot let this sway our determination to see this costly policy repealed, though. If anything, this development emphasizes the need to begin contacting our leaders to start taking more assertive steps in taking out this policy." It is worth noting, however, that now that the Republican Party has taken control of the U.S. House of Representatives, it is highly unlikely that the House of Representatives will enact legislation overturning DADT.

The Democratic controlled House did pass such a bill earlier this year, but that bill was never approved by the U.S. Senate. All legislation, of the current session of Congress, not passed by both houses of Congress, and signed by the President, dies at the end of this year. So, an entirely new bill would have to be approved by both houses of Congress. You may read a full copy of the appeals court's stay of Judge Phillips' order at [www.calcomui.org/nwsflash110210.html](http://www.calcomui.org/nwsflash110210.html), then click on the link at the bottom of the web based version of this article. Boyce Hinman is the founder of the California Communities United Institute. He can be reached at [b.hinman@calcomui.org](mailto:b.hinman@calcomui.org) or [calcomui.org](http://calcomui.org)

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# Out & About

## Team Faces Captures First SVG&L Softball Title

With some great hitting and strong fielding, Team Faces defeated The Bolt in a preliminary faceoff, and then went on to defeat Badlands in the finals, winning the first ever Sacramento Valley Gay & Lesbian Softball Championship. The games were played Saturday Nov. 6, at Roosevelt Park. Plans for the 2011 season are already in progress and you can meet and congratulate many of the players on Dec. 6, when they will be the beneficiaries of Drag Queen Bingo at hamburger patties.





# Election 2010: The Winners and the Losers... *by Charles Peer*

There is no denying or sugarcoating the fact that Democrats, the party most in tune with LGBT voters, took a shellacking this Election Day. Of course, many LGBTs are Republicans, so for them, it is mostly smiles.

As you probably know by now, the Republican Party has recaptured the House, and Democrats have barely held onto the Senate.

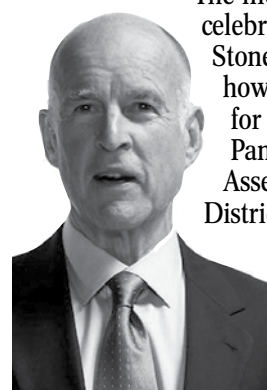
In California, and in Sacramento, there is much to cheer for though, as candidates who support LGBT issues have been highly successful. Barbara Boxer, a longtime LGBT rights supporter has been returned to the Senate, and Jerry Brown has been elected Governor, defeating Meg Whitman who vowed to appeal the federal court decision overturning Prop. 8. SF Mayor Gavin Newsom, who is best known

as a marriage equality leader, has been elected Lt. Governor, returning the state's top offices to democrats.

Democrats also did well in other state offices, handily winning all, although as we go to press, Kamala D. Harris has not been officially called the winner in the Attorney General's race. Of particular note is the election of staunch LGBT rights supporter, and former Sacramento Assemblymember and City Council member Dave Jones as Insurance Commissioner.

Many candidates supported by the Sacramento Stonewall

Democrats did well with Roger Dickinson easily being elected to the 9th Assembly District and Darrel Steinberg handily winning reelection to the 6th Senate District. The most



celebrated win for Stonewall, however, was for Dr. Richard Pan for the 5th Assembly District. Stonewall president Chris

Our next Governor, Jerry Brown

Moore led a strong effort to elect Pan and defeat Andy Pugno, the chief architect of Prop. 8 who also co-led the legal team defending the measure in federal court. Pugno lost an Assembly seat held by his party for decades.

West Sacramento's openly gay mayor, Christopher Cabaldon, easily won reelection. Both of Stonewall's endorsed candidates for

Sacramento City Council, Patrick Kennedy and Ryan Chin, lost. However, Jay Schenirer, winner in District 5 and Darrel Fong, winner in District 7, are both strong LGBT rights supporters and both narrowly missed winning Stonewall's endorsements.

**ELECTION 2010**  
*continues on page 26*

## CCAF's Love Lab Rolls Into UCD



The Capital City AIDS Fund (CCAF) recently delivered a rolling condom dispenser cart to the Health Education and Promotion division of the UC Davis Student Health Services Department. The cart, dubbed the "Love Lab," will be taken to various locations on the UC Davis campus on a weekly basis to distribute free condoms and lube to students, and will be staffed by students wearing white lab coats to go along with the "college lab" theme. Pictured above with the "Love Lab" are (l to r) Jason Spitzer, MPH and Polly Paulson, MPH, MA with the UC Davis Health Education and Promotion division; as well as Joyce Mitchell, Chair; and Ted Ross, Board Member; with the CCAF Ross, along with project team members Ivan Islas and Eric Jensen designed and built the "Love Lab." CCAF's Prevention and Education Program donated the cart, valued at \$3,500, to UC Davis. The "Love Lab" will distribute approximately 125,000 free condoms to students annually, in an attempt reduce HIV and STI infections as well as unwanted pregnancies.

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# Prenup Demonstrates Sincerity, Not Doubt

by Bonnie Osborn

Fifty – remember that number. That’s the advice Jane Ryan, attorney and CEO of SacPrenup.com, offers anyone, gay or straight, who is thinking of getting married.

“Everyone thinks their marriage is going to be different,” Ryan says. “Maybe it will be, and let’s hope so, but the odds are not with you.” And she’s right: The U.S marriage rate is 6.8 per 1,000 people; the divorce rate is 3.4 per 1,000. That translates to 50 percent of marriages that end in divorce.

Fifty also is the percentage of ownership rights each partner will, at the time of the marriage, begin to obtain in the other’s assets – whether owned at the time of marriage or acquired afterwards.

“What many people don’t realize,” Ryan warns, “is that the term ‘assets’ includes any increases in value, including the equity in your home – whether you put your partner’s name on the title or not!”

The term also applies to interest on savings accounts, IRAs, 401Ks, business profits and inventory. Unless, that is, you agree ahead of time to divide things up differently in a prenuptial agreement.

Ryan, who has over 15 years experience in family and divorce law, decided to shift her focus exclusively to prenuptial (and post-nuptial) agreements after witnessing the extremes of emotion and pain that usually go along with divorces and custody battles. Two years ago, she launched SacPrenup (SacPrenup.com) with the conviction she could offer couples a way to avoid a lot of conflict and pain.

“People could save themselves so much grief if they would only agree beforehand how they were going to divide up their stuff in the event the marriage doesn’t work out,” she says. “The time to do this is while they are still feeling good about each other, not during a divorce procedure. At that point, you have anger, resentment, revenge – all kinds of high-level, negative emotions. Especially if you are faced with losing half your stuff and having to pay your ‘ex’ spousal

support every month for years. The only ones who truly benefit from this process are the divorce lawyers.”

Although, anecdotally, the number of couples who enter prenuptial agreements seems to be growing, couples deeply in love and in the throes of wedding planning all too often resist the idea of a prenuptial agreement, Ryan says.

“Some clients say, ‘it’s like we’re planning to get a divorce,’” she says. “But that’s like saying that if you get car insurance, you’re planning to have an accident, or if you get life insurance, you’re planning to die. Even if you never have a car accident, think of the incredible amount of anxiety you would experience every time you get behind the wheel if you didn’t have it. Prenups are similar, in that they provide a significant degree of peace of mind when entering in the legal relationship of marriage.

“If you’re committed to making the marriage work, and the marriage lasts, then the prenup never comes into play,” Ryan continues. “The prenup only



Jayne Ryan, attorney and CEO of SacPrenup.com.

becomes a factor if the relationship fails. So if you truly believe your marriage will be one of the 50 percent that succeeds, you don’t have anything to worry about.”

But if one person is willing to enter a prenuptial agreement but the other objects, that should throw up a red flag, Ryan says. “Personally, I would question that person’s motives,” she says. “Are

they sincere, or are they only going to ride it out for a while to see what they can get out of it financially?

“A prenup is more a show of faith and sincerity than the opposite.”

Some couples also have the


**PRENUP**  
*continues on page 26*

## Outword Salutes Sacramento’s Rainbow Chamber of Commerce


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# Author/Activist Marc Adams To Discuss LGBT Youth Suicides

“Ever so lightly, I ran the edge of the blade across my left wrist. This one, I thought to myself, would be for my failures. Switching hands, I ran the blade across my right wrist. This one would be for being gay.”

