

Volume 24 • Issue 1 • No. 424 • January 13, 2011  
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magazine

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Nat. Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce  
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# Letters

## Help Make Prom Night Special for LGBT Youth

Dear Outword,

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center's 3rd Annual Queer Youth Prom will take place on Saturday March 26th, 2011 at the Clunie Community Center, conveniently located in McKinley Park in beautiful East Sacramento.

The Queer Youth Prom is a self-esteem building social event that annually attracts approximately 200 young people ages 13 - 20 from all over the Greater Sacramento Area.

Many queer identifying and ally youth do not attend their own school social events, like proms and other dances, because of harassment, bullying and in some cases non-friendly faculty and administrations.

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center is committed to providing a safe, alcohol and drug-free, social space for young adults to experience the enjoyment of a traditional high school prom and where they are comfortable in their own environment.

To avoid the costs of this event being passed on to the youth in attendance, the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center relies on donations to underwrite the costs associated with The Queer Youth Prom.

Donations, or in-kind donations of snacks, drinks, gift certificates, and miscellaneous prizes for door prizes are all welcome. Monetary donations received will be used to pay for the costs of such things as room rental, catering, music, entertainment, photographer and decorations.

For information on how you can help, please contact Kyle via email at [gsaoutreach@saccenter.org](mailto:gsaoutreach@saccenter.org) or phone at 916-442-0185.

**Kyle Bodolay**  
**GSA & Queer Prom Coordinator**

## SGMC Is Auditioning New Members

The Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus is about to resume rehearsals after their holiday break. On Thursday, Jan 13 SGMC will resume rehearsals for the second half of their 26th anniversary

season.

Alumni members and prospective new members are invited to join during the month of January.

Rehearsals are held at First United Methodist Church at 2100 J Street from 7:00-9:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings. New members are encouraged to arrive by 6:30 p.m. for vocal placement and introductions.

The spring show is entitled *One For The Road*. This concert will be presented in Sacramento on April 29, May 13 and May 14, in Loomis on April 30, in Stockton on May 1 and in Davis on May 15.

The music will feature songs about traveling on the open road of life, from drag racers to drag queens, and promises to be a lot of fun.

For more information, leave a message at 877-283-1567 or visit [SacGayMensChorus.org](http://SacGayMensChorus.org)

## Workshop Looks at the Trees of McKinley Park

Master Arborist, Susan Sims, will be discussing plant biology and offering a prescription for park canopy health and well-being at a free tree care workshop to learn about caring for the trees of McKinley Park, on Saturday February 5, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Clunie Community Center, 601 Alhambra Blvd.

Weather permitting, Sims will provide a tour of McKinley Park's trees of significance. This workshop is ideal for frequent visitors to the park, local residents, and those interested in arboriculture or mature tree care.

The workshop is free, but limited to 50 guests. Please contact the Sacramento Tree Foundation to RSVP. 916-924-8733 or [supportus@sactree.com](mailto:supportus@sactree.com).

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# Falsely Convicted Texas Lesbians May Finally Get Justice

The four women, all friends, didn't stand a chance. It was 1994 in Texas. They were young, poor, mostly Latina – and gay. It was easy to accuse them of raping little girls. It was barely harder to convict them.

However, an in-depth feature article in the *San Antonio Express News* documenting serious flaws in the trial and convictions of the four lesbians accused of sexually abusing children is offering new hope.

The women have steadfastly maintained their innocence and The National Center for Reason and Justice, a non-profit legal and advisory group for the falsely accused and wrongfully convicted, is much encouraged by prospects that they may yet be freed.

Three of the women were only 19 and the fourth was 21 when they were accused, in 1994. Elizabeth Ramirez was sent to prison in 1997 and the others were convicted the next year.

According to NCRJ, the medical evidence was invalid and should not have been admitted, and the case was poisoned with homophobia and hysteria, including beliefs about non-existent "satanic ritual abuse."

The NCRJ sponsored this case for over two years and worked with the Innocence Project of Texas, which recently accepted the case for appeal.

"The public has been too long unaware of this grave miscarriage of justice," said NCRJ Director Debbie Nathan, who has organized support for the women in Texas. "We hope that the exposure in the *Express-News* will be followed by the national attention the case deserves."

Read the story: "Did These Women Molest Two Girls?" by Michelle Mondo of the *San Antonio Express News* at [OutwordMagazine.com](http://OutwordMagazine.com).

# Faith Matters: Not All Mormons are the Same

by David Greer

During the Christmas season, Christians celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ by giving gifts as a token of remembrance for their Savior, and many hearts were led to reflect on a message that Jesus brought to the world: "...Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (Matt. 22:39)

As a Mormon youth, I was taught to treat others the way I would like to be treated – the golden rule – but I began to realize that this rule was often applied unequally. Gay people, for instance, did not somehow merit the full benefits of the "Do unto others" policy.

At no time was this more evident to me than during the Proposition 8 campaign. I am disturbed by this discrepancy. I am ashamed of many Mormons who engaged in hateful and ugly behavior in reaction to opponents of Prop 8.

I find it so senseless, so violent, and so against the spirit of Jesus. I was also deeply saddened that some in the LGBT community responded in a similar manner.

In the wake of Prop 8, I found myself in a terribly uncomfortable place. I was a member of two groups between which there was tremendous enmity: the Mormons

and the gay community. Being in this place caused me to think about how this antagonistic relationship could be changed. The task of reconciling people from two groups that seem to intensely dislike one

I found other Mormons that shattered the stereotypes I had about Mormons....

another seemed almost insurmountable.

But then I began to see exceptions. I found other Mormons that shattered the stereotypes I had about Mormons (some of whom were in my own family). I also met LGBT folks that did not share my stereotypes about Mormons. Suddenly the possibility of reconciliation became much more palpable.

Perhaps the most striking part of this change in my perception was

being faced with the ugly truth that I was carrying a prejudice about both gay people and Mormons. This attitude was distorting my outlook of the situation and limiting my view of what was possible.

My prejudice precluded the possibility that individuals on either side were willing to see things differently or make the effort necessary to change. I held this prejudice despite the fact that I, myself a Mormon, had challenged my own ideas about same-sex relationships.

This intense period of personal growth ultimately led to my identification as a straight ally. If I was able to do this, why not others?

So even though Christmas has passed and the New Year is upon us, if you happen to meet a Mormon, I hope you will remember Jesus' message to "...love thy neighbor as thyself." And in the spirit of Christmas, please consider giving the gift of possibility – the possibility that not all Mormons are the same.

David Greer is a Mormon by birth and a straight ally by choice. He is a Marital and Family Therapist intern working out of Roseville.




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# Exciting Developments On Prop 8 Appeal

commentary by Boyce Hinman

The U.S. 9th District Court of Appeals has just released two very interesting documents on the appeal of a lower court's decision that overturned California's Proposition 8.

In one document it ruled that Imperial County lacks legal standing to appeal the lower court decision. That seems to leave only the people who put the proposition on the ballot (called the proponents) as the only significant remaining appellants in the case.

If the appeals court decides that these proponents also lack standing, then the appeal would be over at that level, although the supporters of Proposition 8 would probably appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The second document dealt, in a novel way, with the question of whether or not the proponents have standing. In that document, the appeals court asked the California Supreme Court to rule on whether or not the proponents of Proposition 8 have legal standing under California law to appeal a lower court ruling overturning the proposition.

Interestingly, the 9th U.S. Appeals Court agreed to be bound by the decision of the California Supreme Court on this issue.

The Appeals Court document went on to say that if the California Supreme Court said the proponents do not have legal standing, then the Appeals Court would not address

whether or not the decision overturning proposition 8 was correct.

In that case, Proposition 8 would remain invalid, unless the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the ruling invalidating the proposition. It remains to be seen whether or not the California Supreme Court will have further hearings, with testimony, on this issue.

In the second document, the appeals court refused to grant legal standing to appeal to: The County of Imperial; The Imperial County Board of Supervisors; and The Deputy Clerk of Imperial County.

