

Volume 24 • Issue 6 • No. 429 • March 24, 2011 • outwordmagazine.com

Outword

magazine

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SAVE *the* DATE 2011

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Drag Queen
Bingo at
Hamburger
Patties

**THURSDAY
JUN 30**

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3rd Annual
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Night at the
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**SATURDAY
AUG 13**

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Wizard of Oz
Sing Along
At the Crest

**SUNDAY
JUL 10**

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PFLAG
Ice Cream
Social at
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**THURSDAY
APR 28**

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Movie Night
for PFLAG
at IMAX

**WEDNESDAY
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Drag
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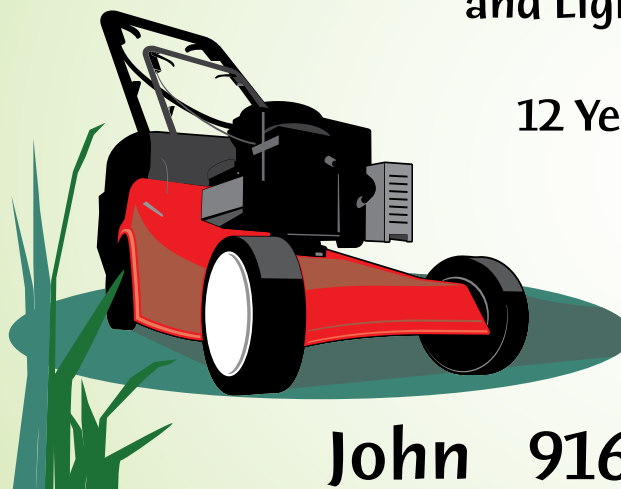
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Letters

Kathy Griffin Anyone?

The Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce has 40 specially reserved seats for Kathy Griffin on Sunday, July 17 at 7 p.m.

Join them for a fun private reception before the show, while helping to raise funds for the Chamber.

Just \$125 for the Orchestra level seat and pre-party. RSVP at RainbowChamber.com.

Make Your Own Brew? Enter it in Homemade Beer Competition

Public interest in the art and science of home brewing has increased significantly in the past 20 years, so the California State Fair has created a Homebrew Competition - a chance to showoff your finest homemade brew.

The Homebrew Competition will present first, second and third place awards in 28 categories based on specified style and the proper balance of taste, aroma and appearance.

A Best of Show ribbon will be presented to the first place brew and award winning brews will be on display at the 2011 California State Fair, July 14 - 31.

Entries must be received by April

27. No late entries will be accepted. Exhibitors must be a minimum of 21 years of age and reside in California.

For competition guidelines and entry information, go to www.bigfun.org, or write the Homebrew Competition-Entry Office at California State Fair, PO Box 15649, Sacramento, CA 95852, or entryoffice@calexpo.com.

Cast for Cash

Pack your tackle box, load up the rod and reel and head out to the Rancho Seco Recreational Area for SMUD's spring trout derby.

Rancho Seco Lake will be newly stocked with 2,000 pounds of trout in anticipation of a big crowd.

Anglers hooking the heaviest trout will be awarded with cash prizes - up to \$100 for adults and \$50 for children under 16.

The fishing event has become a tradition for many and has attracted thousands of local anglers since starting in 1993. It will be held Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3 from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily (rain or shine) at the Rancho Seco Recreational Area, 14440 Twin Cities Rd. in Herald, CA 95638.

LETTERS

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Reader Phone Camera Pic

Joan's own red carpet at The Crest Theatre.



photo provided by Jimmy Short and Markcurtis Otani

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Local News

Not Guilty Verdict in Death of Leroy “Pops” Fisher

by Charles Peer

Michael Weisz has been found not guilty of second degree murder in the death of popular Depot and Badlands security guard Leroy “Pops” Fisher.

The jury, which returned their verdict on Friday, March 18, did find him guilty of the second count against him, a violation of VC 20001(A), Failure to Stop at the Scene of an Accident, commonly referred to as felony hit-and-run.

Fisher was killed in the early morning hours of Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009, following an incident at Badlands when bar staff and patrons complained about Weisz's and his friend, Ross Konkel's, behavior in the bar, and asked Fisher to eject them. Later that morning, Fisher encountered Weisz, at the time 23, and Konkel in the parking lot behind The Depot and Badlands.

There were no witnesses to the events that followed, but eventually Weisz and Konkel got into Weisz's car, and as they were driving off, with Weisz behind the wheel, struck and ran over Fisher, at the time 64, causing serious injuries including breaking most of his ribs, his arms and one leg, as well as considerable tissue damage to his head and torso. Fisher was rushed to the hospital where he later died.

During the trial, Weisz took the stand in his own defense. Neither he nor his attorney, Donald Masuda, at any time denied that Weisz did in fact hit Fisher with his vehicle and cause his death, nor that he subsequently fled the scene.

However, in his closing remarks to the jury, Weisz's attorney claimed that Weisz was hysterical and impeded in his judgment following an altercation in the parking lot behind The Depot/Badlands complex in which Weisz claims to have been attacked by Fisher and shocked by Fisher with a stun pen.

He further claimed that Weisz

was only trying to flee the parking area and to get his friend Konkel, who Weisz claims was also being



Michael Weisz in happier times in an image captured from his Facebook page.

attacked by Fisher, into his car when his foot slipped of the brake of the car, and the car moved forward at idle speed, hitting Fisher, running him over, and causing his death.

Konkel stated to police and testified at the trial that he had little or no recollection of the events as they occurred that night. He, at times, made contradictory statements, but at trial was adamant that he did not know how the accident happened.

Weisz's attorney, in his closing arguments, stated that Weisz was preoccupied with trying to open the door to his car so that Konkel could get in, and was unaware that he had hit Fisher and run him over, and that is why he left the scene.

However, Deputy District Attorney Sheri Greco painted a different picture. During her summation of the trial, she showed pictures of the crime scene, as well as gruesome pictures of Fisher's body at the autopsy that had

previously been introduced in trial.

She also showed photos from Badlands security video cameras that showed Weisz and Konkel at the bar in Badlands, in which she claimed that Weisz and Konkel were acting rudely towards other Badlands' customers and bar staff, and photos of the initial contact between Fisher, Weisz and Konkel.

Fisher asked Weisz and Konkel to leave the bar, which they did and he escorted them to the front door of Badlands. However, once outside the bar the argument heated up again. Surveillance pictures showed that Fisher remained calm during the whole episode and did not appear to be threatening in any way.

At one point, Weisz found a cup outside the bar that was filled with a liquid and ice and threw it at Fisher, although it did not hit him. At that point Weisz and Konkel ran away, and Fisher gave short chase but was unable to catch them.

Greco cited evidence of phone calls and statements made by Weisz to 911 and several friends after the incident that she felt indicated that he was aware of the fact that he had hit, and run over Fisher.

The 911 operator told Weisz to remain in his home, and that the police were on their way to talk to him. However, both Weisz and Konkel instead left his home at 800 J St. and fled together to San Francisco, where they later turned themselves into San Francisco police. The SFPD questioned them both and later released them to the SPD, who subsequently arrested Weisz. No charges were filed against Konkel.

Weisz will return to court on a subsequent date for sentencing on the hit-and-run charges. VC 20001(A), Failure to Stop at the Scene of an Accident, carries the possibility of two to four years imprisonment and a fine of between \$1,000 and \$10,000.

Weisz also faces charges for a violation of VC Section 23152, Driving Under Influence of Alcohol or Drugs, for which he was arrested on December 28, 2010. That case is currently wending its way through the court system.



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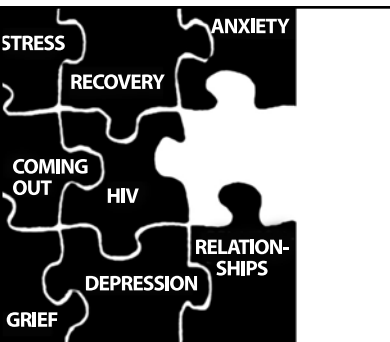
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H.R. 1 May Hurt HIV/AIDS Fight

H.R. 1, the Continuing Resolution (CR) that was passed last week by the House of Representatives to fund the federal government for the balance of the FY 2011, is detrimental to the fight against HIV/AIDS in the United States, according to AIDS United.