Marc Adams' autobiography, *The Preacher's Son*, begins with this riveting journey through the darkest moments of his life, moments that he will share at an upcoming presentation in Sacramento.

Adams has made recent presentations at Harvard University and Rutgers University amidst a national surge in reported suicides of LGBT youth. For Adams, the stories of LGBT young people taking their own lives is a common occurrence.

“Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth are four times more likely to consider suicide than their heterosexual counterparts,” Adams says. “I was almost one of those statistics. When you are in that place of darkness where you cannot see your heart in your own hand, it seems the only escape is to disappear.”

After a lengthy journey to self-acceptance, Adams founded a nonprofit social justice organization appropriately named HeartStrong to make every possible effort to

reach GLBT students from religious educational institutions. Adams is an award-winning author of nine books including, *Do's and Don'ts of Dealing with the Religious Right* and *It's Not About You: Understanding Coming Out & Self-Acceptance*.

“Hope is everything,” Adams says. “I will spend the rest of my life offering that hope to GLBT persons so maybe one day we won't have to hear stories like the

“... I believe hope and human kindness can change everything.”

story of Tyler Clementi. When Tyler and the others died, someone lost a son, someone lost a best friend and someone lost their future. I have set the pattern of my life to inspire others to offer hope, too. I believe hope and human kindness can change everything.”

Adams will bring that hope to Sacramento at a presentation titled



Author/Activist Marc Adams to discuss LGBT youth suicide on Nov. 16.

*Hope Needs Only Hands & Hearts*, on Monday, November 15, at 7 p.m. at the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral at 2620 Capitol Ave. The presentation is open to the public and is free.

The presentation is being hosted by the Sacramento chapter of Integrity, the Sacramento G&L Center, CGNIE, FACES, the Sacramento chapter of PFLAG and Atheist and Other Freethinkers. For more information about Heartstrong, visit [www.heartstrong.org](http://www.heartstrong.org)

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# Big Changes in Store for Oscar Night Sacramento

The Capitol City AIDS Fund, the host of Sacramento's annual Oscar Night Sacramento, is making some big changes to this year's event, including a spectacular new site, a new Hollywood Walk Area with passed appetizers as well as the traditional sit-down dinner, a theatre seating area and live entertainment.

*Outword* sat down with Michael Sestak, who is chairing the event with honorary co-chair Chevo Ramirez of Wells Fargo Bank, to find out more.

"We're going to change it up quite a bit," Sestak said. "Were not going to go back to the hotels where we have traditionally been. We are going to be at the 2020



Gateway Oaks Building in Natomas, a brand new 12 story office tower, and we will have complete use of the twelfth floor for the event."

The new space will give the event over 24,000 square feet of space to use, about 10,000 square feet more than they have had in the past.

"So, we've got a lot of room, and people will love the view from twelfth floor, it's beautiful," Sestak said. "And no parking problems – there will be plenty of free parking on site."

The twelfth floor is completely enclosed in glass, offering majestic views of downtown, north to the airport and Sutter Buttes, and on a clear day, east to the Sierras. The

& Co. who is returning this year as emcee.

Guests will then take one of the three elevators up to the twelfth floor where they will be treated to several innovative changes.

Once upstairs, guest will find a VIP Reception Area, The Hollywood Walk Area, which will feature passed appetizers to guests, a more formal dining area, the silent auction area, and several bar stations. New this year, there will be a Theatre Area, where guests

can get away from the crowds and watch their favorite nominated songs in a little more of a quiet area.

"We're trying to have something for everybody," Sestak said.

The Hollywood Walk Area will help do that. It will feature passed appetizers, convenient bar stations, and plenty of screens to watch the Oscar's – and will be a great area for mingling.

There will also be a sit down dining area as in years past, that will feature a full dinner and also have screens to watch the action from Hollywood.

The cost of the sit down dinner will be \$125 with sponsored tables of 10 going for \$1,250. The



rooms are not finished and will be bare concrete floors with open ceilings showing the air and heating elements, giving an industrial air to the event.

The first floor lobby is finished however, and plans are for the traditional Red Carpet entrance to be there, with all the fanfare that has made the event a special treat, including be greeted by Guy Farris, the popular emcee from past years and host of News10's Sacramento

OSCAR  
continues on page 27

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# Le Beaujolais Nouveau est Arrivé!

The party to celebrate the release of the 2010 Beaujolais Nouveau is a global phenomenon, and the good news is you don't have to be French to join the party and celebrate the release of this famous wine!

Officially released for sale on the third Thursday of November each year amid much fanfare and excitement, the race is literally on to get the first bottles of the vintage to Paris and other markets. And then the party starts all around the world!

Beaujolais Nouveau (Boe-zho-LAY new-VO) is a young fun and not-too-complex wine. Fermented



**Annabel Lee at the Fête du Beaujolais Nouveau 2009. Photo by Pico van Houtryve**

for just a few weeks, this wine is made from the gamay grape, and by law, these grapes must be harvested by hand and grown in the Beaujolais region of France.

Fruity and without tannins, Beaujolais Nouveau is meant for drinking six to eight weeks after harvest and generally should not be kept for more than a year. About half of all Beaujolais Nouveau produced is exported; Germany and Japan are the primary markets, followed by the U.S.A.

Historically, Beaujolais was a simple regional harvest wine produced for local consumption. In 1951, The French Union Interprofessionnelle des Vins du Beaujolais formalized the official release date as the 15th of November and the name Beaujolais Nouveau was made official.

French vintner, and entrepreneur Georges Duboeuf, saw the potential for marketing Beaujolais Nouveau and profitably reducing his inventory of ordinary wine. His idea was to create a race to Paris carrying the first bottles of just released Beaujolais Nouveau.

This attracted growing media coverage and by the 1970s the race had become a national event. In the 1980s more races gained popularity in countries throughout Europe.

Next to join the fun, the United States and Asia jumped in. In 1985, the date was changed to the third Thursday in November. In the U.S. this release provides perfect timing to promote Beaujolais Nouveau for Thanksgiving. Everywhere around the world, from Singapore to Sacramento, the November release of Beaujolais Nouveau provides an excuse to party in fun French style.

Right here in Midtown Sacramento and open to the public, the Fête du Beaujolais Nouveau will be celebrated Saturday, November 20 at the unique midtown venue Antiquité Maison Privée from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Guests will enjoy music, wine, hors



**Marc Feldman, Executive Director of the Sacramento Philharmonic, at the Fête du Beaujolais Nouveau 2009. Photo by Pico van Houtryve**

d'oeuvres and meet several local celebrities. A silent auction featuring items with French flair will benefit the Alliance Française de Sacramento and its building fund.

Hosting the event, the Alliance Française de Sacramento is a nonprofit organization that promotes the French language and culture. The first Alliance Française was established in Paris in 1883. Currently there are more than 1,100 branches worldwide. The Sacramento chapter has over 600 members and offers more than 20 French classes for all levels as well as cultural and social events.

Cost for the Fête du Beaujolais Nouveau gala fundraiser is \$25 for Alliance Française members; \$30 non-members; and \$35 at the door. A complimentary glass of Beaujolais Nouveau is included.

For further information, or to purchase tickets or provide Silent Auction donations please contact the office of the Alliance Française de Sacramento at 916-453-1723 or visit [afdesacramento.org](http://afdesacramento.org)

# Faith Is on Our Side

by Tania Torres

On August 4, U.S. District Court Judge Vaughn Walker issued a landmark ruling when he overturned Proposition 8 and lifted the ban on marriage equality in California in the case *Perry vs. Schwarzenegger*.

Celebrations and wedding ceremonies, however, were quickly put on hold when the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals stepped in and temporarily invalidated Walker's ruling until they, too, could review the case and determine whether or not Proposition 8 was constitutional.

Now, Californians must wait until December 6, 2010, when the court will hear the appeal before marriage equality in California will be revisited by the legal system.

Knowing that much too often faith is used as an argument to deprive equality, faith leaders throughout California rallied together to actively advocate for equal justice under the law.

Last month, more than 700 clergy and congregations added their names as supporters of California Faith for Equality's amicus brief which states that the principles of religious liberty and human dignity support Chief Judge Vaughn Walker's order invalidating Proposition 8.

California Faith for Equality's brief urges the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to affirm Judge Walker's landmark ruling which extends marriage to everyone.