The court said, to have legal standing and appellant must:

1. Demonstrate a significant protectable interest affected by the case.
  2. Demonstrate that a decision in the case might affect the appellant's ability to protect that interest.
  3. Submit their appeal in a timely manner.
  4. Demonstrate that any other appellants are unlikely to adequately represent their interests.
- The court also added that "An applicant's failure to satisfy any one of the requirements is fatal to the application." It then went on to say that none of the above applicants had demonstrated a "significant protectable interest" in the case. On this point it noted that the

County Clerk might have had a protectable interest, but the Clerk had not appealed the lower court decision and no evidence was presented that the Clerk had authorized the Deputy Clerk's request to intervene in the case.

The Deputy Clerk had also claimed a significant interest

protectable interest in that it has responsibility for ensuring that county clerks and their deputies faithfully perform their duties including those related to marriage.

However the court noted that Boards of Supervisors have authority, under local charters, to control actions of Clerks and

marriage licenses. The rules for that are determined by state law, not local charters or laws.

In addition, the appeals court said the specific duties of the Supervisors are not affected by the decision overturning Proposition 8. Therefore, they have no significant protectable interest.

Then the court dealt with the separate appeal by the County of Imperial. The county had said it has an interest because promoting opposite sex marriage reduces the need for social services funded by county government.

However, the county failed to make this claim in the lower court hearing on the case. Furthermore the county failed to submit any data to the appeals court substantiating this claim of financial costs. The court said the burden of proof is on the appellant in this situation. Absent such proof the appeals court must rule against the county.

So, the next step is to await action of the California Supreme Court in response to the question that has been sent to it.

**PROP 8**

*continues on page 22*



Cartoon courtesy of [www.fritziess.com](http://www.fritziess.com).

because she would be bound by the injunction of the court in this case. But the appeals court responded that county clerks, not their deputies would be bound by such injunctions, and the County clerk was not appealing on this basis.

The appeals court had the following to say about the request of the Imperial County Board of Supervisors to intervene. It noted that the Board claimed a significant

Deputy Clerks on local issues, but they have no power to direct those employees to do one thing or another regarding the granting of

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# Word on the Street

## What Would Your New Year's Resolution Be for Someone Other Than Yourself?

Asked at Badlands' Anniversary Party



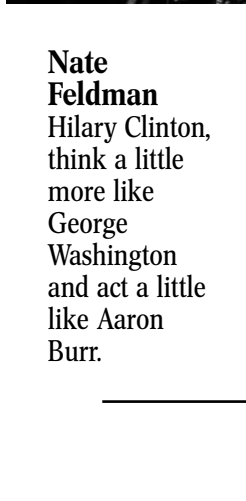
**Jason Pettit**  
To my friends  
– do what  
you didn't do  
last year.



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Jeff R., keep it up!



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and act a little  
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**Mare Stele**  
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**Jon Benorden**  
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# Chuck the Chick?

Change.org is reporting that Chick-fil-A, one of the fastest growing fast-food companies in the country, is serving up far more than just chicken sandwiches, joining up with the Pennsylvania Family Institute to sponsor a February event aimed at preserving “biblical” marriage and denouncing marriage equality for same-sex couples.

“The Pennsylvania Family Institute (PFI) has been the leading voice in the Keystone State against same-sex marriage,” said James Eden, Director of Organizing for Gay Rights for Change.org. “They have argued for a constitutional amendment banning gay couples from getting married. They’ve said that same-sex couples harm civilization. They’ve even stated that for same-sex couples to consider themselves married would be like a dog considering its tail a leg.”

It’s not the first time that Chick-fil-A has been connected to anti-gay groups. In years past, the business also partnered with Focus on the Family, the Colorado ministry founded by Rev. James Dobson. Focus on the Family labels homosexuality a disorder, supports “conversion therapy” for LGBT people, and once said that same-sex marriage would be a bigger

disaster than Pearl Harbor.

As one of Focus on the Family’s state affiliates, the Pennsylvania Family Institute is attempting to pass a constitutional amendment in the state banning same-sex marriage.

“Chick-fil-A’s endorsement of PFI’s event legitimizes their campaign and threatens the civil rights of every LGBT person in Pennsylvania – and across America,” said Eden. “It’s time to get Chick-fil-A on record. Are they interested in being a fast-food restaurant that serves all Americans, or partnering with and catering to some of the most radical anti-gay groups in the U.S.?”

Chick-fil-A has two locations in the Sacramento area, one in the Arden area and the other in Elk Grove.

For more information, visit [www.change.org](http://www.change.org)



# Twist of Fate Brings Gang Bully and Victim Together

For the first time since the release of her novel *Freaks and Revelations*, based on the lives of Matthew Boger and Tim Zaal, author Davida Wills Hurwin, Boger and Zaal will come together to share their story of bullying, forgiveness and hope in front of a live audience.



Tim Zaal and Matthew Boger are now friends and allies in an effort to educate and inspire students and adults about prejudice and racism and their consequences.

Before moving to Northern California Matthew Boger spent most of his life in Los Angeles, where in early 2004 he left a long and very successful career as one of L.A.’s elite hair colorists to the stars to pursue a path of a very different kind as a volunteer at the Museum of Tolerance.

He moved very quickly from volunteer to program coordinator for the law enforcement programs and in late 2006 was named the museum’s general manger.

It was at the museum that Boger met another inspiring man, Tim Zaal, who was a consultant for the Museum of Tolerance’s National

Task Force on Hate Crimes. The two men formed a mutual respect for each other both professionally as well as personally, working side by side to combat the issues of prejudice, racism and bullying.

It was in late 2005 that they realized that their lives had intersected once before. In what would become a life changing conversation for both men, they realized that 26 years earlier in an alley in West Hollywood a group of Neo-Nazi punks attacked and beat a young gay homeless 14-year-old boy who only months earlier had been tossed out by his mother for being gay.

Matthew Boger was that young boy and Tim Zaal was the leader of the group.

Believing they had killed Boger, Zaal and his gang left the alley.

**BULLY**  
*continues on page 22*

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# Breaking Barriers and Its ED Survive to Serve

by Bonnie Osborn

Like most non-profit organizations, Breaking Barriers has been struggling for the past couple of years with government funding cuts and a decline in private donations resulting from the 2008 financial crisis.

Don't count the Sacramento HIV/AIDS services agency out yet, though. The organization and its intrepid executive director, Craig Spatola, are persevering, and finding new ways to serve the community, even after funding cuts eliminated their entire paid staff.

Last month, in partnership with the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center and the GSA Network, Breaking Barriers launched an exciting new program to train youth as peer counselors for HIV/AIDS and STD prevention and

he worked in education and prevention at the Lambda Community Center (now the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center) before joining Breaking Barriers.

Initially the organization provided transportation services for HIV-positive clients, and later expanded into other services, including meal delivery and household services. In 1998, Sacramento County contracted with Breaking Barriers to provide education and prevention workshops and HIV testing in addition to direct services.

outreach and workshops for high-risk gays and bisexuals in place.

The formula by which the federal government funded services nationwide under the Ryan White Care Act also changed, and HIV funding from that source was eliminated for all but direct medical services or services needed to keep clients in medical care. All told, the funding losses reduced Breaking Barriers' revenue stream to a trickle.

"It's been a big struggle," Spatola admits. "We had to start laying people off in October 2009. By April 2010, there was one employee left. I laid myself off in November 2009 and volunteered as ED. I went back to a part-time salary in October 2010."

Breaking Barriers Executive Director, Craig Spatola



education.

Breaking Barriers was founded in 1995 by John Rambo, who served as the organization's first executive director until 2005. Spatola joined the agency as its service coordinator in January 1996. By the time Rambo resigned for a move to North Carolina, Spatola was serving as deputy director, making him a natural fit to take over the ED position.

Spatola has been working in health education and prevention services since 1987, when he was only 19. "I was a real messed up kid," he says. "I got lucky, because my uncle and aunt got clean and sober and introduced me to that option."