H.R. 1 calls for spending cuts on life-saving federal health and poverty programs, and may impact people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS in the United States by blocking implementation of health care reform, flat-funding domestic HIV/AIDS programs at 2010 levels, reinstating the ban on federal funding for syringe exchange programs, and increasing the funding of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) at the expense of the country's vital public health agencies including Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) at the Department of Health and Human Services.

"The budget-slashing H.R. 1 in its current form is simply unacceptable," said AIDS United President and CEO Mark Ishaug. "This bill is most definitely NOT

the way to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States."

H.R. 1 may also completely de-fund the Corporation for National and Community Service, which would end the AmeriCorps Program and the Social Innovation Fund.

The elimination of AmeriCorps and the SIF could mean that thousands of people might not receive critical HIV testing and prevention services, and that thousands more may not access the quality HIV/AIDS care that they need and deserve.

"The gains we have made in our country's battle against the HIV/AIDS epidemic are too important to be swept away by H.R. 1," said AIDS United Vice President of Public Policy & Advocacy Ronald Johnson. "AIDS United stands firmly against H.R. 1, and urges all individuals and communities to stand with us in opposition."

Seth's Law Introduced to Make a Safer School Environment

California Assemblyman Tom Ammiano has introduced a comprehensive bill that tackles school bullying by providing California schools with specific tools to prevent and address the pervasive problem in order to create a safe school environment for all students.

AB 9, also known as "Seth's Law," would ensure that every school in California implements updated anti-harassment and anti-discrimination policies and programs that include actual or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity and expression, as well as race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, disability and religion.

It would also empower students and parents to know what their rights are, and how to advocate for them. The bill was introduced in the Assembly on Monday, March 14.

AB 9 is named "Seth's Law" in memory of Seth Walsh, a 13 year-old gay student from Tehachapi, California, who took his

own life in September 2010 after facing years of relentless anti-gay harassment at school that school officials essentially ignored.

Schools often do not have the tools or knowledge to adequately protect LGBT students and others from bullying, which remains a serious issue across California and the rest of the nation. Also, students, parents and school employees often don't know what the rules are or what to do if bullying occurs.

The bill is co-sponsored by a coalition of organizations advancing LGBT equality and

SAFER

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Obamas Call For a United Effort to Address Bullying

The President and First Lady have called for a united effort to address bullying, with about 150 students, parents, teachers, non-profit leaders, advocates and policymakers discussing how they can work together to make our schools and communities safe for all students at a WH meeting.

"If there's one goal of this conference, it's to dispel the myth that bullying is just a harmless rite of passage or an inevitable part of growing up. It's not," said President Obama. "Bullying can have destructive consequences for our young people. And it's not something we have to accept. As parents and students; teachers and communities, we can take steps that will help prevent bullying and create a climate in our schools in which all of our children can feel safe."

The White House Conference on Bullying Prevention was held on March 10, and highlighted private, non-profit and federal commitments to bullying prevention. Already participating in the program are the National PTA, the AFT, the NEA, Facebook, Formspring and Massachusetts Institute of Technology and MTV Networks "A Thin Line."

"As parents, this issue really

hits home for us. It breaks our hearts to think that any child feels afraid every day in the classroom, on the playground or even online," First Lady Michelle Obama said. "I hope that all of you - and everyone watching online - will walk away from this conference with new ideas and solutions that you can take back to your own schools and communities."

The conference encouraged schools, communities and the private sector to join together to combat bullying, noting that every day, thousands of children, teens and young adults around the country are bullied. Estimates are that nearly one-third of all school-aged children are bullied each year - upwards of 13 million students. Students involved in bullying are more likely to have challenges in school, to abuse drugs and alcohol, and to have health and mental health issues.



President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama meet with a group of students and parents from the Conference on Bullying Prevention in the Oval Office, March 10, 2011. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)



First Lady Michelle Obama talks with Emily, left, and Sarah Buder, authors of "Letters to a Bullied Girl: Messages of Healing and Hope," during the Conference on Bullying Prevention in the East Room of the White House, March 10, 2011. (Official White House Photo by Samantha Appleton)

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Community Profile

words by Bonnie Osborn photo by Charles Peer

Major Shift in Gay Real Estate Terrain

The landscape of the Sacramento LGBT real estate business has changed dramatically in the past several months, with a happy ending that is a welcome outcome in the current tough economy.

In January, Brian McMartin, gay owner and founder of McMartin Realty, joined Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Mason-McDuffie – a move that has been

large portion of their weekend. Everyone pitched in for a good cause.”

Joan Dunn, who has been part of Wilks’ office since 2003, also said

eight years ago and built it into an office of 30 agents.

“I loved everything I did here,” he said. “McMartin Realty was my baby, but I needed a change. Everyone from McMartin’s firm who wanted to join Mason-McDuffie was able to do so,” he said.

“That was important to me,” he



From left to right, Brian McMartin, Rich Wilks and Joan Dunn are all part of the Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate, Mason-McDuffie team.

mutually beneficial, according to several members of the newly formed team.

“Change is always a challenge, but this transition has gone very well,” said partner and manager Rich Wilks. “Brian and I have very similar business practices and the agents on our teams have so much in common – not only in lifestyle but in their ethics and how they deal with clients and the community.”

As one example of the teamwork that has already developed in the Midtown office, some 40 agents and family participated locally in Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate’s company-wide second-annual “Giving Day” by volunteering at the Sacramento Food Bank.

“Just to think that a month before, we knew each other as colleagues within the industry, or maybe even competitors, and a month later we had settled in and were working on a community project together,” Wilks said. “It was nice to know that our group of busy realtors would volunteer a

the joining of the two groups has been positive. “It’s brought a new level of energy into our offices, which is very exciting,” Dunn said. “In a very tough market, I think it’s a good business decision. It’s a feather in our cap, and we tried to make them feel welcomed. Rich worked hard to make that happen, as did Brian. It’s been an extremely seamless transition.”

McMartin said the decision to join Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate was tough and emotional but right. “I have known Rich and Tina for 11 years. They opened up their office at the exact same time I opened mine. We have been in friendly competition and have talked for years about the possibility of joining forces,” McMartin said.

The fact that Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate in Midtown was LGBT-friendly and would be a good culture fit with his agency was a key deciding factor, he said, noting the office has long employed gay and lesbian agents and even sponsored a gay softball league.

McMartin started his own agency

said. “This wasn’t just a business; this is a big family for me. I hope that the community will see Better Homes and Garden Real Estate as the new go-to place, as the gay-friendly office in Midtown. I plan on being as involved in the community as I have always been. It’s going to be a good 2011.”

Last September, Mason-McDuffie Real Estate, one of the largest real estate brokerages in the United States, ended its franchise agreement with Prudential California Realty and affiliated with Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate LLC.

Established in 1887, Pleasanton-based Mason-McDuffie has 36 offices in Northern California and Nevada, generated \$2.8 billion in sales in 2009 and was ranked among the nation’s top 20 brokerages by REAL Trends. The firm’s Midtown location is a partnership office between Mason-McDuffie and the Wilks.

For more information about Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Mason-McDuffie, visit www.bhghome.com/midtown.

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New IRS Rules May Have You Splitting Your Income

by Peter Renn, Staff Attorney, Lambda Legal

This is the time of the year when tax questions are swirling about, prompting one reader to ask Lambda Legal: "I just read a news article that says that as of this year, married same-sex couples in California must 'split their income' on their federal tax returns for 2010. What does this mean, do I and my wife have to do it and, is this good or bad?"

The new IRS policy is mandatory for income earned in 2010 (returns for which are filed in 2011) and affects not just you and your wife, but all married couples in California—whether same-sex or different-sex—as well as all registered domestic partners (RDPs) in California, Nevada and Washington, advises Lambda Legal. Those are the three states that both have "community property" laws and that also recognize that same-sex couples can acquire

community property.

Community property is a concept that dates back to Roman law, and found its way into U.S. legal codes through states once part of the Spanish Empire.