In 2007, California Faith for Equality filed a similar interfaith amicus brief which was the only brief cited in the landmark decision that granted same-sex couples the right to marry.

Just as they did in 2007, faith leaders are speaking up in support of marriage equality and asking that all families be valued and protected under the law.

The fight isn't over. But, we have faith on our side. California Faith for Equality along with its 700 faith leaders and congregations will continue to speak out until there is an end to discrimination and LGBT families have their rights upheld.

*Tania Torres is Sacramento Region Organizer for California Faith for Equality*

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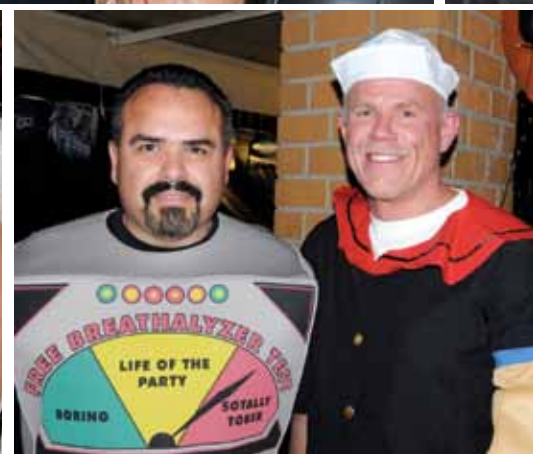
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# Out & About

## Halloween 2010 - Soldiers, and Damsels & Co





# ons - Oh My!

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# Out & About

## DQB For SG&L Center Was All Treats!

There were pirates and cowboys, damsels and ladies of the night, and convicts and cops, but they all came together to help Rusty Nails and Hamburger Patties raise \$1,033 at *Outward's* Drag Queen Bingo on Wednesday, Oct. 27. Thanks to the continued generosity of you bingo-players DQB has now raised \$23,683 for local charities and non-profits. And these folks know how to party, so join in on the fun at the next DQB on Wednesday, Nov. 10, the day before Veterans Day, to benefit the Sacramento Valley Veterans!



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# Harvest Festival Offers Handmade American Arts and Crafts

Each fall, residents from the greater Sacramento area get the chance to support individual American artists and find one-of-a-kind handcrafted gifts, often at bargain prices at the Sacramento Harvest Festival.

This year's Sacramento Harvest Festival will be held November 19 through 21 at Cal Expo. The Harvest Festivals are the largest indoor art and craft shows on the West Coast featuring over 24,000 American handmade items. Hundreds of vendors from across the United States will join together to exhibit and sell jewelry, pottery, original art, toys, photography,

handcrafted items. Today, the shows still celebrates the creative, entrepreneurial spirit and its unique shopping and entertainment atmosphere continues to thrill customers from all over California and beyond. Each exhibitor is subject to a stringent jury process to be selected as a featured artisan, assuring that only the highest quality products



James Garner (in black) and the Cash Tribute Band are one of the many groups that will be providing non-stop entertainment at this year's Harvest Festival.

textiles, bath and body products, clothing, home décor and more. Plus, select specialty food vendors will be providing food samples of delicious dips, fudges, olive oils, scones, marinades, jams and more, right in time for Thanksgiving. The Harvest Festivals began 38 years ago in San Francisco and originated as a marketplace for artists to congregate and sell their

will be offered at the show, and only items that are made in the USA are allowed entry. Many attendees love interacting with the renowned artists who create each individual item, watching live crafting demonstrations and getting their purchases personalized. In addition to the extensive shopping, the Sacramento Harvest



Hand turned wood gifts from Art Majerus, the Sawdust man, are always popular.

Festival also offers live music and entertainment throughout the entire day. Cash Tribute will be appearing in several sets each day, covering the hits of "The Man in Black" with conviction and accuracy. Crowd favorites Tom Rigney and Flambeau will break out their fiery fiddling, as well several songs off their new album, *Serious Fun*. There also will be strolling entertainers that roam the aisles and treat guests to songs and performances. For the second year in a row, the Sacramento Harvest Festival has joined forces with the Elk Grove Community Food Bank to assist the non-profit with obtaining food donations. Anyone who brings a non-perishable food donation to the event will receive a \$2 off admission coupon. Don't miss your only chance this

year to experience a full weekend of shopping, entertainment, food and fun at the Sacramento Harvest Festival. The Sacramento Harvest Festival Original Art and Craft Show runs November 19-21 at Cal Expo, 1600 Exposition Dr. It opens each day at 10 a.m. and closes at 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 5 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$9 for adults (\$7 for 62+); \$4 for youth 13-17; and kids 12 and under are free. For tickets and additional

information, call 415-447-3205 or visit [www.harvestfestival.com](http://www.harvestfestival.com)

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# Community Profile

by Bonnie Osborn

## Billy's Tree Farm A Fun Holiday Experience

In December 1999, shortly after the death of his father, Billy, Paul Weubbe made a visit to neighboring Davis Ranch to buy a Christmas tree for his mom. Much to his surprise, the drive-through tree farm was completely sold out – and it was only the second week of December.

Later that day, as Weubbe and his seven siblings sat talking around the kitchen table at the family home, the idea for Billy's Farm was born. "We said obviously there's more demand out here than our neighbor (Davis Ranch) can keep up with. What can we do that won't duplicate what they are doing, that is different and unique?" Weubbe recalls.

The answer was to create an

entire holiday experience. Every weekend, from opening day on Friday after Thanksgiving, through Dec. 19, visitors to Billy's Farm can take a hayride; see goats, sheep, chickens, rabbits and horses; shop for handmade ornaments, wreaths and garland; and enjoy complimentary hot cocoa and cider. "We shake every tree, net every tree, load it and tie it onto the car for you. We do all the extra



Billy's Farm owner Paul Weubbe under the big oak tree that has watched over four generations of Weubbe family members.

features," Weubbe says. "We are really about the destination."

William "Billy" and Star Weubbe, Paul's parents, bought the 40-acre property in eastern Sacramento County 45 years ago. The family raised sheep and cattle until the early 1990s. "My parents had the

livestock to keep us kids out of trouble," Weubbe says. "It worked for me."

The rolling 17-acre field where some 18,000 Christmas trees grow today was originally a hay field, devoid of trees save a 350-year-old valley oak that marks the entrance. "It's kind of the grand oak of this forest," Weubbe says of the massive, gnarled old tree. "We wanted to celebrate this tree's life."

Weubbe spent a year attending workshops and doing research before the first seedlings were planted in December 2000. The farm uses drip irrigation and no chemical fertilizers or herbicides. "We are the only certified organic Christmas tree grower west of the Mississippi," Weubbe says. Billy's Farm also is one of only five growers in Northern California that cultivate the hypoallergenic Leland Cypress, a tree developed in Florida that does not drop needles and is dust- and allergen-free.

The farm features a generous variety of trees, including Monterey Pine, Monterey Cypress, Arizona Cypress, Bishop Pine, Scotch Pine, Sierra Redwood and Incense Cedar. Several additional cut varieties, including Fraser Fir, Nobel Fir, Douglas Fir and Nordmann Fir, are trucked in from Oregon just before Thanksgiving. Weubbe tries a few new varieties each year. "Now that we are on growing year ten, there is a good mix," he says.

Although the sales season is only a month long, work on the tree-farm is year-round. The wet and cold of January and February are ideal for planting – "ideal for the trees, not so great for the guy who's out there planting," Weubbe says. Each tree is hand-sheared with a machete blade to perfect its cone shape in April, mid-summer and fall.

Billy's Farm opened to the public in 2003. Several structures were

added – a chicken coop and pens for the farm animals that are brought in for the holidays, a small barn for wreath-making and a larger barn that houses ornament-making, face-painting, kids crafts, and the cider and cocoa bar.

"Most of my nieces and nephews have worked on the farm," Weubbe says. "Their grandmother definitely wants to be able to offer that up to the kids. Everyone's got a little different role. It's given us as a family a nice opportunity to come back together a couple of times a year, but it's not an overtaking business."

Billy's Farm also serves as a community gathering place and an affordable venue for non-profit organizations or special events. In summer, a parklike open area provides an idyllic space for weddings or picnics.

Each year, Weubbe, a Rainbow Chamber of Commerce board member, donates a portion of tree sales to local charities such as the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center and has hosted several events at the farm for Capital City AIDS Challenge and CGNIE. Special needs children, 4H groups and school groups work or volunteer at the tree farm and participate in special events there.