He began his career handing out condoms and lube to sex workers as a prevention counselor for the Stockton AIDS Foundation. Later,

Gradually the agency added more services, "adopting" the Center's youth group, providing breast cancer services funded by Susan G. Komen Foundation, and a tobacco cessation program.

Then the economy crashed, and government and private funding sources dried up, all but choking off the organization's income lifeblood.

Its reserves decimated by the stock market crash, the national Susan G. Komen Foundation ordered the local chapter to cease funding most local programs, including that of Breaking Barriers. Additionally, the cash-strapped county, forced to close most of its own clinics, ended funding for the organization's tobacco cessation program and cut funding for HIV prevention by 65 percent, leaving only limited rapid HIV testing and

Spatola is still working on a part-time salary, and with no other staff to do HIV testing and prevention workshops, he's doing much of it himself. "In a way I'm getting back to my roots," he says. "It's good to get to know the clients again. But it's hard to find time for things like writing grants."

The agency itself has returned to its roots as a provider of transportation, the lifeline that enables many of its clients to attend medical appointments. The transportation program is entirely volunteer-based, a service that has been hard to sustain as gas prices grow higher and the economy remains stalled.

Now, with the new year and contingent upon enlisting enough

**BARRIERS**

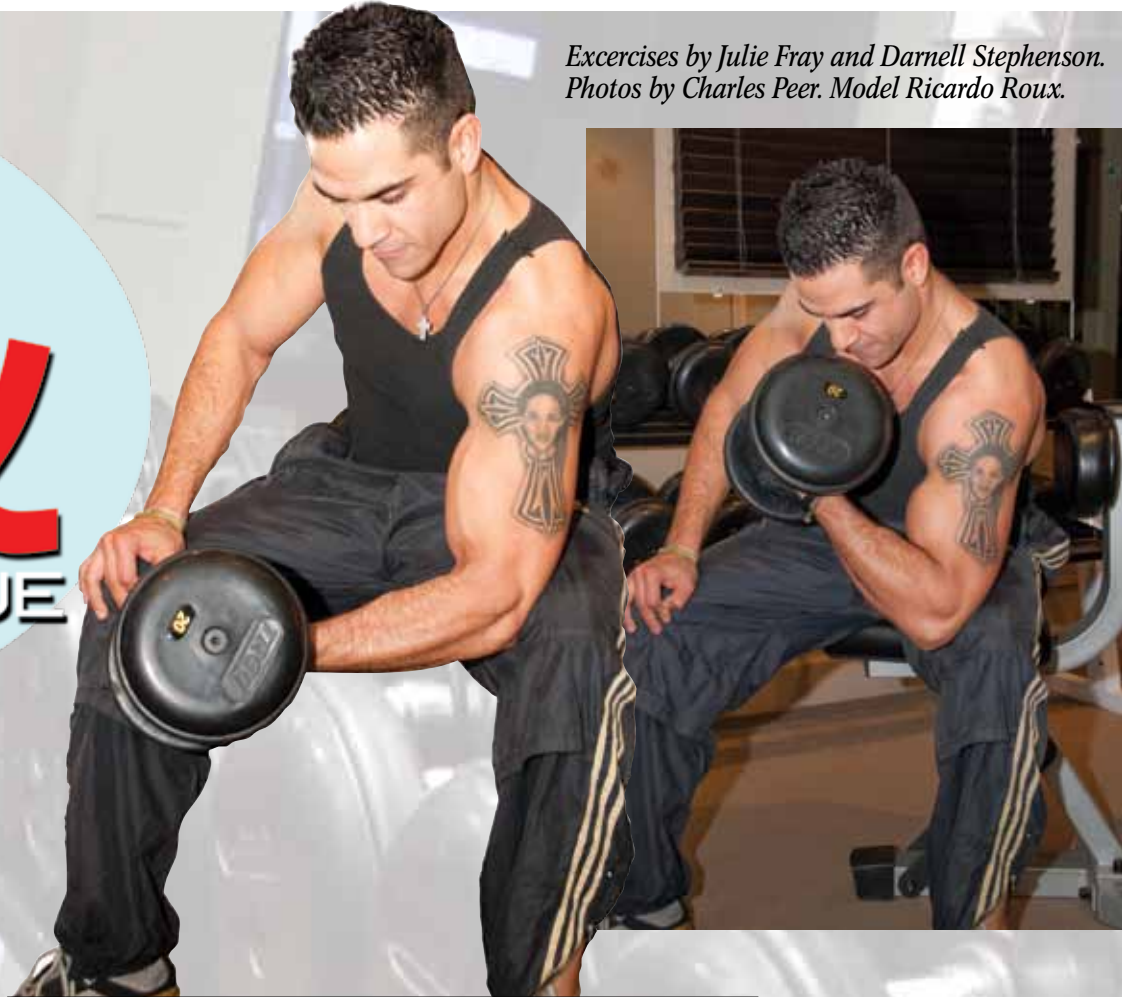
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outwordmagazine.com



# ANNUAL HEALTH & BODY ISSUE

Exercises by Julie Fray and Darnell Stephenson.  
Photos by Charles Peer. Model Ricardo Roux.



## Isolated Dumbbell Bicep Curls

This is one of the best isolation exercises for the biceps.

Do this one sitting. Take one arm and rest your elbow on your thigh. inhale and curl the dumbbell. Exhale as you complete the movement.