Community property generally includes things like salaries and wages earned by either partner while the "community" is in existence – that is, after a couple gets married or registered as domestic partners but before either person dies or the relationship is

dissolved.

Community property is jointly owned by both individuals but divided equally upon dissolution of the relationship or death. This is in contrast to separate property, which includes things like income earned before the marriage or domestic partnership, or a gift or inheritance, which is not split equally.

Last May, the IRS announced it will apply California's community property laws to California RDPs to reflect "income-splitting" for community property.

Income splitting means each partner reports an average of both incomes on his or her return. In other words, if one partner is an architect earning \$100,000 a year, and the other partner is a full-time graduate student without a

TAXES

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Respect For Marriage Act Introduced

Freedom to Marry has announced the introduction of the Respect for Marriage Act, a bill that would repeal the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), along with the opening of a Washington, D.C. office and the hiring of Jo Ellen Deutsch as Federal Director to spearhead a campaign to build support for the bill and same-sex marriage.

Freedom to Marry's federal program will bring focus to the marriage discussion with DC media and policymakers, building support for the Respect for Marriage Act and the work to overturn DOMA in Congress and the courts.

Freedom to Marry founder and President Evan Wolfson joined Members of Congress and Senators on Capitol Hill to announce the bill on Wednesday, March 16.

"Today Freedom to Marry is ramping up the campaign needed

majority of Americans now support the freedom to marry. It is time our federal officials did, too."

Deutsch and her family, including her partner of over 28 years, Teresa, and their three children, have been featured in numerous television, print news stories, and photographic exhibits, and have testified and spoken extensively about why marriage matters to their family.

"This is a superb choice for Freedom to Marry," said Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin



Jo Deutsch, center, will head up Freedom to Marry's new campaign to pass the Respect for Marriage Act. Pictured here at the National Gay Pride March 2009 in Washington, Deutsch is surrounded by her wife of 28 years Teresa Williams and two of their three children, Bena Williams and Matthew Williams.

to overturn DOMA and return the federal government to its longstanding practice of honoring marriages celebrated in the states – without a gay exception," said Wolfson.

Deutsch, a veteran advocate, has spent the last 25 years working in the labor movement, leading federal legislative and electoral campaigns at the Association of Flight Attendants, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, and UFCW.

"Freedom to Marry's new Federal Director, Jo Deutsch, knows the importance of working across party and ideological lines to build broad, strong coalitions and has the track-record of success in advancing legislation we need in Washington, D.C.," said Wolfson. "A

(D-WI). "I've worked closely with Jo for many years, and know how effective she is at building coalitions and making the most persuasive case in Washington. I am thrilled to have the chance to work with her in our efforts to ensure that everyone's marriage is fully respected at the federal level."

"With momentum for marriage on the state and federal levels, in the courts, and in the court of public opinion, this is truly the most exciting and urgent time to join Freedom to Marry in building this federal campaign," said Deutsch. "We need to ratchet up the conversation around marriage to reflect in the Capitol the growing

RESPECT

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ART BY MARK STIITZMAN

Community Plans Well Underway For Sacramento Pride

by Dell Richards

Excitement for the 2011 Pride Parade and Festival continues to build as top notch headliners are booked, sponsors promise financial support and a wide variety of community groups, artists and craftspeople, and food vendors sign on.

Instead of the third Saturday, this year's event is being held on Saturday, June 4 to avoid conflicts with San Francisco Pride and celebrations for Juneteenth and Father's Day.

"As Sacramento Pride became established as 'California's Capital Pride,' we began to attract more visitors from other parts of the state. This date change will give people more opportunity to participate in both of these important Pride events," said Josh Jacoby, Sacramento Pride Director.

Sacramento Pride 2011 will be held at the Capitol Mall again this year, however, the parade route will be slightly different to avoid light rail lines. The staging area will be on S Street between 3rd and 7th.

Luciana "I Like That" Caporaso has been booked as a headliner. The English singer achieved mainstream success after teaming up with Bodyrox on the single "Yeah Yeah" in 2006, and has had numerous successes on the gay dance charts worldwide.

"We were extremely lucky to book Luciana for the festival," said Hilary Hodge, Pride Entertainment Manager. "Her music is a huge part of the dance club world."

Raquela will also headline that

The deadline for videos, CDs and other submissions from musicians, singers, dancers and entertainers interested in performing is March 25. Street performers also are welcome.

Along with the non-stop



afternoon. Known for her theatrical dance-pop music, "Confessions of a Disco Diva" put her on the Billboard charts. Raquela recently returned to Sacramento from New York where she appeared on Broadway with such stars as Toni Collette and Cloris Leachman.

"I am so excited that Raquela is back in Sacramento and we were able to book her for the festival," said Hodge.

More than a dozen performers also will perform during the day.

entertainment, there will be a family-friendly kid zone, sponsored by Sierra Forever Families, at the Mall featuring a bounce house, face painting and other fun activities.

Community meetings for Pride 2011 are being held at the Center from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20 and May 18 at the Center, 1927 L St. Volunteers for all aspects of the Festival and Parade are encouraged to attend.

Sponsors also are an important part of the event, not only because it

shows the companies are willing to support the gay community, but because it offsets the cost of producing a major event like a festival.

This year, Jackson Rancheria Casino & Hotel again became the first major sponsor. Comcast Corporation, HP (Hewlett-Packard) and Markstein Beverage Company – for Bud Light – also are giving money to ensure the success of this year's event.

Also jumping on board as major sponsors are SMUD (Sacramento Municipal Utility District), *Outword*, CARES (Center for AIDS Research,

"We were very thankful for having the same amount of funding from the city this year that we did last year, given the economy," said Jacoby.

Some 170 vendors and nonprofit exhibitors added interest to the event this past year. This year, even more are signing on, including food vendors that will give Festival-goers even more dining options.

"Even though it's difficult because there are so many choices, we're trying to satisfy everyone's requests for different types of food," said Jacoby.

Nearly 8,000 people attended the



Education and Services), Safeway, Faces, *Sactown Magazine*, Sacramento Regional Transit, Sacramento News and Review, Barefoot Wine and *Rainbow Pages*.

Amtrak and the Midtown Business Association are sponsoring the dance pavilion that will be open during the evening.

The City of Sacramento also helps fund the event through a grant.

event in 2010. A survey of Sacramento Pride that year led by Brian DiSarro, Ph.D., Asst. Professor of Government at California State University, Sacramento, showed that the economic impact to the city potentially was \$310,394.

In addition, a wealth of indirect

SAC PRIDE
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Were You Born This Way?

A fun new web site that tackles the question of “were you born that way?” has been launched that invites viewers to send in pictures of themselves as kids that pretty much say, “Yeah, I was born that way!”

The brainchild of Los Angeles Based DJ Paul V, the blog site (www.BornThisWayBlog.com) invites you to send in pictures of yourself that were taken when you were a kid, and innocently caught your inner gayness. You can also submit a narrative describing, if you can remember that far back, how you felt at the time.

“Some of the pix here feature gay boys with feminine traits, and some gay girls with masculine traits,” said Paul V on his site. “And even more gay kids with NONE of those traits. Just like real life, these gay kids come in all shades and layers of masculine and feminine.”

All of the pictures and stories submitted were done without any form of encouragement for any certain “type” of pic. Except, one that the SUBJECT thinks represents them the best. The pictures include every aspect of the LGBT rainbow, including kids who identified as transgender.

As Christopher wrote with the submission of his photo, “It reminds me



Born This Way site host Paul V. asks “Do you think his mom or dad prompted him to cock his heel and swivel his knee like that? I bet not! This little gay boy knew exactly how he felt and wanted to pose, on his own!”

that I am as I was meant to be. I was born this way.”

“The sooner we teach all children that being gay is as normal (and biological) as being straight, then maybe it really WILL get better, and we can save some young lives in the process,” said Paul V. “That’s my biggest goal with featuring your pictures and stories: That struggling gays kids of today can see themselves in the faces and stories of the gay kids of yesterday, to LIVE to create their own memories.”

Check out the site – you may even see yourself in some of those old photos. Better yet, dig through your family photo albums for that shot of yourself that shows your inner gay.