Weubbe hopes Billy's Farm will become a cherished holiday tradition for the Sacramento community, just as it has been for the Weubbe family.

Billy's Farm's Organic Cut and Choose Trees are \$5.50 per foot, all varieties. They are open weekends, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Dec. 19, and they are having a free kids day on Dec. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Farm is located at 8430 Dillard Road, in Wilton, CA 95693 and can be reached at 916-687-8354 or visit them online at [www.billysfarm.com](http://www.billysfarm.com).

### Our Bountiful Thanksgiving Buffet

Thursday, November 25  
Served 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

*Breakfast closes at 10 a.m.*

Slow Roasted Prime Rib with Garlic & Herbs  
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Veal Marsala

Wild Mushroom Ravioli with Sage & Garlic Cream Sauce  
Grilled Salmon with Red Wine Butter Sauce & Grapes

Steamed Jumbo Snow Crab  
Coconut Fried Shrimp  
Chilled Seafood Display

Harvest Pumpkin Soup  
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Green Bean Casserole

Honey Baked Acorn Squash  
Candied Yams with Marshmallows  
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# Entertainment

by Chris Narloch

## Ease on Down the Road with *The Wiz*

I haven't had a chance to see their production yet, but I will definitely be attending a performance of *The Wiz*, the soulful reworking of the beloved story *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum, currently at the 24th Street Theatre courtesy of Runaway Stage.

The 1975 musical took Baum's classic story and gave it a contemporary, urban spin, complete with pop, soul, and disco elements, and an all-black cast. The result was surprisingly successful and won seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Score and Best Choreography.

*The Wiz* features a book by William F. Brown and music and lyrics by Charlie Smalls, including the songs "Ease on Down the Road," "Home," and "Everybody Rejoice (Brand New Day)."

Rarely produced since a disastrous 1978 film version that starred Diana Ross and Michael



Jackson, *The Wiz* is a musical treat that deserves to be seen and heard live on stage.

*The Wiz* plays through November 21 at the 24th Street Theatre. For more information, visit [www.runawaystage.com](http://www.runawaystage.com).

## *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest* Plus New Movies at the Tower & IMAX

by Chris Narloch

Sacramento is lucky to still have several area movie theaters showing less commercial titles that don't necessarily make it to the multiplex – films such as *I Am Love* and *Winter's Bone*, two of the year's best and both now out on DVD.

The Varsity Theatre in Davis, along with the Crest and the Tower here in Sacramento, continue to offer many of the more intriguing cinematic efforts on local screens.

In addition to detailing upcoming movies at those locations, I also review the new Robert Downey, Jr. comedy, *Due Date*, and let you know about the latest animated release getting the IMAX treatment.

### Fair Game

Already generating Oscar buzz and one of the year's most highly anticipated films, Academy Award winners Naomi Watts and Sean Penn star in this suspense-filled political thriller. Based on the notorious Bush-era scandal that exposed the identity of covert CIA agent Valerie Plame and adapted from her best-selling memoir, *Fair Game* centers on the controversial motivation behind her dismissal and the subsequent fallout that threatened to destroy her family and jeopardized the lives of her contacts overseas. *Fair Game* opens



A scene from "The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest"

November 12 at the Tower.

### Inside Job

Academy Award nominee Charles Ferguson (*No End In Sight*) directs and Academy Award winner Matt Damon narrates this shocking exposé about the worldwide financial meltdown of 2008. Through interviews with major financial insiders, politicians and journalists, *Inside Job* traces the rise of a rogue industry and unveils the corrosive relationships that corrupted politics, regulation and the global economy.

*Inside Job* opens November 12 at the Tower.

### The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest

Fans of Stieg Larsson's hugely popular trio of books have been waiting patiently for their latest fix of goth-girl kink and feminist

revenge fantasy.

As the final film of the *Millenium Trilogy* opens, Lisbeth is recovering in a hospital and awaiting trial for three murders. After she is released, Mikael must prove her innocence. Meanwhile, Lisbeth is plotting her own revenge against the people who framed her.

*The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest* is now playing at the Crest in Sacramento and is currently scheduled to open at the Varsity in Davis on November 12.

### Megamind

Dreamworks animation presents this satirical take on the superhero genre focusing on a down-and-out supervillain (voiced by Will Ferrell) who has to learn how to get his groove back when he's left without

NEW MOVIES  
continues on page 22

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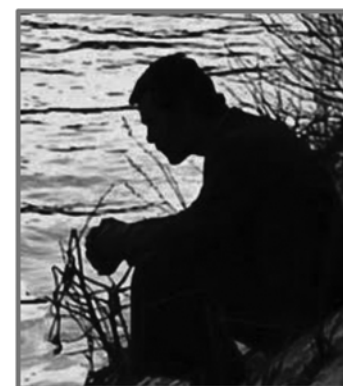
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### DID YOU KNOW?

- Between 2005 and 2008, more than 1,000 California veterans under 35 committed suicide
- About 950 veterans attempt suicide every month and 18 die everyday
- Of the 30,000 suicides that occur in the U.S. every year, about 20% , or 6,000, are committed by veterans
- Suicide does not discriminate between age, race, gender, or sexual orientation; it affects veterans from ALL eras



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# Entertainment

## Something *Wicked* This Way Comes

Although not everyone can come and go by bubble, *Wicked*, is finally floating into Sacramento and will soon be casting its spell over long waiting fans.

*Wicked* is set to make its Sacramento premiere starting May 23, 2012 for a four week run ending June 17, 2012, as part of the 2011-12 Broadway Sacramento season presented by California Musical Theatre at the Community Center Theatre. The complete 2011-12 Broadway Sacramento season will be announced in April 2011.

The winner of 35 major awards, including a Grammy Award and three Tony Awards, *Wicked* is the untold story of the witches of Oz, based on the best-selling 1995 novel by Gregory Maguire.

Long before Dorothy drops in, two other girls meet in the land of

Oz. One – born with emerald green skin – is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. *Wicked* tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good.

Music and lyrics are by Stephen Schwartz (*Godspell*, *Pippin*, Academy Award winner for *Pocahontas* and *The Prince of Egypt*) and the book is by Winnie Holzman (*My So Called Life*, *Once And Again* and *thirtysomething*).

The musical is directed by two-time Tony Award winner Joe Mantello (*Take Me Out*, *Love!*

*Valour! Compassion!*, *The Vagina Monologues*) and features musical staging by Tony Award winner Wayne Cilento (*Aida*, *The Who's Tommy*, *How To Succeed...*).

*Wicked* has “cast quite a spell” (*Washington Post*) throughout North America, breaking box office records in every city that it has played, including Toronto, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and Boston to name a few.

Called “a cultural phenomenon” by *Variety* and named “the defining musical of the decade” by *The New York Times*, *Wicked* continues to thrill audiences around the world. There are currently seven productions of *Wicked* worldwide, including two North American tours, a Broadway production, London production, a Japanese-language production, a German-



language production and Australian production. A Dutch-language production of *Wicked* will open in 2011.

For more information about *Wicked* log on to [www.wickedthemusical.com](http://www.wickedthemusical.com) or [calmt.com](http://calmt.com)

## B Street Theatre Premieres Three Shows for the Holidays

The B Street Theatre is presenting three new shows for the holidays, two for adult audiences and the return of Junie B in an all new treat for the young at heart.

### Northport Cottage

For the 15th time in B Street's 19-year history, an original play will be presented for the holidays. This year's offering is entitled *Northport Cottage*, written by B Street Producing Artistic Director, Buck Busfield.

*Northport Cottage* follows the journey of desperate Kellin Delahanty as she careens towards her past to better understand her present. Her literal destination is the small Lake Michigan cottage she visited summers and winters as a child. Her figurative destination stretches beyond the confines of time.

*Northport Cottage* will feature three B Street Acting Company members all familiar to B Street audiences. Dana Brooke will play the role of Kellin Delahanty. Kurt Johnson as her travel mate. Venerable Mitch Agruss will appear as numerous characters throughout the play. Buck Busfield will direct.

*Northport Cottage* opens Nov. 14 and runs through January 2.

### Well

Also playing for the holidays is *Well* by Lisa Kron, a metatheatrical exploration of health and illness, both in the individual and in a community.

The play is driven forward by the narrator, Lisa, whose plan to present a performance piece about sickness and healing instead goes off the rails as the other performers question her version of events. The more things fall apart, the more they come together.