## Reverse Pushdowns

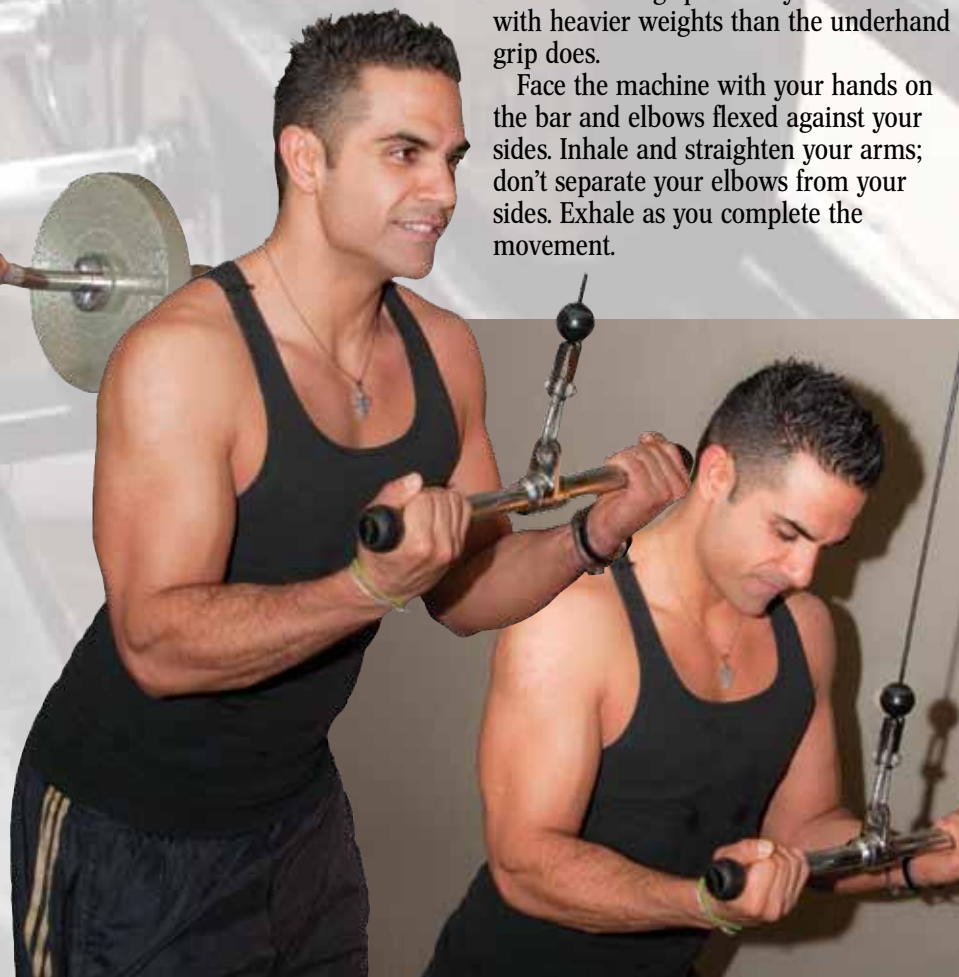
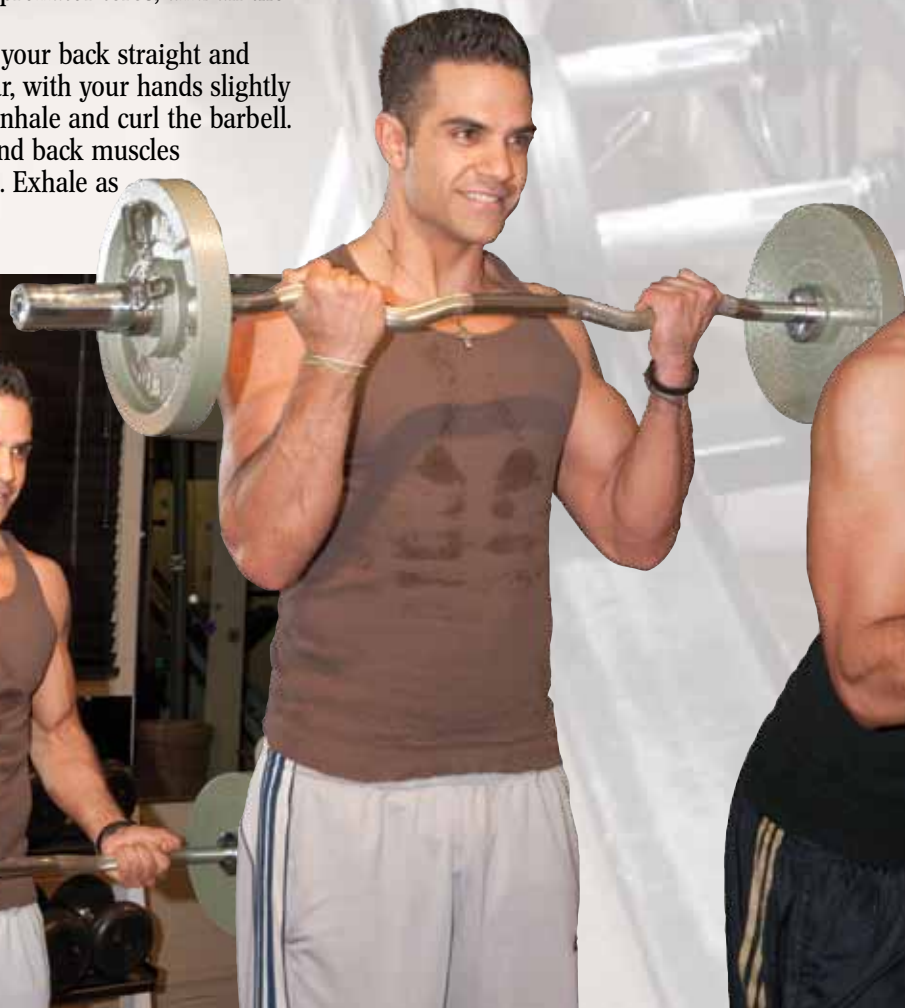
This exercise allows you to focus on the triceps. Ancillary muscles required in this movement are forearm, wrist, and fingers. The overhand grip allows you to work with heavier weights than the underhand grip does.

Face the machine with your hands on the bar and elbows flexed against your sides. Inhale and straighten your arms; don't separate your elbows from your sides. Exhale as you complete the movement.

## Barbell Curls

This exercise mainly works the biceps, brachialis, and to a lesser degree, the brachioradialis, pronator teres, and all the flexors of the wrist and fingers.

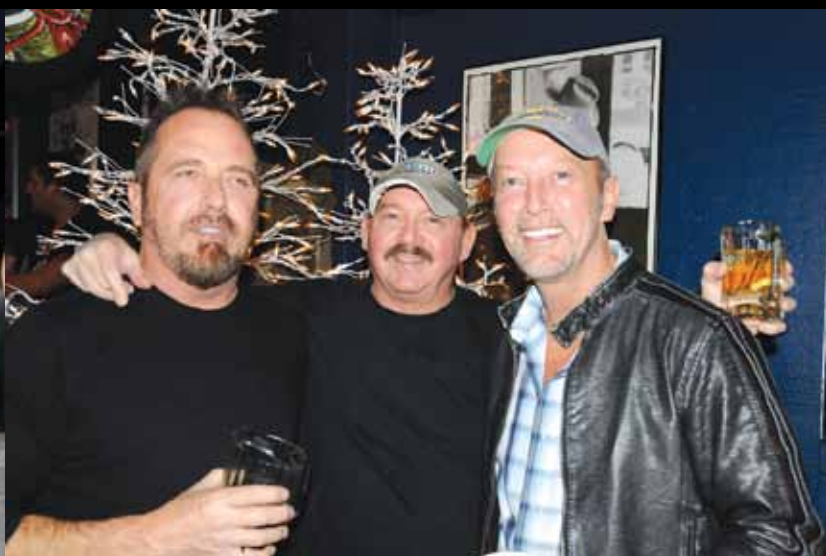
Do this exercise standing, keep your back straight and take an underhand grip on the bar, with your hands slightly more than shoulder-width apart. Inhale and curl the barbell. Contract the gluteal, abdominal and back muscles isometrically to avoid torso swing. Exhale as you complete the movement.



Julie Fray, PA-C, Clinical Exercise Specialist, Lifestyle and weight management consultant and Darnell Stephenson, Certified personal trainer, Nutrition consultant-IET, own and train at Urban Fitness & Wellness Center in Midtown. You can call them and set up a free consultation about getting your own fitness program started for the new year at 916-492-2525. Or visit them at their gym, Urban Fitness & Wellness Center, located at 2525 J St., or online at UrbanFitSac.com.



# Out & About



## Bare Chest Calendar Men Are Recruiting

The Bolt continued its eight years of hosting the famous Bare Chest Calendar Men, who raise much needed funds for people living with HIV/AIDS, at an appearance on Saturday, Dec. 4, where they also announced that they are looking for men for the 2012 Calendar.

Sacramento is represented in the 2011 Calendar by former Sacramento resident, Mr. May, Francis Laney. The recruitment for the 2012 calendar competition is just beginning so go to [www.barechest.org/recruit.html](http://www.barechest.org/recruit.html) to be part of the excitement. If you haven't purchased your calendar yet, you still can by sending an e-mail to [info@barechest.org](mailto:info@barechest.org). Photos by Ralph Jacks and Charles Peer.



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# Tanning Trends For 2011 Make Clothing Officially Optional!

by Luca Pozwell

Hardcore tanners agree, VersaSpa is in and other tanning systems are out! If you have not heard of the VersaSpa spray tan before, it is time to treat yourself to the most advanced fully automated sunless spray system the industry has to offer.

The VersaSpa far exceeds its predecessors. First of all, no more towel drying yourself afterward.

on your hands and feet!

If you have spray tanned with a unit prior to the VersaSpa, you are



Included in the experience is not only a built in heater to keep you warm while you are sprayed, but also a complete blow drying routine so you can immediately get dressed after your application. And since there is no towel drying involved, there are no more messy stains on your clothes or streaks

already familiar with that unappealing, disgusting scent that used to be associated with spray tanning. I'm proud to report you no longer have to endure this. In fact, on top of using more modern odorless solutions, the VersaSpa is not an enclosed system like other systems. No more choking.