View the site and send submissions to www.BornThisWayBlog.com

Initiative Launched to Help Homeless LGBTQ Youth

The Sacramento G&L Center has kicked-off a community-wide initiative to help address service barriers and issues experienced by LGBTQ homeless youth and young adults in the Sacramento region, raising over \$19,000 at their first event.

The new program is called The Homeless LGBT Youth Initiative, and the fundraiser, held on March 8, had over 100 in attendance and was deemed a huge success by organizers.

To keep the fundraising going, Sacramento County Supervisor Phil Serna, Honorary Chair of the event, issued the “Serna Challenge,” committing to raise \$5,000 by the end of April, and challenging the rest of the community to match his \$5,000.

The event was co-chaired by outgoing Center Executive Director Wendy Rae Hill and community leader Paul Curtis. Both talked

about the growing epidemic of LGBTQ homeless youth and young adults in the area.

“Of the youth and young adult population in the U.S., it is estimated that approximately 20-40 percent are LGBTQ, meaning they are vastly over-represented in the young homeless population,” said Curtis.

The Homeless LGBT Youth Initiative will now enter the program development stage. Plans for the initial program include components addressing key areas of need including Youth Assessment, Host Housing Recruitment, Host Parent Support,

Service Provider Training, Life Skills Classes, Mentoring/Job Training Program, Emergency Fund, Public Relations & Communications and Fund Development.

“There are no direct services currently in our area aimed at LGBTQ homeless youth and young adults, and as a community we all need to step forward to help address this issue,” said Hill. “The Center looks forward to playing a central role in this much needed effort and plans to partner where possible with local non-profits already providing services to homeless youth and young adults.”

The initial funds raised at the event will be used to help kick off the program, with plans to apply for state and federal funding to help fund the program on an

YOUTH
continues on page 26

A colorful advertisement for a slot tournament. At the top, the word "PIRATES" is in large, stylized white letters with a gold outline, and "LUCK" is below it in similar style. A golden skull with a red eye and a black eye patch is positioned between the words. Below "LUCK" is "Tuesday Slot Tournament" in a cursive font. Further down, it says "New Machines & New Tournaments!" and "Tuesday Slot Tournaments 8 a.m. - 4 p.m." Below that, it says "Earn 100 points the week before to qualify" and "Win up to \$500 Cash" in a large, stylized font. At the bottom, there is a logo for "JACKSON RANCHERIA CASINO & HOTEL" and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and a checkmark icon. To the right of these icons, it says "JacksonCasino.com 800-822-WINN 1222 New York Ranch Road Jackson, California 95642".

Redistricting May Boost LGBT Voting Power

by Bonnie Osborn, RCC President

Members of the Sacramento LGBT community are participating in a history-making process that may put more LGBT people into elected office here in Sacramento and around the state.

All over the country, communities are preparing for one of the most consequential processes within the political realm – that of redrawing the boundaries of electoral districts.

Federal and state law require that any official body that elects representatives by district undergo redistricting every ten years, and for the first time in history, the 2010 U.S. Census will provide data about how many same-sex couples there are in this country and where they live – an imperfect and incomplete measure of the total LGBT population, to be sure, but

still the best data our community has ever had.

One potential benefit of this improved data: the ability to preserve the voting strength of LGBT people by keeping the neighborhoods where large concentrations of LGBT people live within a single political district. A diverse group of LGBT people are working to ensure that the Sacramento LGBT community is recognized as a “community of interest” to participate in the local redistricting process.

Establishing an LGBT “community of interest” will be

precedent-setting in itself. Federal law prohibits any splitting of ethnic “communities of interest” that would dilute voting power; such splitting was utilized for years to deprive minority communities of political power.

Only in rare cases has the cohesiveness of “gayborhoods” been taken into consideration in redistricting. In 2001, San Francisco’s Castro District was split right down Castro Street, allegedly in a failed attempt to prevent lesbian Carole Migden from winning a State Senate seat.

On a happier note, San Diego’s LGBT community succeeded in forming the progressive 3rd City Council District. The Council seat has been held by a gay or lesbian person ever since, and voters sent two of them, Sen. Christine Kehoe and freshman Assemblymember Toni Atkins, to Sacramento.

To assist in the city redistricting process, Sacramento City Council members and the mayor have each appointed one person to the Sacramento Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee. Steve Hansen, a Victory Fund Campaign board member and former Legislative Director for Equality California, was appointed to the committee by City Councilmember Jay Schenirer.

“This effort by the LGBT community is unprecedented,” Hansen said. “The LGBT community’s electoral power is diluted by the current lines, and this a unique opportunity to influence the way the lines are drawn for the next ten years.”

The selection of four additional committee members, from a pool of 43 applicants, will be announced March 22. The first meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for Monday, April 11, 6 p.m., in City Council Chambers.

The LGBT Redistricting Group plans to support the Advisory Committee and Council by providing population data and maps reflecting the large

Herber, Karl Greene, Robert Jordan and Michael Boyd participated in the 1991 redistricting effort on behalf of the LGBT community, with some measure of success.

“It’s 20 years later, and our community has grown much stronger,” Herber said. “It’s time to have a district where an LGBT person can get elected to the Council.”

The LGBT Redistricting Group and the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Foundation will hold an informational town hall meeting on the redistricting process on Thursday, April 7, at 7 p.m., at the Sierra II Community Center, 2791 24th Street, in

Town Hall Redistricting Meeting

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concentrations of domestic partners who reside in the city core, along with data such as Proposition 8 voting patterns.

The Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce's non-profit affiliate, the Rainbow Chamber Foundation, will serve as a sponsor and fiscal agent for the LGBT Redistricting Group, with RCC member Rosanna Herber as chair and RCC Board Secretary Darrick Lawson as co-chair.

Sacramento.

All members of the public are invited to attend and participate in this history-making process.

Tax-deductible contributions to the LGBT Redistricting Group may be made to the Rainbow Chamber Foundation. E-mail Treasurer@rainbowchamber.com for more information.

Bonnie Osborn is the President of the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce.

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In Defense of Not Defending Prop 8 and DOMA

Commentary by Stephen Blakley

On Saturday, March 5, 2011 an article appeared in the viewpoints section of the *Sacramento Bee* authored by Margaret A. Bengs with a headline that read “Basic right of self-government is in peril.”

In this article, Bengs questioned former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's and former Atty. Gen. Jerry Brown's refusal to defend Prop. 8 on the grounds that it is unconstitutional, as well as the U.S. Department of Justice's recent decision to no longer defend the Defense of Marriage Act for the same reason.

In her article, she says “in our country, a president or governor cannot decide what is constitutional and what is not. Their authority cannot override a law passed by Congress and signed by the President, or in California an amendment to the Constitution enacted by the people.”

She goes on to say “what's more, whenever there is a question of authority among three branches of government, ‘the legislative authority necessarily predominates,’ James Madison wrote in Federalist 51, as it most closely represents the people.”

What she fails to mention is that in that same letter to the people of New York, Madison goes on to say “In a single republic, all the power surrendered by the people is submitted to the administration of a single

government; and the usurpations are guarded against by a division of the government into distinct and separate departments. In the compound republic of America, the power surrendered by the people is first divided between two distinct governments, and then the portion allotted to each subdivided among distinct and separate departments. Hence a double security arises to the rights of the people. The different governments will control each other, at the same time that each will be controlled by itself.”

She also stated “whatever one's view of same-sex marriage, we must be disturbed when the constitutional process whereby we exercise the right to govern ourselves is undermined.”

Further reading of Madison's words in Federalist 51 reveal that he shared her concerns, but he also understood that the rights of the minority cannot be subjugated by the will of the majority ... “it is of great importance in a republic not only to guard the society against the oppression of its rulers, but to guard one part of the society against the injustice of the other part. Different interests

necessarily exist in different classes of citizens. If a majority be united by a common interest, the rights of the minority will be insecure., and “In a free government the security for civil rights must be the same as that for religious rights.”

Finally, she makes a statement and goes on to ask a question “usurpation of power to promote one's personal opinion might feel like ‘success’... but what will prevent a future President from refusing to represent an environmental protection act or any other law that he may personally oppose?”