*Well* will feature B Street company

member Elisabeth Nunziato as the storyteller Lisa, and New York-based actress Polly Adams as Lisa's mother, Ann and will be directed by B Street Associate Producer Jerry Montoya.

*Well* opens Nov. 20 and plays through Dec. 4.

### Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!

The kids will also have their turn, as the B Street Theatre's Family Series opens its seventh season with *Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!*, based on the popular children's book series *Junie B. Jones*, by Barbara Park.

In this adventure, the precocious and persistent Junie, in her efforts to create a perfect holiday celebration, is challenged by her nemesis: the equally mischievous and willful Tattletale May.

*Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!* is adapted for the stage by veteran children's playwright Allison Gregory, whose adaptation of Dr. Seuss's *Go Dog Go!* was produced as part of B Street's 2008-2009 Family Series Season. The B Street Family Series previously produced *Junie B. Jones* and *a Little Monkey Business* to overwhelming box office success in 2007.

*Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!* will feature Stephanie Altoltz Megan O'Neill, and company member David Pierini. Michael Stevenson directs.

*Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!* opens Nov. 20 and plays through Dec. 26.

For show dates and times, visit [www.bstreettheatre.org](http://www.bstreettheatre.org).



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## Plays for Days in the Big Apple

I recently spent a week checking out the latest theatrical offerings in Manhattan. Next issue, I'll have my reviews of the musicals I saw, including *Million Dollar Quartet* with Levi Kreis as Jerry Lee Lewis, Sean Hayes and Kristin Chenoweth in *Promises, Promises, Fela!* featuring Patti LaBelle, and a new revival of *La Cage aux Folles* starring Kelsey Grammer.

This article covers the plays I saw while in New York, including a new drama starring Laura Linney and Christina Ricci, the latest laugh-fest from drag artist Charles Busch, and a queer comedy with the timely title, *My Big Gay Italian Wedding*.

### Time Stands Still

I first fell in love with Laura Linney when she played Mary Ann Singleton in the 1994 television adaptation of Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*. Linney has been doing stellar work ever since, on television, in films and on stage, right up to her excellent work on the current Showtime series, *The Big C*.

I don't know how the actress finds time to squeeze theater into her busy cable television and film careers, but she shows up about once a season on Broadway, and I had the opportunity to see her in this play, an intriguing drama about a news photographer (Linney) who returns home from Iraq with physical and emotional scars.

Linney's excellent performance isn't the only reason to see the play. Brian d'Arcy James is equally compelling as her lover, a writer who feels overshadowed by her success. Eric Bogosian and Christina Ricci also impress as the May-December couple whose happier romance provides a contrast to the troubled central relationship between the characters played by Linney and James.

The divide between the jaded perspective of Linney's character and the wide-eyed innocence of Ricci's feels at times rigged, but when playwright Donald Margulies sticks to the painful reality of the



Joanna Lumley (*The Princess*), Mark Rylance (*Valere*) and David Hyde Pierce (*Elomire*) in *La Bête*.

relationship between the main couple played by Linney and James, *Time Stands Still* is riveting theater.

*Time Stands Still* is currently selling tickets through January 23, 2011 at the Cort Theatre on West 48th Street.

### The Divine Sister

Charles Busch is renowned for his drag artistry, especially in New

York theater circles, where he has honed his acting and writing skills for the last 25 years.

You might know Busch from his role as the cross-dressing inmate during the third and fourth seasons of *Oz*, and he has also appeared on the big screen in the film adaptations of his plays, *Die, Mommie, Die!* and *Psycho Beach Party*.

*The Divine Sister*, in which Mr.

Busch plays a Mother Superior who will do just about anything to keep her convent afloat, is a return to form for the multi-talented performer, who hit it big in 1984 with the wonderfully wacky *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*.

*The Divine Sister* has the same gleefully irreverent tone and charm of that celebrated show, and Busch has assembled a first-rate cast, including Julie Halston and Alison Fraser, who have a field-day with his loony characters and plot.

The main reason to see this delightful, off-Broadway show, however, is for Busch himself. The actor's expressive face can morph from a beatific smile to a mask of horror in a nanosecond, and his crazy comic spirit is allowed to run free in this campy, funny spoof of nun movies.

*The Divine Sister* is currently selling tickets

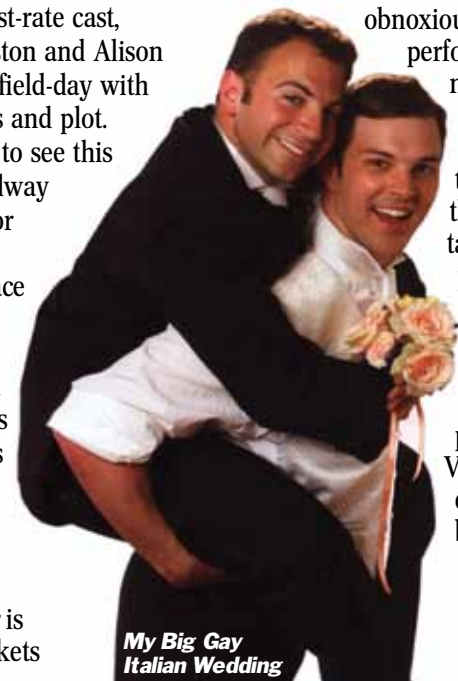
through January 2, 2011 at the Soho Playhouse, 15 Vandam Street.

### La Bête

An actor's showcase, *La Bête* provides three talented performers the opportunity to sink their teeth into an uneven but entertaining couple of hours of theater. The beast of the title is an unbelievably obnoxious street performer

named Valere who is a thorn in the side of the more talented playwright, Elomire.

Mark Rylance stars in the plum role of Valere, who enters belching,



My Big Gay Italian Wedding

**THEATRE**  
continues  
on page 22

## Escape from Happiness Makes Sacramento Debut

The Quinns are a familiar but eccentric, working-class family trying to protect each other from drugs, alcohol, random acts of violence, police corruption and (semi) organized crime in their impoverished neighborhood. Your typical family.

Their plight is captured in *Escape From Happiness*, a raucous dark comedy by celebrated playwright George F. Walker, that will be presented by Sacramento's Elly Award-winning theatre company, KOLT Run Creations this holiday season.

Hopeful mother Nora (stage veteran Martha Kight) and her mysterious husband Tom (Patrick Murphy, Elly winner for KOLT's *Crime and Punishment*) depend on the help of their three daughters (Jessicah Neufeld and Elly Award winners Kellie Raines and Kelley Ogden) to save the family from collapse. Rounding out the stellar cast are local favorites Andrea Guidry, Jeffrey Lloyd Heatherly, Ben Moroski, Justin Muñoz and Jeff Webster.

A former taxi driver, playwright

George F. Walker's corrosively satirical viewpoint on modern urban culture has produced a prolific, and successful body of work, with many critics describing his plays as "spoken opera."

*The New York Times* raved, "Mr. Walker takes once radical techniques right to the edge, to the very risky brink, but stops short of despair. If *Escape From Happiness* – telling, terrific title – does not care about how the truth can ruin your day, it's because the play is concerned with more important things, like changing our lives."

"There is as much catharsis and power to be found in great comedy as there is in great drama," said director Lisa Thew. "It felt very right to explore that territory during the holidays with a show about a family and that mysterious



glue that holds us together."

*Escape From Happiness* will be performed at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings from November 19 through December 19, and at 2 p.m. on Sundays on Dec. 5, 12 and 19, at the Ooley Theater, 2007 28th St. in midtown Sacramento.

Tickets are \$15 general

admission and \$12 for seniors/students/SARTA members. Tickets can be purchased through the company Web site, www.KOLTRunCreations.com. This production is made possible through the generous support of Uptown Studios, *Outword Magazine*, and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission.



# The Secret of Sweet

by Chris Narloch

I wasn't able to review it before we went to press, but I will definitely be driving over to San Francisco's American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.) to see the highly anticipated new play by Tarell Alvin McCraney, *Marcus; or The Secret of Sweet*.

Described as a "poetic and moving exploration of identity and acceptance," the play is set in a housing project days before Hurricane Katrina strikes. *Marcus* centers on a young black man, passionately seeking out his sexual and personal identity on a cultural landscape infused with mysterious family creeds.