I also love how efficient the VersaSpa system is. After quickly spraying two prep coats to prepare your skin for the tan, it then cycles you through four different poses to apply the actual tanning solution from which you can choose clear or bronze. Through these four simple "pose like an Egyptian" stances, the VersaSpa successfully reaches every nook, cranny, and hard to reach place. The clear coat fully develops over six hours while the bronze option is immediate. It's definitely important to avoid showering or perspiring during that time frame to maximize results.

Also, beware of imitators that do not use the VersaSpa system correctly! There are several tanning chains that skip on using the proper solutions or protocol with the VersaSpa to save money. You are paying for a premium service and should be receiving 100 percent results! The next time you visit your VersaSpa tanning provider, ask them to see the exclusive solution containers attached to the left hand side of the unit which should be labeled

prep, clear, and bronze.

Also becoming extremely popular is the Double Dip service. This entails receiving a VersaSpa spray tan immediately followed by a tan in a traditional stand up bed with the fan on high. This helps to 'seal in' the tan while staying completely dry.

Do not use a lay down bed after the spray tan because there is a chance you can perspire while laying down which will compromise the results of your VersaSpa spray tan. Be sure to receive this service only at tanning salons that have both units in the same room. There is nothing more inconvenient than having to get undressed multiple times.

## ANNUAL HEALTH & BODY ISSUE

Also be sure to check out the

VersaSpa homecare regimen to enhance and extend your sunless tan! If you ever have any skincare or tanning questions, please feel free to visit me anytime at Face & Body Emporium.

Luca Pozwell, is the owner of Face & Body Emporium, where he is also a clinical esthetician and massage therapist. He can be reached at 916-455-5050 or online at [FaceAndBodyEmporium.com](http://FaceAndBodyEmporium.com) or drop in Face & Body Emporium at 5050 Folsom Blvd.

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**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
by Larry

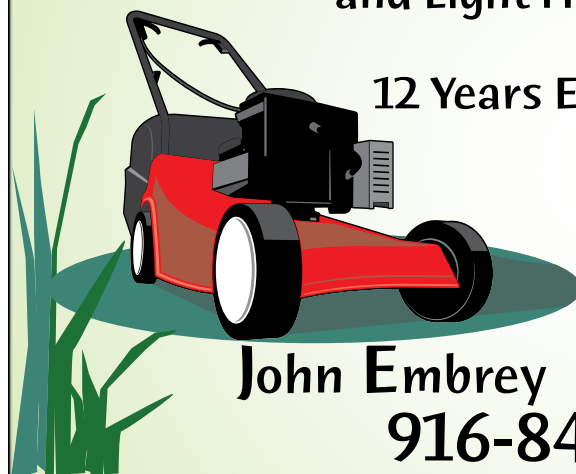
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# Free-Flowing Movement Is a Key to Good Health

by Robert Head, CMT

For a long time, alternative health practitioners have understood free-flowing motion and energy to be crucial to the health of the body. In a recent Cranial-Sacral Therapy workshop that I attended, we spoke about “restricted movement,” “contracted tissues,” “stagnation,” “fluid motion” and “direction of energy,” and how these factors could effect your health.

According to the theories behind many alternative therapeutic modalities, serious illness often begins with a minor restriction in movement that is ignored until it becomes a debilitating or life-threatening condition.

Consequently practitioners work to free restrictions and restore motion.

Chiropractors free the movement of nerve impulses from the brain and spinal cord by releasing subluxations in the joints of the spine. Acupuncturists free the movement of blocked qi (vital energy) in the body to restore equilibrium strengthening the body's natural defenses. Similarly, massage therapists and bodywork practitioners free adhesions in soft tissue and muscles.

All of these therapies result not only in freer movement of muscles and joints but also increased blood and lymph flow, improved organ functioning, and stress relief.

Mainstream Western medicine

also attends to movement and seeks to repair malfunctioning parts or systems in the body. Here the body is seen primarily as a machine that must be kept running.

This model allows for specialists to focus entirely on one part or system of the body. The result is that Western medicine has served us wonderfully with technological procedures, and pharmaceuticals that repair serious acute conditions. However, it is not so good at treating integrated systems.

Technological interventions, whether they are procedures or pharmaceuticals, nearly always come with undesirable side effects, and most physicians have little to offer to keep us healthy enough to avoid such interventions.

Unlike medical specialists who only focus on one part or system of a patient's body, holistic practitioners and many allied-health professionals deal with



Robert Head in his East Sacramento studio.

clients in the context of their daily lives, giving them a better sense of

the entire person they are working with.

We see how our clients are affected by physical, mental, and emotional stress, and we acknowledge these factors when executing our therapies. Most often the philosophical approach of holistic practitioners honors the body's natural ability to heal itself. Attention to supporting this



ability with a nurturing intention and environment helps holistic practitioners develop greater sensitivity for the benefit of their clients. For example, practitioners of Chinese medicine and Cranial Sacral Therapy can detect subtleties behind physical discomforts and ailments that western medical technology cannot measure or diagnose. As clients receive treatment, they develop a more sensitive awareness of their own bodies as well.

Greater awareness reveals opportunity. Our personal health benefits from the relief of physical, mental and emotional stagnation. As medical costs continue to rise, we will want to be creative in caring for ourselves, and it may require a re-education of our minds and bodies to make us more perceptive of subtle situations that can easily be improved.

Recommendations from your doctor will not often include a visit to your chiropractor, acupuncturist, or massage therapist, but in the interest of keeping things moving, do some exploring in 2011. Listen to your body and discover what it needs. When you heed its requests, you'll be amazed by how quickly life can change.

*Robert Head is a Certified Massage Therapist practicing deep tissue, myofascial therapy and cranial-sacral therapy. His studio, Bodywork Balance, is located at 3560 J St., St., 3, and you can make an appointment by calling 916-764-6014 or online at BodyworkBalance.net.*

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**"FEBBRE DA FIENO"**

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**MON, JAN 17 - 5:30PM**  
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# DVD

## ***Taxi Zum Klo* and *Edie & Thea* on DVD** + Sigourney Weaver in *Prayers For Bobby*

Three major queer titles were released late last year on DVD, and all three are worth a second look – or a first look, if you’ve never seen them.

### **Taxi Zum Klo**

*Taxi Zum Klo* was hailed by the *Village Voice* as “the first masterpiece about the mainstream of male gay life.” Now, three decades after it first hit cinemas and shocked audiences, Frank Ripploh’s groundbreaking debut

plane – where the lovers are finally able to take their vows.

### **Prayers For Bobby**

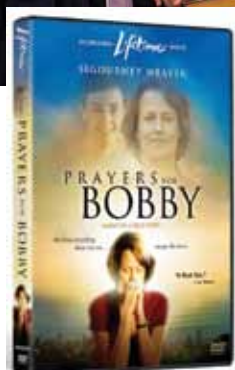
Based on the best-selling novel by Leroy Aarons, Academy Award nominee Sigourney Weaver (*Avatar*, *Alien*, *Working Girl*) leads a superb ensemble in an

emotionally turbulent true story of a deeply religious mother who struggles to accept her son’s homosexuality.

Featuring an array of extras, including an interview with the real-life mother, Mary Griffith, *Prayers For Bobby* is the moving and highly-relevant tale of a mother’s journey from defiance, through heartbreaking grief and, ultimately, to redemption as a gay rights champion.



Ryan Kelley and Sigourney Weaver in a scene from *Prayers for Bobby*. Photo by Ben Mark/Lifetime Television.



feature returns in this digitally remastered director’s cut.

Ripploh’s semi-autobiographical story of the life of a closeted gay schoolteacher presents an unflinching portrait of gay culture in 1981 West Berlin.

Long unavailable on home video, this defining snapshot of queer life has been released on DVD in its uncensored version with rarely-seen special features.

### **Edie & Thea**

Directors Susan Muska and Greta Olafsdottir present a lovingly crafted documentary in which two women named Edie and Thea recount how their improbable romance ignited a lifelong journey around the world and through history.