Where were these concerns when the second President Bush quietly claimed the authority to disobey more than 750 laws, asserting that he had the power to set aside any statute passed by Congress when it conflicted with his interpretation of the Constitution; and rewrote regulations that weakened both the Clean Air and Clean Water Act during the early 2000s, allowing mining companies to pollute waterways and power plants to avoid particulate regulations?

Let's not fool ourselves, this is nothing new and in no way threatens the American way of life or our system of government.

As far back as 1946 in the court case *United States v. Lovett*, the Supreme Court considered a regulation requiring withholding salaries from government officials said to be

radicals. The executive branch complied with the law but told the Supreme Court that it was unconstitutional. A lawyer representing Congress urged the court to uphold it and the justices struck it down.

In 1990, in another case on the politically divisive issue, after an acting solicitor general told the Supreme Court that the Justice Department would not defend the Federal Communications Commission's affirmative action program because, in language echoing Attorney General Eric Holders, it “could not withstand the exacting scrutiny required by the Constitution.” The commission filed its own brief defending the program, and the court upheld it. The acting Solicitor General who refused to defend the program, John G. Roberts, Jr., is now chief justice of the United States.

Those who now complain the Justice Department is failing in its constitutional duty to defend federal laws might heed the words of one of the conservative movement's best known scholars, Robert Bork, former appeals court judge and Solicitor General under presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. When called on to defend campaign finance law before the Supreme Court, Bork filed seemingly dueling briefs and was slammed by critics for not simply defending the law.

He responded that it would be a “betrayal of profound obligations” to

the Supreme Court “to take the simplistic notion that whatever Congress enacts we will defend.” (He said so in a letter quoted in an essay by a later Solicitor General, Seth Waxman.)

If anything, the most recent elections have indicated that the most important issues on voter's minds are jobs, the economy and government spending. With this in mind, the question to be asked is, how much of the taxpayer's money should be used to defend laws which the administration feels will not pass the test of constitutionality?

In a time of threatened austerity the government's continuing effort to legislate morality serves no economic, fiscal or legal purpose. It only serves to limit the rights of a minority in furtherance of a specific religious viewpoint.

There is an old saying that where you stand on an issue depends on where you sit, and this is just another example. Berg has clearly telegraphed exactly where she sits, and shame on the *Sacramento Bee* for allowing this thinly veiled attack on the gay community and basic human rights to be published without subjecting it to the scrutiny it so clearly deserved.

Stephen Blakley is the Lead Consultant with Measured Outcomes. He can be reached at www.measuredoutcomes.net

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Local Theatre

Northern California Theater Heats Up

by Chris Narloch

Three intriguing productions, in Sacramento, Davis, and San Francisco, have me hightailing it to the theater this month.

Circle Mirror Transformation

In a community center drama class, four lost souls act out hilarity, sadness, desperation and hope. But are they really acting? Find out at Sacramento's B Street Theatre, where Annie Baker's acclaimed work is playing through April 10. *The New York Times* described Circle Mirror Transformation as "the kind of unheralded gem that sends people into the streets babbling and bright-eyed with the desire to spread the word."

For more information, visit www.BStreetTheatre.org.

The Homecoming

Critics rave about this Harold Pinter play, which is receiving an acclaimed production courtesy of San Francisco's American Conservatory Theater, through March 27.

Hailed as Pinter's masterpiece and his most sexually provocative play, *The Homecoming* deals with a power struggle between a long-absent son and his difficult father, as they vie for the attentions of the son's attractive wife, with outrageous consequences.

To buy tickets, go to www.act-sf.org.



Matthew Dunivan as the Convict in "Come Hell & High Water"

Come Hell & High Water

If you missed this hypnotic campus production at UC Davis, you'll have to wait until the work receives its professional theatrical premiere in Minneapolis next May. If you were there, you know that there was nothing unprofessional about the student version put on by the UCD Department of Theatre & Dance.

Granada Artist-in-Residence and Tony Award-winner Dominique Serrand devised and directed the piece, a 90-minute, dream-like work based on *Old Man*, a short novella by William Faulkner.

The story involves a convict who recounts a nightmarish tale of the profound, lifelong injustice he faced after attempting to rob a train. Set in an abandoned warehouse in New Orleans, circa 2005, *Come Hell & High Water* marries Faulkner's flood of language and imagery to the literal flood that was Hurricane Katrina.

The remarkably talented student cast was led by Matthew Dunivan as the Convict, Brian Livingston as the Old Man, and Brendan Ward as the Warden. The production also included a number of experienced singers who formed a sort of Greek chorus that provided poignant musical commentary on the action.

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The next opera up promises to be one of the very best, with Broadway sensation Bartlett Sher directing a Met premiere production of Rossini's vocally dazzling comedy, *Le Comte Ory*.

Juan Diego Florez stars in the title role and vies with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, in the trouser role of Isolier, for the love of the lonely Countess Adele, sung by soprano Diana Damrau. Visit www.metoperafamily.org for more information about the April 9 live transmission and its encore on April 27.



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American Idol Alums CD Reviews – Crystal Bowersox & Jason Castro

With the tenth season of *American Idol* underway, I thought it would be fun to look at recent releases from two former members of the *AI* top ten, who have both carved out their own musical identities post-*Idol*.

Jason Castro claimed the fourth place finish on the seventh season of *Idol*, while Crystal Bowersox was the runner-up to winner Lee

DeWyze on the ninth season of *AI* last year.

Bowersox and Castro are two of the more interesting artists to come



Crystal Bowersox

Bowersox wrote and performs with Brian Walker. The singer also scores with three radio-friendly cuts: the title track, “Lonely Won’t Come Around” and “Ridin’ With The Radio.”

Jason Castro Jason Castro, Atlantic Records

Jason Castro was the quirky contestant from season seven who somehow made it into the top five that year singing surprisingly effective covers of older songs such as “Over the Rainbow” from *The Wizard of Oz* and Leonard Cohen’s “Hallelujah.”

Like Crystal Bowersox, Castro wears his hair in what I like to call “Caucasian dreads,” and he looks like a stoner, although he is actually a Christian (not that you can’t be both). I always enjoyed his appearances on *Idol*, because you never knew what he was going to do next.

Castro (who is of Colombian descent) stays true to himself on his debut disc, co-writing most of the straightforward pop-rock songs himself and wisely including his excellent version of “Hallelujah,” which is the best cut on the disc.

The singer’s voice is raspier than I remembered which actually helps offset the reliance on romantic love songs here – although with his perfect skin and delicate features, he is believable as a heartthrob.

Be sure and get the deluxe edition of the CD, which features six extra cuts including Castro’s superb rendition of “Over the Rainbow,” which is very simple and very sweet.



Jason Castro

out of *American Idol*, with similar musical styles. They even have similar hairstyles.

Crystal Bowersox Farmer’s Daughter, 19 / JIVE

Crystal Bowersox, who slipped through the corporate cracks last year on *Idol* – much as Adam Lambert had done the season before – was a blast of originality on the show, delivering interesting versions of iconic numbers made famous by Aretha Franklin, Janis Joplin, and other powerhouse singers, songs that often swallow up lesser contestants.

Bowersox has a grittier look and style than the average *Idol* contestant, and her new CD

successfully takes advantage of her strengths. It also makes few concessions to what is considered ‘marketable’ in the music business these days. (Blessedly, Bowersox is presented as earthy on the cover photo, with ripped jeans and bare feet, rather than being all tarted up.)

The music is down to earth, too, with hints of folk, soul, and rock infusing the mostly pop arrangements. Bowersox wrote most of the lyrics herself, and they feel honest and heartfelt instead of sounding like desperate attempts to have a hit single.