Directed by A.C.T. Associate Artistic Director Mark Rucker, the production is a West Coast premiere and provides the final installment of McCraney's acclaimed trilogy, *The Brother/Sister Plays*, which launched the first-time, three-theater partnership



between A.C.T., Magic Theatre and Marin Theater Company.

*The New York Times* calls McCraney's work "a new, authentically original vision ... It's what people must have felt during productions of the early works of Eugene O'Neill in the 1920s or of Sam Shepard in the 1960s."

*Marcus* plays through November 21 at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. Tickets, starting at \$10, are available by calling the A.C.T. Box Office at 415-749-2228 or at [www.act-sf.org](http://www.act-sf.org).

## New Movies

continued from page 19

an arch nemesis.

Funny lady Tina Fey and Jonah Hill fill out the rest of the voice cast in this comedy from directors Cameron Hood and Kyle Arthur Jefferson.

*Megamind* is now playing in IMAX 3D at the IMAX on K Street in Sacramento.

### Due Date

If you've longed to see a dog masturbate on the big screen, your prayers are answered, and the new odd couple road movie *Due Date*, starring Robert Downey, Jr. and Zach Galifianakis, is definitely the film for you.

I didn't know dogs could use their paws for that purpose, so perhaps *Due Date* is really an instructional film. What it isn't, is a good movie, unless you desire to see a sentimental, inferior and unofficial remake (rip-off?) of *Planes, Trains and Automobiles*,



the odd couple road movie from 1987 that starred Steve Martin and the late John Candy.

Downey, Jr. (slumming) plays an uptight businessman who is kicked off a plane – thanks to Galifianakis – and then joins the obnoxious would-be actor on a cross-country drive so that he can attend the birth of his child and Galifianakis' character can knock on Hollywood's door.

Ever since I first saw the doughy Galifianakis spilling out of his

jockstrap in *The Hangover*, he has been an acquired taste that I have not yet acquired. Many people find him hilarious, however, and he appears to be having a gay old time playing an oddly swishy slob.

Downey, Jr. nearly saves the film with his amusingly cranky verbal riffs and disgusted double takes, but the entire venture is so predictably familiar that all I could think as this 95-minute road movie dragged on and on was how badly I wanted to take a detour.

## Theatre

continued from page 21

farting, spitting and suffering from 'diarrhea of the mouth,' much to the dismay of his rival, the quietly seething Elomire, played to perfection by David Hyde Pierce.

The great Joanna Lumley (Patsy from *Absolutely Fabulous*) provides regal support as the princess who comes between the two men, and director Matthew Warchus leads the cast through their comic paces.

David Hirson's play falls apart in the last half when it tries to get serious about the battle between low-brow and high-brow art. Before that happens, however, this Broadway revival is a very funny battle of wits between Rylance (who gives a tour de force performance) and Hyde Pierce.

*La Bête* is currently selling tickets



*Italian Wedding*, I wasn't expecting Shakespeare, although this hit off-Broadway comedy does aim for the same low-comic zeal that is a part of many of the Bard's best comedies.

If it does not succeed in getting there, that is partly the fault of the play's director, Teresa A. Cicala, who directs with a jackhammer when a sledgehammer would have sufficed.

The plot involves a "nice Italian boy" named Anthony who decides to marry the man of his dreams. Comic chaos ensues after Anthony breaks the news to his parents, who want a traditional wedding with a Catholic priest (good luck).

Artistically-speaking, *MBGIW* is not exactly a breakthrough in the American theater. The script is a rather sorry soufflé of clichés and stereotypes about gays and Italians, and the quality of the acting ranges from surprisingly good to "well, at least they remembered their lines."

On the plus side, the show does have an unrelentingly gay-positive heart and a hardworking cast, who are willing to do anything for a laugh.

*My Big Gay Italian Wedding* is currently playing an open-ended run at St. Luke's Theatre on West 46th Street.

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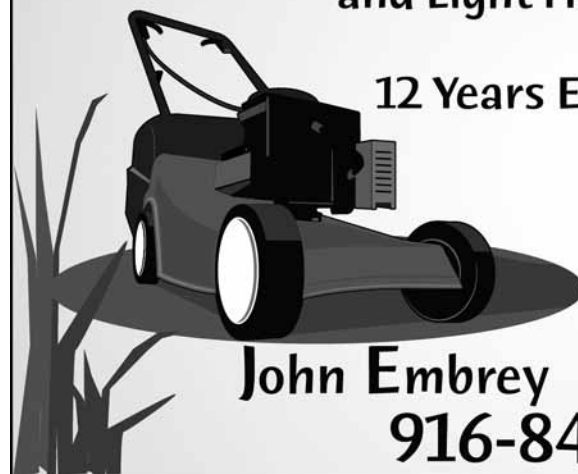
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# Calendar

## Nov.

compiled by Charles Peer

### Thursday, 11

#### 20 SOMETHING

Join this group for 20 Somethings for friendship, discussions and events. 8 - 9 p.m. Main room, Sac G&L Center, 1927 L St. Info: 916-442-0185 SacCenter.org

### Friday, 12

#### OUTWORD HAPPY HOUR

It's time to get all Fabulous And Gay at the Depot, with drink specials, good friends, fun and a chance to win tickets to see Cher's and Christina's new movie, *Burlesque*. 5:30 - 7 p.m. The Depot, 2001 K St. Info: 916-441-6823 www.TheDepot.net

#### LGBT VETERANS NIGHT OUT

Round off Veteran's Day week with dinner and dancing as the Sac Valley Veterans rally at the Depot for happy hour (5 p.m.), followed by dinner at Head Hunters (6:30 p.m.) and cap off the night with some dancing at Badlands. Info: 916-436-7676 SacLGBTVeterans.org

#### QUEER YOUTH GROUP

Join this group for young LGBTers, meeting in a supportive environment. 8 - 9:30 p.m. Main

Six Flags Discovery Kingdom with live entertainment including Jessica & Hunter & DJ sensations the Perry Twins. Plus all the rides and fun. 6 - 11 p.m. Vallejo & I-80. Info: SixFlags.com/DiscoveryKingdom

#### CLUB SAPPHO

A night for women with DJ dancing -door proceeds benefitting local LGBT groups. 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Club 21, 1119 21st St. Info: 916-806-6117

### Sunday, 14

#### COLD CANYON HIKE

Explore UCD's Stebbins Cold Canyon Nature Preserve, plus breathtaking views along Blue Ridge. Be in shape for this rather strenuous 1200 ft. elevation gain and rough up-and-down trail along the ridge top. Hiking boots required. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-379-0724

#### SACRAMENTO PRIME TIMERS

Men 50+ (and their friends/ admirers) are invited for brunch and conversation. Noon. Head Hunters, 20th & K St. Info: Ray, 916-263-9219 PrimeTimersSacramento.com

### Monday, 15

#### SAC VALLEY VETS MEETING

Join this LGBT veterans and active duty group for their monthly meeting and get

#### WEST SIDE CABARET

Members of the touring cast of *West Side Story*, and special guests Erich Bergin and Wesla Whitfield, in a special cabaret performance to benefit SF AIDS services. 7:30 p.m. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter St. SF. Info: 415-273-1620 www.HelpIsOnTheWay.org

### Tuesday, 16

#### RCC MIXER

Join Sacramento's LGBT business community for their monthly mixer, socializing and networking. 6 - 8 p.m. Hosted by Lumens Light + Living, 2028 K St. Info: RainbowChamber.com

#### PFLAG SACRAMENTO

Support group for parents and friends of LGBT. 7:30 p.m. St. Marks UMC, 2391 St. Marks Way. Info: pflagsacramento.org

### Wednesday, 17

#### VETERANS SUICIDE PREVENT

The Sacramento Valley Veterans host a seminar focused on veterans and suicide prevention, with speaker Janet Lial, the local VA's Suicide Prevention Coordinator. All veterans welcome. 6:30 - 8 p.m. Trinity Episcopal Church, 2620 Capitol Ave. Info: 916-436-7676 SacLGBTVeterans.org

### Friday, 19

#### BOLT GEAR NIGHT

Whatever your gear is - from leather to sports - put it on for this night dedicated to you and hosted by the SVL. Bolt Bar, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com

#### LAVENDER ROSE

The wacky moments of this play may lack reverence but never lacks the commitment to the understanding that God is all there is. Info: www.csasacramento.org

#### HARVEST FESTIVAL

American handmade and original art, crafts, ceramics, jewelry and more from over 200 artists, plus non-stop entertainment. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. 11/19 - 11/21 Cal Expo. Info: 800-346-1212 HarvestFestival.com



#### Jeanine De Bique, soprano

The native of Trinidad served as Artist-in-Residence with the Basel Opera in Switzerland, where she performed as Kate Pinkerton in *Madame Butterfly* and Barberina in *Le nozze di Figaro*. 8 p.m. Sat. 11/20 & 2 p.m. Sun. 11/21. Mondavi Center, UCD. Info: 866-754-2787 MondaviArts.org.