Ultimately in their 70s, with Thea’s health in decline, the two seize the opportunity to fulfill their dream of getting married. The film captures their inspiring journey to Toronto – and Thea’s last trip on a

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# Music

## ABBA Gold – Greatest Hits CD & DVD Special Edition

**M**amma mia, indeed! The Swedish supergroup from Stockholm has never sounded or looked better than on the new CD+DVD, *ABBA Gold – Greatest Hits (Special Edition)*.

Featuring all of the group's hits – plus the videos for each of them – this package brings together 1992's indispensable, six times platinum *ABBA Gold – Greatest Hits CD* and its home video companion of the same title, both newly remastered.

The CD, which has sold more than 28 million copies worldwide on its own, features 19 ABBA classics including "Dancing Queen," "Waterloo," "Take A Chance On Me," "SOS," "Knowing Me, Knowing You," "Fernando," and, of course, "Mamma Mia."

The DVD adds all 19 video clips for these songs, taking full advantage



of the progress in digital technology since they were last remastered. Notably, most of ABBA's videos were directed by Lasse Hallstrom, the acclaimed director of such films as *My Life as a Dog* and *Chocolat*.

In addition, the DVD adds a recently discovered cartoon version of "Money, Money, Money," circa 1977. This rarity was briefly screened at the time and has not been available in complete form since.

Sacramento

# Museum Day

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## Three Cool Films at the Crest Plus *Rabbit Hole* at the Tower

Oscar hopefuls from the end of 2010 continue to arrive on Sacramento movie screens in early 2011. Two of these acclaimed titles are coming to the Crest and another will open at the Tower, all on January 14.

Also coming to the Crest is a not-to-be-missed engagement of the great Rene Clair film *The Italian Straw Hat*, which will be presented with live accompaniment by the Sacramento Philharmonic.

### Blue Valentine

Michelle Williams and Ryan Gosling are receiving rave reviews and Oscar buzz for their reportedly risqué performances in this edgy portrait of a disintegrating

marriage, they make plans for a passionate stay at a theme hotel that goes awry. Director Derek Cianfrance then flashes back to the couple's meeting years earlier, when they fell in love and were full of hope.

Opens January 14 at the Crest.

### Somewhere

Winner of the Golden Lion Award for Best Picture at the 2010 Venice International Film Festival, director Sofia Coppola's latest centers on the reunion of a self-centered movie star (played by Stephen Dorff) with his 11-year old daughter (Elle Fanning).

Filmed entirely on location at the legendary Chateau Marmont hotel in Hollywood, *Somewhere* is the story of a man who must face up to where he is in

life and confront the eternal question: which path should I take?

Opens January 14 at the Crest.

### The Italian Straw Hat

The Sacramento French Film Festival presents Rene Clair's sparkling comedy of manners on the historic big screen of the Crest Theatre.

One of the most beloved French films of all time, *The Italian Straw Hat* inspired the late, great film critic Pauline Kael to describe it as "so expertly timed and choreographed that farce becomes ballet."

Mark your calendars because there will be two performances only for this once-in-a-lifetime pairing of a classic French film with live music by the Sac Philharmonic. The screenings of *The Italian Straw Hat* are scheduled for Saturday, January 29 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, January 30 at 2 p.m.

Tickets can be reserved at tickets.com or by calling the Crest at 1-800-225-2277.

### Rabbit Hole

Nicole Kidman and Aaron Eckhart are said to give Oscar-worthy performances in the new film from John Cameron Mitchell, the talented director of *Shortbus* and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*.

Based on David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Rabbit Hole* is the poignant, intimate story of a couple whose life is turned upside down after the death of their young son.

Opens January 14 at the Tower.

## The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)

### Plus *CHESS* and *True West* on Local Stages

January and February are traditionally the dog days of winter, theatrically-speaking. I have, however, managed to find three promising new productions playing on local stages.

### The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)

This area premiere was a big hit off-Broadway, and it will be presented at Sacramento Theatre Company with a cast featuring some of the Capitol's favorite local performers.

Jerry Lee, Martha Kight, Jessica Goldman, and Michael "RJ" Campbell star in the hilarious homage to musical theatre, *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)*. The show is actually five musicals in one, each with the same plot but done in the style of a different Broadway composer.

The five 'acts' parody the style of Rodgers & Hammerstein (*Corn!*), Stephen Sondheim (*A Little Complex*), Jerry Herman (*Dear Abby*), Andrew Lloyd Webber (*Aspects of Junita*), and Kander & Ebb (*Speakeasy*).

Plays through February 20 at STC. For more information, call 916-443-6722 or visit [www.sactheatre.org](http://www.sactheatre.org).

### CHESS The Musical

Intrigue and internecine conflict abound in this tale set during international chess competitions. The Tim Rice musical about the Cold War and a Russian torn between his home and his love will be presented by Davis Musical Theatre Company.

*CHESS The Musical* features lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson of ABBA and includes the '80s pop hit "One Night in Bangkok" and "I Know Him So Well."

Plays through January 30. Visit

### MUSICALS

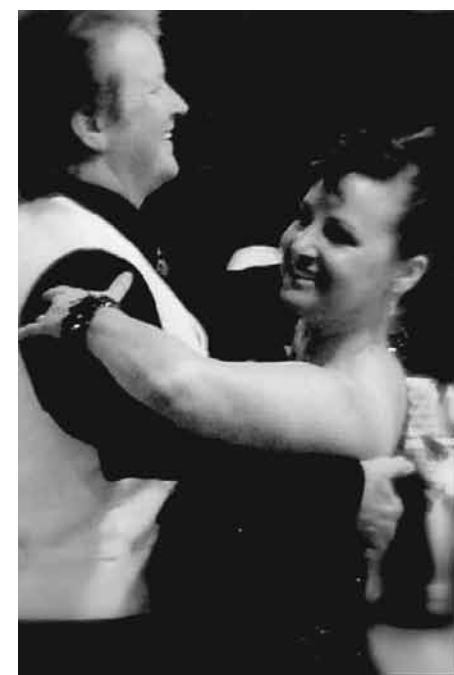
continues on page 22



Ryan Gosling and Michelle Williams in *Blue Valentine*. Photo by Davi Russo/The Weinstein Company.

marriage.

Cindy (Williams) and Dean (Gosling) are married with a young daughter. Hoping to save their



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# Calendar Jan.

compiled by Charles Peer

## Saturday, 15

### BOY WONDER

A young man turns vigilante as he seeks vengeance against his

Wizards and of course, the Munchkins. Show at 8 p.m. All events at the Sacramento Ballroom, 6009 Folsom Blvd. Info: [dancingintherivercity.com](http://dancingintherivercity.com)



### Dancing in the River City

Same-sex dancers from all over the United States and Canada compete during the day followed by a themed evening show and dance, Over The Rainbow in the River City, with dance tributes to the *Wizard of Oz*, *The Wiz* and *Wicked*. See:

## Jan. 16

## Thursday, 13

### SAC VALLEY BEARS NIGHT OUT

Join the Sacramento Valley Bears for dinner at The Black Bear Diner, 2700 El Centro Rd. 7 - 9 p.m. Info: [SacBears.org](http://SacBears.org)

### ECLECTIC TRASH BOOK CLUB

Join this LGBT book club for a lively discussion of *The Widowers Tale* by Julia Glass. 7 p.m. Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. Info: 916-492-0558 [LavenderLibrary.org](http://LavenderLibrary.org)

## Friday, 14

### GAYIEL VON EN CABARET

She's been described as Sacramento's reigning queen of Cabaret, and whether shes singing the blues or hits from the Great American Songbook, she lives up to that title. Throw in some bawdy tales and colorful stories, and well, that's entertainment! Every Friday, 6 - 10 p.m. No cover. Head Hunters, 20th & K.

mother's murderer in this film being shown as a part of *Winterfest* by the Sac. Film & Music Festival. 8 p.m. The Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. Info: [SacFilm.com](http://SacFilm.com)

## Sunday, 16

### DANCING IN THE RIVER CITY

This day of same-sex ballroom dancing begins at 11 a.m. with a dance competition featuring some of the best same-sex dancers in the country, followed by the The OZ Dust Ballroom, a dance show featuring the Dancing Dorothys, the Warped

### LAND PARK WALK

A scenic walk through the park and nearby neighborhood. Less than 5 miles. Meet in front of the Sacto Zoo entrance on Land Park Dr. & Sutterville Rd. Optional lunch afterward. Dogs on leash are OK. Call for time. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-903-6846.