I especially liked the next-to-last song, “Mason,” a lovely duet about building a life together that

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Photo Book Celebrates 45 Years of Drama on *Days of Our Lives*

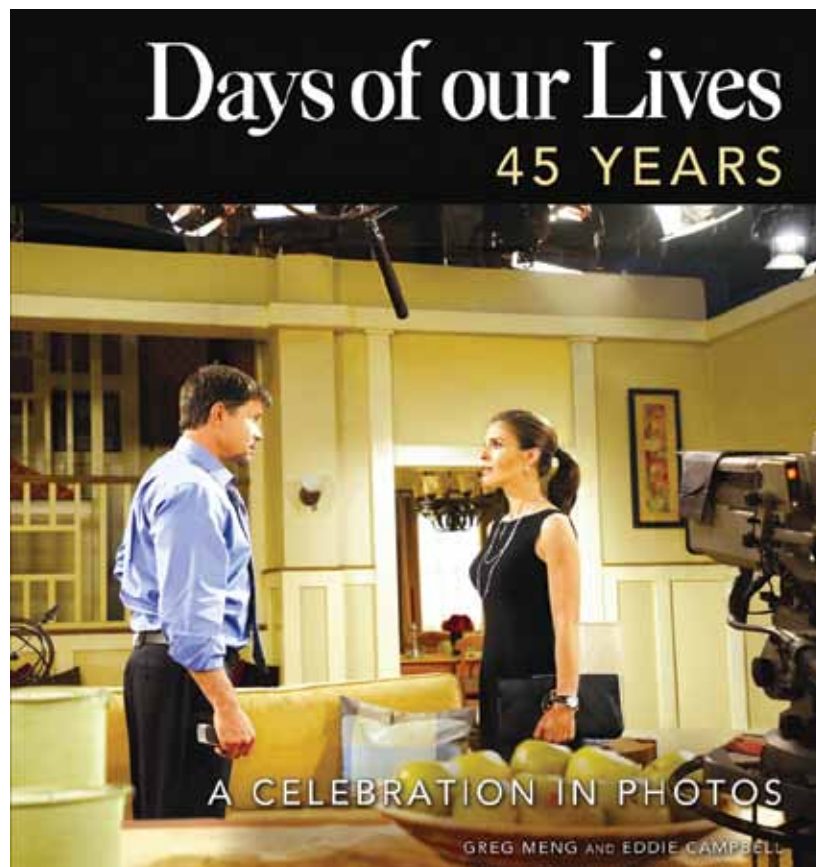
For those who don't already have enough drama in their lives, there is *Days of our Lives*, the venerable soap opera, which recently celebrated its 45th year on television.

To help loyal viewers mark that milestone, Executive in Charge of Production Greg Meng and famed art director Eddie Campbell have released an impressive new book, *Days of our Lives 45 Years: A Celebration in Photos*.

The hardcover coffee table book traces the history of the show and its colorful characters from the inception of the series to the present, offering a rare glimpse of over 500 behind-the-scenes photos of one of America's most beloved television shows.

Using never-before-seen images of cast, crew, sets, and styling, *Days of our Lives: A Celebration in Photos* gives fans an extraordinary look inside the studio and into the lives of the stars of the longest-running scripted program in NBC's history.

Visit www.Days45Online.com.



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SACRAMENTO CORONATION 2011

Entertainment

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater – Plus Sarah Silverman

The Mondavi lineup this season is nothing if not eclectic, and two of the most interesting offerings are scheduled for early April.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre

Alvin Ailey said that one of America's richest treasures was the cultural heritage of the African-American – “sometimes sorrowful, sometimes jubilant, but always hopeful”

Revelations, included on this mixed repertory program, is an enduring classic that pays tribute to Ailey's heritage and his genius. Using traditional African-American spirituals, this suite explores the places of deepest grief and holiest joy in the soul.

Celebrating 50 years of Revelations, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater will play the Mondavi Center on April 5 and 6 at 8 p.m..

Sarah Silverman

The latest woman to join the bad girl comedy club gives Joan Rivers, Lisa Lampanelli and Margaret Cho a run for their money, with a unique comic style all her own.

She has been described by the *New York Times* as having an “aggressively silly, button-pushing comedy style” that is equal parts provocation and social satire.

Silverman riffs hilariously on race, religion, sexuality and all sacred points in between. She plays Mondavi one night only on Sunday, April 10 at 7 p.m.

For information on either show, visit www.MondaviArts.org.



Jane Eyre and The Housemaid – Plus Johnny Depp Gets Animated

by Chris Narloch

Two very different tales of passion reach movie screens this month with the arrival of the South Korean film *The Housemaid* and a new version of *Jane Eyre*. I also spotlight Johnny Depp's foray into animation, *Rango*.

Jane Eyre

The hot young director Cary Fukunaga, who grew up in Oakland and graduated from UC

Santa Cruz, has managed to breathe new life into a classic with this beautifully made cinematic treatment of the famous novel by

Charlotte Bronte.

For starters, he has a great Rochester and a perfectly cast Jane (rising stars Michael Fassbender

of the *Caribbean* films) score big with this clever animated spoof of classic westerns featuring a blessedly un-cutesy cast of animals.

movie is beautifully-rendered, with thrilling action sequences, a very funny script filled with colorful characters and no dopey 3D effects. In wide release.



Michael Fassbinder and Mia Wasikowska in the romantic drama *Jane Eyre*. Photo by Laurie Sparham.

The Housemaid

I haven't seen this one yet, but if you are a fan of Asian noir you'll want to check it out at the Crest. The trailer looks pretty stylish, and the movie has been getting a good amount of buzz.

A loopy-looking thriller, *The Housemaid* follows an innocent young woman who is hired to care for an upper class family's small daughter and her pregnant mother.

When she herself becomes pregnant by the master of the house and is forced into an abortion, her already fragile mental condition takes a turn for the worse, and she decides to take matters into her own hands. Visit www.thecrest.com.

and Mia Wasikowska, respectively), and both actors give intense, passionate performances.

Judi Dench, Jamie Bell, and Sally Hawkins round out the fine supporting cast, and the other star is Adriano Goldman's stunning cinematography, which makes palpable both the chill of the misty moors and the sexual heat between Bronte's star-crossed lovers. At the Tower.

Rango

Johnny Depp and Gore Verbinski (his director on three of the *Pirates*

Johnny Depp gives voice to the titular hero, a lizard who becomes the sheriff of a small town accurately named Dirt, after he lucks out and kills a hawk who has been preying on the townsfolk.

Rango sticks around to save the drought-stricken town's much-needed water supply and to battle other assorted villains, including an enormous rattlesnake voiced by Bill Nighy and the Mayor of Dirt, a wheelchair-bound turtle played by Ned Beatty.

The entire cast, including Depp, does terrific voice work, and the



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Calendar

Mar. Apr.

compiled by Charles Peer

Friday, 25

BADLANDS' B'DAY BASH

Help celebrate Badlands' 4th anniversary with a free cocktail, catered appetizers and an exclusive swag bag for the first 200 guests. 7 - 9 p.m. Badlands, 2003 K St. Info: 916-441-6823 SacBadlands.com

Saturday, 26

BLANK CANVAS

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center is hosting a Queer Youth Prom. \$15 (\$10 in advance) Clunie Community Center, McKinley Park. Info: SacCenter.org

HIGH BRIDGE TRAIL HIKE

Enjoy a scenic spring hike in the oak forested hills near Clear Lake. It's a 'moderate' 6 miles total, with 700 ft. of uphill, plus fording a creek. Also nearby is one of California's best spring wildflower displays. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-379-0724

SOFTBALL CLINIC

The Sacramento Valley Gay & Lesbian Softball League is holding a softball clinic for new players and returning players who want to shake off the winter doldrums. 9 a.m. - noon. Grant Park. Info: 916-752-8689

LA DOLCE VITA

The SF LGBT Center celebrates their 9th year with performance art, live music, silent auction and much more. 7 - 11 p.m. SF Design Center Galleria, 101 Henry Adams St. Info: 415-865-5555 soiree.sfcenter.org

Tuesday, 29

LAVENDER LIBRARY GAMES

Come enjoy the company of like-minded card sharks, with games from modern strategy to old favorites, and you are more than welcome to bring in a favorite game to share. 7 - 9 p.m. The Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. Info: 916-492-0558 LavenderLibrary.org

Saturday, 2

COLAGE KICKOFF

Come hear what COLAGE is all about and how you can get involved in this national group of children, youth, and adults with one or more LGBTQ parent/s. 2 - 4 p.m. Sac Gay & Lesbian Center, 1927 L St. Info: sacramento@colage.org