#### FASHION GIVES BACK

Christopher Collins from Project Runway hosts a fashion show featuring designs by Armani, Derek lam, Haute Hippie, Collins and more, to benefit Capital City AIDS Fund. 8 p.m. - midnight. \$45. Lounge on 20, 20th & K. Info: SisterBrotherStyle.com

#### Q-DEAF

An LGBT Deaf social and peer led support group that provides social and emotional support, safe-sex education, information and referrals for LGBT Deaf. 5 - 7:30 p.m. Sac G&L Center, 1927 L St. Info: 916-442-0185 SacCenter.org

### Saturday, 20

#### LGBT SQUARE DANCING

Capital City Squares is celebrating their 29th Anniversary, with dances for all levels and are inviting all dancers to join them. Todd Fellegly of Meriden CT, will be the caller. 7 - 10 p.m. Bell Avenue School, 1900 Bell Ave. Info: www.iagsdc.org/capitalcity

#### SOUTH LAKE TAHOE WALK

Enjoy a day exploring the Tallac Historic Site near South Lake Tahoe and shopping at the annual Valhalla Holiday Craft Fair. Musical groups will perform and mulled wine, cider and other goodies will be available. Experience Lake Tahoe in the quiet of November. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-481-2757.

#### FÊTE DU BEAUJOLAIS

Celebrate the release of this year's harvest with music, wine, hors d'oeuvres and a Silent Auction to benefit the "Maison de la France" Building Fund. 6 - 9:30 p.m. Antiquité Maison Privée, 2114 P St. Info: 916-453-1723 afdesacramento.org

#### THE TITANS

The Camellia Symphony presents works by Bach, Beethoven and Mahler, plus a free wine tasting and holiday silent auction (6 p.m.), Camellia Junior Orchestra performance (6:30 p.m.) and a pre-concert talk by Maestro Allan Pollack (7:15 p.m.) 8 p.m. Memorial Auditorium. Info: 916-929-6655 CamelliaSymphony.org

### Sunday, 21

#### AMERICAN RIVER BIKING

Meet at the middle of the bridge at William Pond Recreation Area. Dress for the cold, wear a helmet, and bring money for brunch in Fair Oaks Village. Rain will cancel. 10:30 a.m. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-359-8076

#### FRESH SF T-DANCE

DJ phil b spins the hottest new dance tracks. 6 p.m. to midnight. 420 Mason St., SF. Info: FreshSF.com

### Wednesday, 24

#### BUTTERBALL

Tom. T. Butterball is throwing a night before Thanksgiving Party, and promises "hotties" everywhere. 9 p.m. Badlands, 2003 K St. Info: 916-441-6823

### Thursday, 25

#### THANKSGIVING DINNER

Tired of sitting at the kids' table? Can't face another year of Mom's dry turkey and lumpy gravy? Then join your friends for a delicious, complimentary Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings! Doors open at 5 p.m. The Bolt, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com

The Word is out.



#### Paul Taylor Dance Company

Taylor is considered to be one of the greatest living choreographers, whose work combines "the subtlety of ballet with the spontaneity of everyday gesture" (PBS). 8 p.m. Sat. 11/13. Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center, UCD. Info: 866-754-2787 MondaviArts.org.

room, Sac G&L Center, 1927 L St. Info: 916-442-0185 SacCenter.org

### Saturday, 13

#### BEARS' THANKSGIVING

Join the Sacramento Valley Bears for a special Thanksgiving dinner. Bring a dish to share. 4 - 7 p.m. Info & Location: SacBears.org

#### J.U.N.G.L.E. AT SIX FLAGS

Forget the initials, it's Gay Day at

together. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. The Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. Info: 916-436-7676 SacLGBTVeterans.org

#### HANDS & HEARTS

Author and activist Marc Adams looks at youth suicide because of bullying in his presentation *Hope Needs Only Hands & Hearts*. Free. 7 p.m. Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 2620 Capitol Ave.



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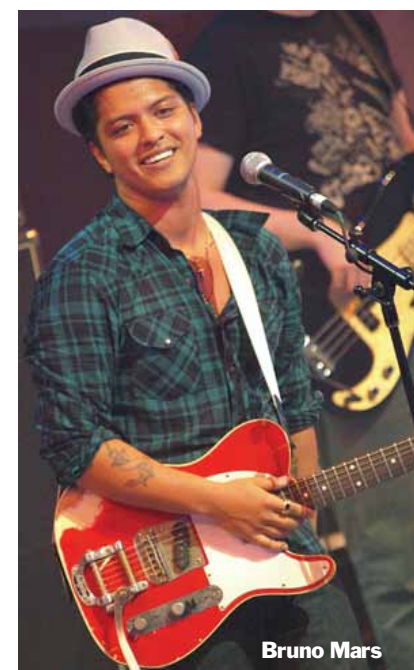


# A 21st Century "Soul Sister" on CD Plus Two "Soul Brothers" Reviewed

by Chris Narloch

Music lovers old enough to remember the '60s and '70s often look back with nostalgia on the period when Motown, Philly soul and Stax Volt singles filled the radio with sweet soul music.

After that era of classic rhythm-and-blues, hip-hop and rap music became the dominant modes of musical expression. Lately, things have begun to swing back to yesteryear, when artists such as Aretha Franklin and Marvin Gaye defined popular music and did it with soul.



Bruno Mars

John Legend has a righteous, retro-soul collaboration with The Roots just out, and the pop-soul sensation Bruno Mars recently released a dynamite debut disc. Also reviewed, the latest CD from soul queen Leela James.

## John Legend & The Roots Wake Up!, Columbia Records

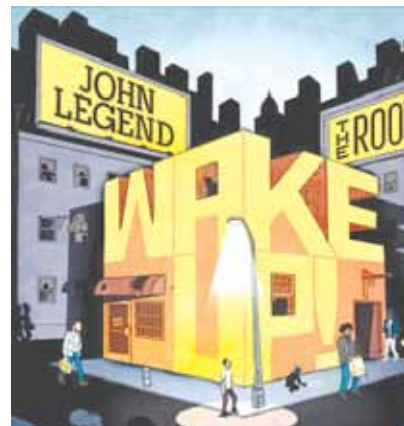
Aside from the occasional and effective use of rap on a few of its songs, *Wake Up!* sounds like it could have been recorded during the fertile period in the early '70s that spawned such classic soul albums as Marvin Gaye's *What's Going On*.

An inspired collaboration between the hip-hop collective (and house band for Jimmy Fallon's talk show) The Roots and the smooth soul crooner John Legend, this CD features 11 stellar cuts.

Stand-outs include the nicely updated remake of the call to action from Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes that gives the CD its

title and similarly sterling covers, of Donny Hathaway's "Little Ghetto Boy," Gaye's "Wholy Holy," and Bill Withers' epic, anti-war song, "I Can't Write Left Handed."

## Leela James My Soul, Stax



I was unfamiliar with this powerful, young soul singer, who has a wonderfully throaty voice that reminds me of Mavis Staples and Gladys Knight. *My Soul* is Leela James' third CD and her first for the revived Stax Records, a label that all but invented modern soul music.

James' beautiful, husky vocals are a perfect fit for fabulously funky tracks such as "Supa Luva," "I Ain't New to This," "So Cold," and "It's Over," as well as a sexy duet with Raheem DeVaughn on "Mr. Incredible - Ms. Unforgettable."



Leela James

## Bruno Mars Doo-Wops & Hooligans, Elektra

The day after I caught this gifted, 25-year old singer/songwriter's sizzling appearance on SNL, I purchased his debut disc, and I have listened to it about a dozen times since then. "Doo-Wops and Hooligans" is one of the best pop-soul CDs of the year.