### SAC VALLEY BEARS BRUNCH

Join the Sacramento Valley Bears for a potluck brunch in Carmichael. 10 a.m. - noon. Info: [SacBears.org](http://SacBears.org)

### FRESH SF T-DANCE

DJs Moto Blanco & Luke Johnstone spin the hottest new dance tracks to benefit the Stop AIDS Project. 6 p.m. to midnight. Ruby Skye, 420 Mason St., SF. Info: Win tickets at [FreshSF.com](http://FreshSF.com)

### PEARLS OVER SHANGHAI

The Cockettes perform their laugh riot musical comedy hit in a benefit performance for the Castro Country Club for LGBT people in recovery. 7 p.m. Thrillpeddler's Hypnodrome, 575 10th St., SF. Info: 800-838-3006 [Thrillpeddlers.com](http://Thrillpeddlers.com)

### FEBBRE DA FIENO

Camilla loves Matteo. Matteo loves his lesbian ex-girlfriend, leading to fun and romance in young Italy in this film being shown as a part of *Winterfest* by the Sac. Film & Music Festival. 8 p.m. The Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. Info: [SacFilm.com](http://SacFilm.com)

### GRAHAM-A-RAMA

Local artists and the Graham Sobelman Trio. 7 & 9 p.m. \$15. The Geery Theatre, 2130 L St. Info: 916-798-6352 [GrahamARama.com](http://GrahamARama.com)

## Monday, 17

### M.L. KING JR. DAY

Inspirational tours based on King's teachings at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.; gospel music performances by Cosumnes River College Contemporary Gospel Choir at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; screenings of *Martin Luther King: Legacy of a Dream* at noon and 2 p.m.; and at 10:30 a.m., noon, and 1:30 p.m., a reading of Faith Ringgold's *My Dream of Martin Luther King* followed by a hands-on art making project. Free with Museum admission. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St. Info: 916-808-7000 [CrockerArtMuseum.org](http://CrockerArtMuseum.org)

### SOWING SEEDS OF JUSTICE

The life and legal career of California Supreme Court Justice Cruz Reynosa are examined in this film being shown as a part of *Winterfest* by the Sac. Film & Music Festival. 5:30 p.m. The Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. Info: [SacFilm.com](http://SacFilm.com)

## Tuesday, 18

### RAINBOW CHAMBER MIXER

Join members of Sacramento's LGBT business group at their monthly mixer, for socializing and networking. 6 - 8 p.m. Evan's

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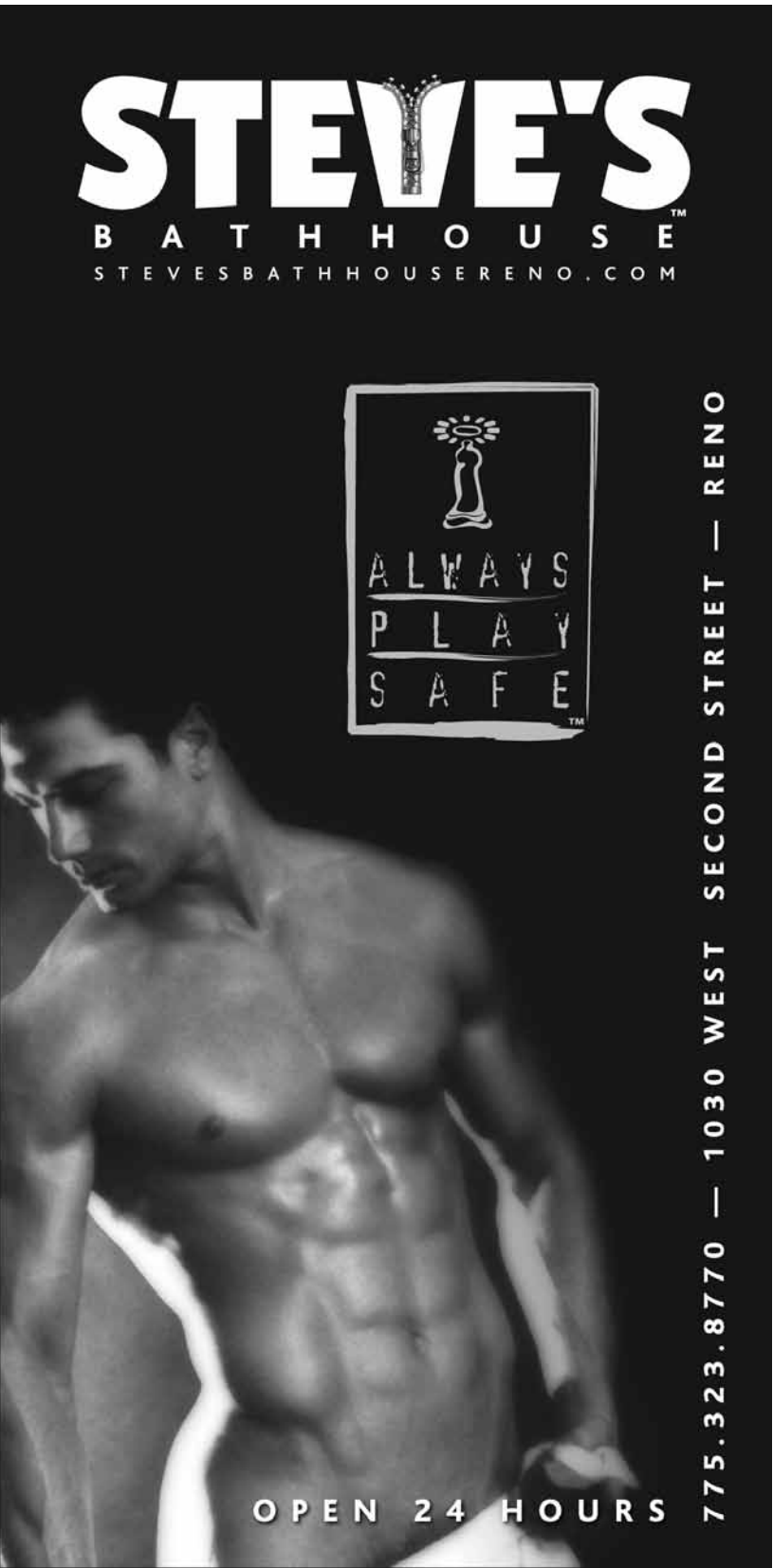
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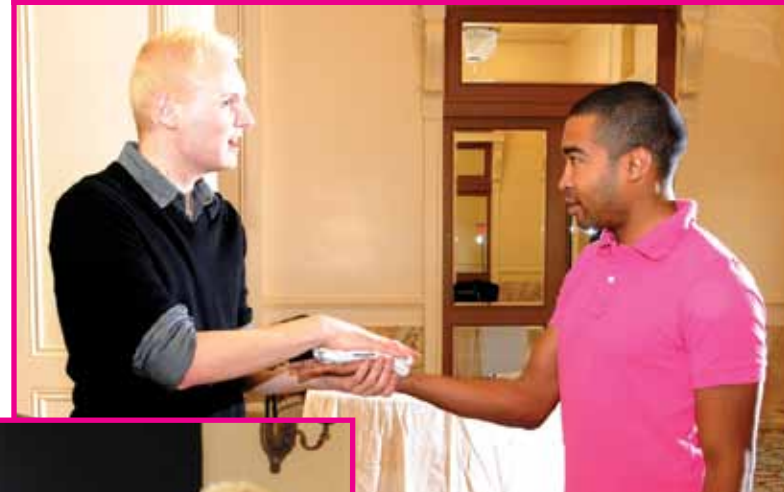


# iam



## ***I Am Equal Project Kicks-off in Sacramento***

Project creator Jason Beckett and fashion photographer Matt Spencer launched their *I Am Equal* photo project at The Citizen Hotel in Sacramento on Jan. 6. The ongoing project will photograph people of all walks of life who are stepping up for human rights & equality, and will visit 29 cities across America in 2011 before heading to Europe and other corners of the world in 2012. For more information and to see some of Spencer's great photos, visit [www.iamequalproject.org](http://www.iamequalproject.org)



# DRAG QUEEN BINGO!

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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)*

## Bully

continued from page 9

Zaal never knew that the boy had survived and was in fact, now sitting in front of him.