BOLT ANNIVERSARY

How time flies when you're having fun. The Bolt is another year older (but Kenny says he isn't)! So celebrate with them, and enjoy a delicious, complimentary Mexican Feast. Doors open at 2 p.m. and the food's served at 4 p.m. No cover. The Bolt Bar, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com

VALLEY BEARS GAMES NIGHT

Join the Sacramento Valley Bears for a night of board games. Bring a dish to share. 7 - 10 p.m. Info: SacBears.org

LISA LAMPANELLI LIVE

Comedy's loveable Queen of Mean returns to Sacramento for a night of non-stop politically inappropriate laughs. 7 & 10 p.m. The Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. Info: LiveNation.com

EARTH FEST

A party for the planet, with environmental, wildlife and conservation organizations, plus animal bio-artifacts, storytelling, activities and come face-to-face with outreach animals. \$11. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. SacZoo, Land Park. Info: 916-808-5888 SacZoo.org

CAST FOR CASH

Pack your tackle box, load up the rod and reel and head out to the Rancho Seco Recreational Area for SMUD's spring trout derby. \$100 cash prize for biggest fish caught. 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rancho Seco Recreational Area, 14440 Twin Cities Rd., Herald. Info: 916-732-4913 smud.org

Sunday, 3

SVL COMMUNITY BRUNCH

Cooked to order omelettes,

biscuits and gravy, sausage, pancakes and more, and coffee and juice are now included and the bar is open! \$10 for all you can eat, with proceeds benefitting local nonprofits. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Bolt Bar, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com SVLClub.org

TUPPERWARE PARTY

Come see the newest that Tupperware has to offer at this special party hosted by Eric Cadwell to benefit the Lavender Library. Noon - 6 p.m. The Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. Info: 916-492-0558 LavenderLibrary.org

Tuesday, 5

OUTWORD SUPPER CLUB

Dinner with friends is on the menu and Chef Rob Lind has created a fabulous menu featuring a 3 course Prix Fixe Dinner. Diners have a choice of entree and dessert created by Pastry Chef Jodie Chavious. \$40. Taylor's Kitchen, 2924 Freeport Blvd. Info: Andrew, 916-443-5154

Wednesday, 6

VALLEY BEARS MEETING

Join the Sacramento Valley Bears for their monthly meeting. Say hi to old friends and make some new ones! 7 p.m. Lambda Players Theatre, 1127 21st St. SacBears.org

Thursday, 7

LGBT REDISTRICT MEETING

Sacramento is about to go through the process of redistricting, and your input is important to assure the fairness of the process. 7 p.m. Sierra II Center, 2791 24th St.

LEATHER 101

The Sacramento Valley Leathercorps hosts a class on various aspects of the leather community. 18+ open to all. \$5 suggested donation. 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. The Geery Theater, 2130 L St. Info: svlclub.com

Friday, 8

GLS DINING OUT

Meet new friends as we gather for dinner at an ethnic restaurant near the Tower Theater. 6 p.m. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-737-2152



Lisa Lampanelli

The Queen of Mean is back. The standout comic didn't insult Sacramento enough the last time she was here, so the cross between Don Rickles, Archie Bunker, and a vial of estrogen is coming back to roast us again. Don't miss this show, but don't sit too close either!

See:

Apr. 2

FLASHLIGHT PARTY

Do you like doing it in the dark? The lights go out and the party goes on, starting at 10 p.m. Bring a flashlight (or don't, if you are really brave.) No cover. The Bolt Bar, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com

Saturday, 9

S.L.U.T. PARTY

Sexually Liberated & Unified by Truth, that is, a celebration of sexual freedom, self-actualization and an abundance of love with host Lance Navarro, Mr. Bolt Leather. \$8 beer bust, raffle prizes and more. 9 p.m. The Bolt Bar, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com

ANO NUEVO SEAL HIKE

See the magnificent elephant seals and their pups, and go tidepooling with Betty's list and guide Kim Powell. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. \$75. RSVP: 415-503-1375 Bettyslist.com

BEYOND THE PASTA

Author Mark Leslie will read from his new cookbook, which is also the story of his year in Italy living with an Italian family to learn the art of Italian cooking firsthand. 6 - 7 p.m., The Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. Info: lavenderlibrary.com

POWER & PASSION

The power of Shostakovich and the passion of Elgar in *Hidden Meanings*, a concert thick with implication and design, with cellist Joseph Johnson. The Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra. 8 p.m. Community Center Theatre. Info: 916-808-5181 SacPhil.org

Sunday, 10

GLS URBAN WALK

Get some exercise and meet nice folks on a walk through Old Land Park, starting at the Tower Theater. Approximately 5 miles. Lunch afterward, an option. Dogs

CALENDAR

continues on page 26

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Word on the Street

If you could be a cartoon character, who would it be?



Darwin Black
Roger Rabbit.

Eric Grimes
Michael Angelo from *Ninja Turtles*.

Jennifer Hatton
Bugs Bunny, he always had a great comeback and he always got the carrot!

Brandon Cook
Johnny Bravo, old school Cartoon Network.


Kenny Marion
Sully from *Monsters Inc.*

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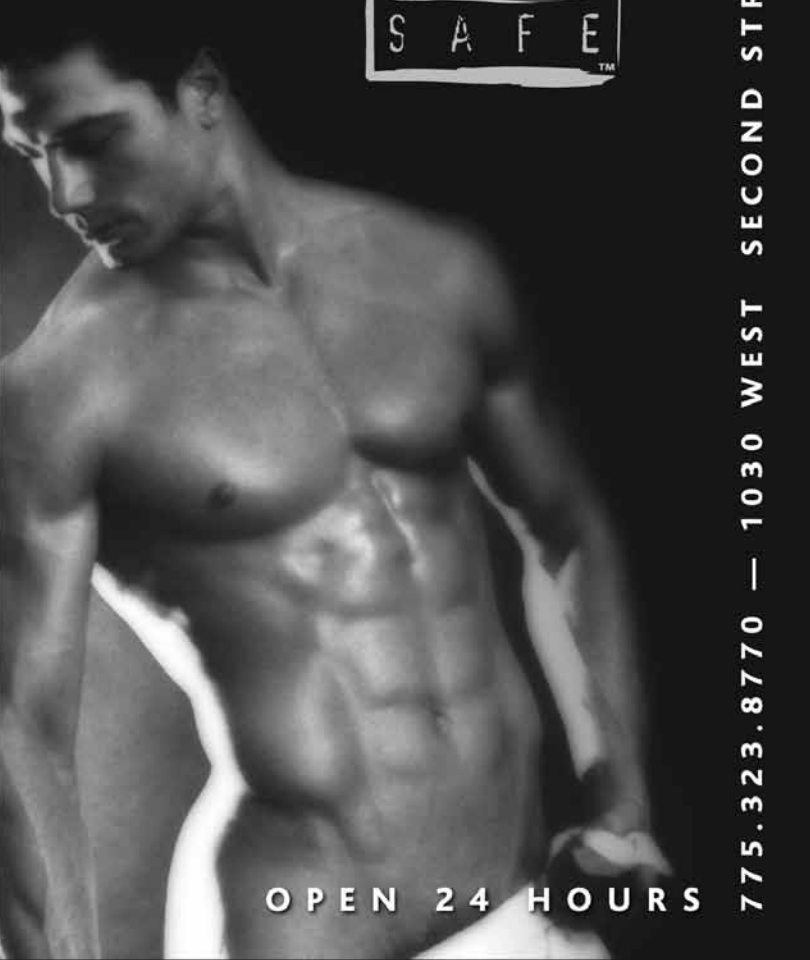
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Out & About

Lake Tahoe Winterfest XVI

Skiers, borders and après-skiers took advantage of near perfect conditions at this year's Lake Tahoe Winterfest, held March 6-13. Besides the skiing and slushing, there was plenty of partying including a Luau on Ice, a Chocolate Martini Night, a Barefoot Wine Après Ski Reception, a comedy night with Jason Stuart, a dinner and dance party onboard the Tahoe Queen, and of course, plenty of Nevada style fun at the host casino Harrah's. Our intrepid photographer James Dusch headed up the hill to capture these great images at the many events and on the slopes of Heavenly-Tahoe.