Mars, who was raised in Hawaii and is of Puerto Rican and Filipino descent, had already made a name for himself as a guest vocalist and co-writer on the hits "Nothin' on You" by B.o.B. and "Billionaire" by Travie McCoy.

His new material on *Doo-Wops*, including the smash hit "Just the Way You Are," the incredibly catchy "Grenade," and a funny track entitled "The Lazy Song," is even better.

In fact, almost every cut on this CD sounds like a hit, which is a rare achievement these days.



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misperception that prenuptial agreements are only for the rich and famous, but, to Ryan, the opposite is true.

“Having a prenup is actually more important for the average person,” Ryan says. “It hurts a lot more to give away half of a little than half of a lot – or having half of your retirement taken away, for example. Here you were thinking, ‘Oh boy, I can retire in five years,’ and then a divorce comes along, and you find out you can’t quit for another 10 years or more. I’ve seen it happen, and it’s heartbreaking. I think having a prenup should become common practice for all couples – pick out your ring, pick up your prenup.”

When it comes to same-sex couples, community property law makes no distinction between gay and straight, Ryan says. “A judge is going to look at how long the couple has been together, who makes the most money, how are

Before entering a prenup, it’s important that each party have his or her own attorney review the document...

they going to split things up. There is a high likelihood that the

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Outword magazine

# Pink Wiggled Transsexual Wins U.K. Scrabble Crown

You won’t find the word “transsexual” in the official online *Scrabble Dictionary*, but you will find the word “obeisant,” and that is all that Mikki Nicholson needed to win this year’s U.K. Scrabble Championship.

Nicholson earned her gesture expressing deferential respect, such as a bow or curtsy, along with £1,500 (\$2,405) in prize money by outplaying Mark Nyman who has won more than 20 major Scrabble contests, including the World Championship.

The 32-year-old from Cumbria in northwestern England won the title in style, competing in a pink wig and matching ensemble (it was Halloween, after all) and said she was described by a psychologist as a woman trapped in a man’s body.

Nicholson said that he has been playing Scrabble for only about five years, learning the game on the internet. She won the championship in a best of five game series played Oct. 31 in London.

“A good Scrabble player is intuitive. They also need to be good with numbers,” Nicholson told the BBC. “People think Scrabble is just about words, but it’s the numbers that win the game so a sound mathematical brain is an advantage.”



Nicholson said that she will spend the prize money on a trip to Malaysia next month to compete in the Causeway Scrabble Challenge. “I’m thrilled to have won, and I can’t wait to celebrate.”

higher-earner partner will be ordered to pay spousal support to the lower-earner partner. How long and how much depends on several factors, including the length of the marriage.”

Couples should also be aware that they cannot include child custody or child support issues in their prenup. Those situations are decided by a judge on a case-by-case basis, focusing on what is in the best interest of the child at the time.

Before entering a prenup, it’s important that each party have his or her own attorney review the document, preferably an attorney who is experienced not only in family law, but with prenuptial

agreements; otherwise, you run the risk of having extremely important matters overlooked, Ryan says.

Ryan recounts having recently reviewed a prenup for a doctor who was soon to be married. The prenup had been prepared by a corporate attorney where her fiancé worked.

“What jumped out at me immediately was that the agreement did not make any mention of her professional practice. She was so excited about getting married that it never occurred to her that her husband-to-be would begin to acquire an ownership interest in her medical practice beginning on the day of their marriage. When I brought this to her attention, she looked like a deer caught in the headlights. That’s the kind of thing that comes with having experience with these matters.”

What if you already got married without a prenup and now regret it? “It’s not too late,” Ryan says. “It’s just called a post-nup instead of a prenup, but it can accomplish the same objectives.”

For more information about prenuptial and post-nuptial agreements and Ryan’s services, visit [www.SacPreNup.com](http://www.SacPreNup.com) or call 916-213-6182.

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## Election 2010 continued from page 9

Stonewall also supported David Larson and Neil Pople for the Roseville City Council and Mary Hernandez for School Board District 2, who were unable to capture wins. Stonewall aggressively campaigned for Hernandez, hoping to elect the only openly gay candidate in Sacramento County.

Nationally, the National Center for Transgender Equality is celebrating the elections of Victoria Kolakowski, who has become the nation’s first elected openly transgender judge, and Kim Coco Iwamoto, who has won reelection to her seat on Hawaii’s Board of Education.

LGBT candidates also won many races and David Cicilline of Rhode Island has been elected as the fourth openly gay member of the House of Representatives, joining Reps. Barney Frank (MA), Tammy Baldwin (WI) and Jared Polis (CO) on the Hill.

Even though no state had voters weighing in on a same-sex marriage ballot issue in the elections, in Iowa, whose State Supreme Court overturned anti same-sex marriage laws, Justices David Baker, Michael Streit and Marsha Ternus lost their bids for retention to the court.

In New York, Democrat Andrew Cuomo won an overwhelming victory against Republican Carl Paladino, who came under fire in October for making anti-gay comments. Additionally, Eric Schneiderman, a longtime supporter of the freedom to marry, was elected as New York’s next Attorney

General.

In Rhode Island, Lincoln Chafee, the independent candidate for Governor who pledged to lead the charge in bringing the freedom to marry to Rhode Island, won his race. In Maryland, Martin O’Malley, who pledged to sign a bill bringing the freedom to marry to the state, won his bid for reelection and voters also reelected Attorney General Douglas F. Gansler, who penned the important Attorney General’s opinion concluding that Maryland should honor out-of-state marriages celebrated by same-sex couples, including those from next door in the District of Columbia.

In Minnesota, Democrat Mark Dayton, who campaigned in support of the freedom to marry, is leading against Republican Tom Emmer, but a recount is in progress. Dayton’s lead comes after a flood of funding for Emmer from anti-gay groups across the country, including NOM, which ran a series of ads in the state, and corporate funding from companies like Target.

In New Hampshire, Governor John Lynch, who signed a freedom to marry bill last year, won his bid for reelection. And in D.C., all of the city council members who voted for marriage equality last year were reelected.



Gavin Newsom has been elected Lt. Governor,



Hollywood Walk Area will be \$75. "We're really trying to capture a new, younger crowd, and we think that will allow a nice option for people to come in and stroll and visit without having to sit down at a table, it will feel more like a lounge area."

All of the food service will be catered, with the food preparation being done on a lower floor and brought up in an express elevator.

There will also be an Ultra Lounge for the \$10,000 and up sponsors that will feature a premium bar and food that will accommodate 20 people, and be divided up into five areas for each group.

"Local designers will come in and trick out those spaces, as well many of the other areas," Sestak said.

Another big change this year will be the way the Oscars are shown on the televisions. In past years, when the Oscars broke away for commercials, emcees would rush to the stage and fill the breaks.

"We think that has been a little distracting in the way that it occurs," said Sestak. "So instead, this year we are going to pre-produce video segments that will be "thank-yous" for sponsors, educational moments from CARES and other AIDS charities letting everyone know what they do for the community. It's all going to be

seamless so that the party atmosphere of watching the telecast is essentially uninterrupted."

Live entertainment for this year's Oscar Night will feature Debora Iyall, the front women for the 1980s band Romeo Void. Iyall is known for her passionate vocals and provocative lyrics, alternating between a good time party girl one moment and a woman bravely baring the most intimate details of her soul the next.

One of the evening's most popular attractions has always been the silent auction, and that will return this year with tables spread out throughout the room.

"The great news is that we have this building for one week prior to the event," Sestak said. "That will give us plenty of time to make it a beautiful evening. It will also allow us to control costs more and to return more of the money raised to the AIDS agencies and service providers who so need the funding."

Oscar Night Sacramento will be held on Sunday, Feb. 27, with the Red Carpet beginning at 4 p.m. and the actual telecast starting at 5 p.m.

Volunteers to help with the evening are more than welcome, as are donations for the Silent Auction. For more information, visit [www.capcityaidsfund.org](http://www.capcityaidsfund.org)

## Service Honors Those Lost Through Violence and Suicide

Nearly 300 people attended a Service of Remembrance on Sunday, Nov. 4, at St. John's Episcopal Church to remember and honor the victims of violent crimes and those lost to suicide. The twelfth annual event was sponsored by a coalition of community groups and featured a variety of spiritual expressions. Impassioned presentations were given by members of the clergy and Senate President pro Tempore Darrel Steinberg, and Wendy Rae Hill and Jovi Radtke recounted their own struggles with suicide in moving presentations.



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