Today, the two share a friendship and a new goal, to educate and inspire students and adults about prejudice and racism and their consequences. From their story born out of hate, their message is of hope, forgiveness and the strength to overcome any obstacle.

On Saturday, January 29, Boger,

Zaal and Hurwin will come together for two presentations hosted by The Center for Violence Free Relationships and The Federated Church. The first will be held at Federated Church, located at 1031 Thompson Way, in Placerville at 11 a.m. and will feature a discussion, followed by a light breakfast, book-signing and one on one with Boger, Zaal and Hurwin. It will end at 1:30 and is \$25, including a copy of *Freaks and Revelations*. All the money raised will be donated to the Center.

Later, on the same day, there will be a book signing open to everyone at no cost and will have *Freaks and Revelations* on-site for sale. This will begin at 2 p.m. and go until 4 p.m. at Zia's Coffee House, 312 Main St., Placerville.

For more information on these events, contact Federated Church, 530-409-1124 or The Center for Violence Free Relationships at 530-295-4207.

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## STR8 Guys Take It Off So the Homos Can Get Their Rights On



If you haven't picked up your 2011 calendar yet, this one offers some nice eye candy while helping a good cause - or you can just watch the video of how the calendar was made. They are only \$10, and \$2 from each one sold goes to fight for equal marriage rights and queer youth suicide prevention. Visit [FCKH8.com](http://FCKH8.com).

## Barriers

continued from page 10

volunteers, Spatola dreams of expanding the program to serve people with other types of catastrophic illnesses. "We probably get two or three phone calls a week from people with different types of cancers or other illnesses," he says. "We generally have to turn them away unless they are also HIV positive. If we're able to expand the program, we would be able to start telling people, 'Let me see if we can get a volunteer.'"

In addition to transportation services, Breaking Barriers provides holiday meals to clients and former clients who are too ill or unable to access area food banks.

In addition to transportation volunteers, office assistance is always welcome. Volunteers already state-certified to conduct HIV testing are needed; however, there is no funding to send anyone for training.

Spatola also wishes more people would investigate their employers' charitable matching grant programs. One Breaking Barriers volunteer recently got a \$5,000



BREAKING BARRIERS

donation from her company as a match for her hours of volunteer services. "A lot of people don't realize those programs are available," Spatola says. "If people did that, all sorts of funds could become available."

Asked what has kept him going during the recent tough weeks and months, Spatola has a straightforward answer: The clients need services. "In some cases with our clients, if we can't get them a ride, they don't go to the doctor. That alone is enough to keep trying. I am not willing to turn my back on someone that needs services."

Spatola expressed his thanks to the community for its continuing support. "It has been a tough year-and-a-half or so, but the community is still there. We still have volunteers and donors; we still have community support, and I appreciate that, and so do our clients."

For more information about Breaking Barriers, its programs and services, visit [www.breakingbarriers-sacramento.org](http://www.breakingbarriers-sacramento.org).

## Musicals

continued from page 17

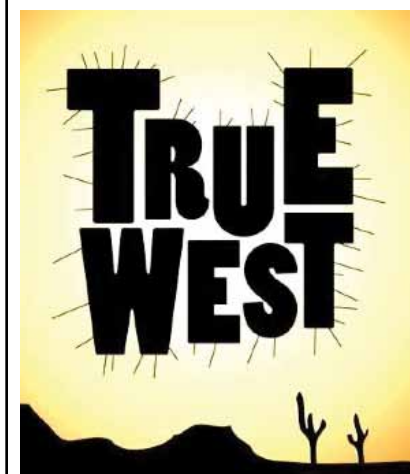
[www.dmtc.org](http://www.dmtc.org).

### True West

I have never seen a production in Fairfield, but I will be driving over to check out that city's new production of *True West*, Sam Shepard's great play about brotherly love and discord.

The brave folks at Bay Area Stage are tackling Shepard's classic work, and they promise an action-packed production featuring amazing fight sequences and adult themes and language.

*True West* plays through January 23 at the Missouri Street Theatre in Fairfield. Visit [www.bayareastage.org](http://www.bayareastage.org).



## Open Call for Video Shorts for Stonewall Uprising

In 1969, homosexuality was illegal in almost every state – but the Stonewall riots ignited changes that have had profound effects on today's LGBT Americans. To help document those changes, *American Experience*, is seeking video productions that show us where Stonewall is now.

*American Experience* is a nationally aired program on PBS, originating on WGBH in Boston.

They are inviting citizen reporters, journalists, video-bloggers, documentary story-tellers,

animators or new media-makers to create a three minute video, and enter it into their contest that offers a \$1,000 prize.

Winning entries of the contest may be used in the upcoming *American Experience* episode *Stonewall Uprising*, and will also be made available on their Web site.

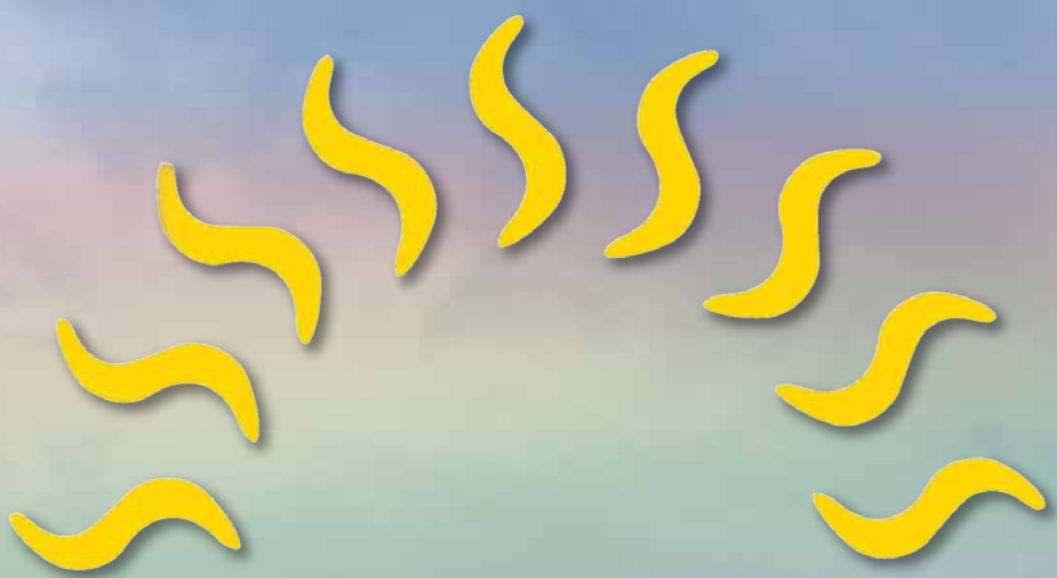
The producer's of *American Experience* say they are looking for video that shows something about today's struggle for gay rights. They are looking for diverse perspectives, fresh approaches to story telling and real American experiences. They want true stories about the fight for gay rights in your town, on your campus or in your community – produced by you!

Any of these video styles work: documentary, animation or audio slide show.

The three-minute videos must be received by February 14. For more information, including guidelines, tips and legalese, visit [www.thewgbhlab.org](http://www.thewgbhlab.org)







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