Happy Hour

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Friday, April 8, 2011
5:30 - 7 p.m.



Outword
magazine

support for the freedom to marry around the nation.”

The House bill already has more than 100 co-sponsors. The lead sponsors are Representatives Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), Barney Frank (D-NY), Tammie Baldwin (D-WI), Jared Polis (D-CO), David Cicilline (D-RI) and John Conyers (D-MI).

Rep. Nadler introduced a repeal bill in 2009, but there was not a Senate version to go along with it. This time, a Senate bill is being introduced by Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Chris Coons (D-DE) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT).

separate income, they would each report \$50,000 dollars in income on their returns to the IRS.

While the student would end up paying more in taxes, the architect would fall in a lower tax bracket, and the couple would pay less overall. The IRS has also said that this change will apply similarly to same-sex spouses in California and RDPs in Washington and Nevada.

Keep in mind, though, that this does not mean same-sex spouses may file as “married”; the so-called Defense of Marriage Act continues to prohibit that.

Like all signs of progress, this one comes with growing pains: it makes preparation of

tax returns more complicated for many couples during this period of change and, depending on their income, a few may end up paying more in taxes under the new income-splitting policy. It’s likely that many more will pay less though. Either way, this still represents a step in the direction of treating legally committed same-sex couples the same as married heterosexuals and is welcome progress towards our community’s goal of full legal equality.

Although we cannot provide tax advice, we encourage you to learn more information about the IRS policy at www.lambdalegal.org or by calling our Western Regional Office help desk at (213) 382-7600, ext. 330.



benefits, including attracting high-tech and “green” industries comes from having a large gay population, according to the Brookings Institution, a public policy nonprofit based in Washington, D.C.

Sacramento ranks ninth on the gay index with a concentration of gays in community compared to the population in general, ahead of Denver, Chicago and Portland. The 2011 Pride gives the community a chance to showcase this asset to the region.

Sacramento Pride funds local gay services such as the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center’s legal clinic, Lavender Angels, Q-Deaf,

homelessness and Speaker’s Bureau as well as peer programs for families, youth, 20-somethings, transgender, people with HIV/AIDS, men, women and bisexuals.

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center serves the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of the greater Sacramento region by providing space, diverse programming, advocacy and awareness in a safe and affirmative environment.

For more information, contact the Center at 916-442-0185 or pride@sacramentopride.org.

Sacramento LGBTQ Homeless Youth Initiative



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ongoing basis.

Community members interested in volunteering for the new initiative can sign-up at www.SacCenter.org. Donations are also being accepted, and will be applied to help meet Supervisor Serna’s challenge. Donations can be made online at www.SacCenter.org, or mailed to The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center, 1927 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95811, Attention: HYI.

DRAG QUEEN BINGO!



next on Wed.

Mar

30

Games Start at 7pm
Come early for dinner!

benefitting:
UC Davis Children's Hospital

UCDAVIS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



Don't forget, we've scooted our next date to Wednesday, March 30!

also Wed.

Apr

13

Featuring
Rusty Nails and Do Me



BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Outword magazine

Hamburger HP patties

AS OF THE MARCH 30 EVENT, DRAG QUEEN BINGO IS 21 AND OVER ONLY.

There is a \$5 entry fee (good for all weekend) and all entrants age 16 and older must possess a valid California state fishing license.

Rancho Seco Recreational Area is 25 miles south of Sacramento, approximately 15 minutes east of Highway 99 on Twin Cities Road. The park is owned and operated by SMUD. Admission to the park is \$10 per vehicle (\$8 for seniors).

For more information or to schedule camping reservations, call 916-732-4913 or 209-748-2318 or go to smud.org.

COLAGE Launches Sacramento Chapter

COLAGE, a national movement of children, youth, and adults with one or more LGBTQ parent/s, is forming a Sacramento chapter.

Headquartered in San Francisco, with over 13 chapters nationwide, the organization is community based and works toward social justice through youth empowerment, leadership development, education, and advocacy, and offers a broad range of education and activities to support its mission.

Organizers of the new COLAGE Sacramento chapter invite you to their kickoff meeting to hear what COLAGE is all about and how you can get involved. It will be held Saturday, April 2, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the main room of the Sac G&L Center, located at 1927 L St.

Regular gatherings will begin April 23 and occur every fourth Saturday of the month from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Center.

Visit www.colage.org or email sacramento@colage.org

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justice - including the ACLU's California Affiliates, Equality California, the National Center for Lesbian Rights and Gay-Straight Alliance Network.

"Everyday in California, many students go to school fearful of another day of harassment and intimidation with no hope of a better tomorrow," said Geoff Kors, executive director of Equality California.

"Seth's Law will give all students the tools to seek the help they need to keep them safe and make sure that educators combat bullying in our schools."

Under Seth's Law, every school district in the state would:

- Create strong and clear anti-harassment policies and programs, if they don't have them already.

- Have a system in place to ensure that all reports of harassment are taken seriously, addressed quickly, and that parents and students understand the process of making these complaints.

- Explain the harmful impact of bullying and discrimination to students and staff.

- Provide ongoing professional development for teachers, school counselors and administrators about identifying and stopping harassment and discrimination and creating a school-wide culture of inclusion and respect for difference.

Calendar

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on leash are OK. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-903-6846 for start time.

ZOO ZOOM

Join the stampede as thousands of runners raise funds to benefit the Sacramento Zoo. 7 a.m. - noon. SacZoo, Land Park. Info: 916-808-5888 SacZoo.org

Monday, 11

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS

Join the LGBT Democrats for their monthly meeting, with guest speakers and discussions of current political events. Social, 6 p.m., meeting, 6:30 p.m. Radisson Hotel, 500 Leisure Lane. Info: 916-441-1787 SacStonewall.org

Wednesday, 13

DRAG QUEEN BINGO

Join Hamburger Patties and *Outword* for a night of very fun Bingo for Charity. Eight games, \$15. Come early for cocktails and dinner and to get a great seat, first game at 7 p.m. Hamburger Patties, 1630 J St. Info: 916-441-4340 OutwordMagazine.com

Saturday, 16

LAVENDER BOOK SALE

Fill paper bags with paperback and hardbound books, VHSs and DVDs for only \$5. Gay male erotica will also be for sale (mostly VHS). To benefit the Lavender Library, Archives and Cultural Exchange. 9 a.m. until the books are sold. The Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. Info: 916-492-0558 LavenderLibrary.org

BUTCHERING 101

Master meat cutter Danny Johnson shares suggestions for spring grilling and preparation styles of beef, lamb, pork, poultry, and seafood. Light lunch. \$40. 10 a.m. Taylor's Kitchen, 2924 Freeport Blvd. RSVP: Andrew, 916-443-5154 TaylorsMarket.com

Sunday, 17

OUTWORD SUPPER CLUB

The chef and staff of the Kitchen have put together a special dinner, including entrees, wine pairings and desserts just for our Supper Club. Reservations required. 5 p.m. The Kitchen Restaurant, 2225 Hurley Way. RSVP: 916-568-7171

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Outword's Supper Club.

Select restaurants, on select nights, surrounded by family.



Space Is Limited!

April 5
Tuesday Night, 6 p.m.
Taylor's Kitchen

2924 Freeport Blvd.
916-443-5154

Prix fixe at \$40 per person, 3
courses with choice of
(3)entrée and (2)dessert.
Reservations Required



Space Is Limited!

April 17
Sunday Night, 5 p.m.
The Kitchen Restaurant

2225 Hurley Way
916-568-7171

Reservations Required



Bugger!

**I missed another
Outword event!**

**I did, but I sat on
my iPad last week
and broke it.**

**Well, sign up for
their email blasts,
stupid!**

**I'd rather be
playing Angry
Birds.**

**Sacramento's Only Real
Leather/Cowboy/Bear Bar**



ANNIVERSARY PARTY!

**Saturday
April 2, 2010**
Doors Open at 2

**\$1 Draft
\$1 Well
4 - 8 pm!** **No Cover**

**Mexican Food
Buffet at 4 pm**
(till it's all gone)

**Anniversary
Surprises!**

**Big (and Little)
Fun!**

