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Outword

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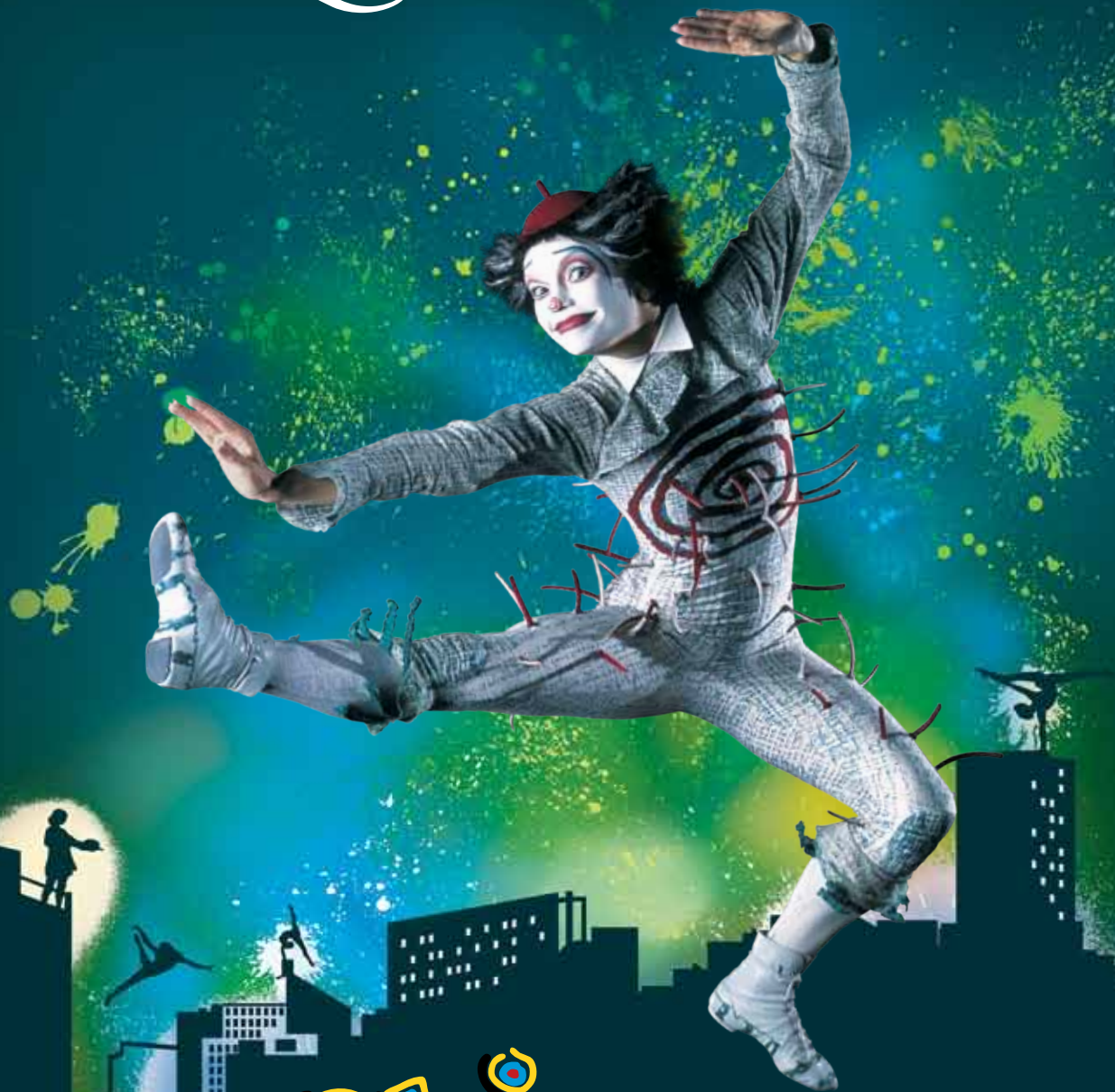
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Bill Strengthening Non-discrimination Laws Advances

The Assembly Judiciary Committee passed on April 5, the Gender Nondiscrimination Act (AB 877) by a 7-1 vote. AB 887 seeks to strengthen employment, housing, and other civil rights protections for transgender people and others who do not fit narrow gender stereotypes.

The bill was authored by Assemblymember Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) and is sponsored by Equality California and co-sponsored by the Transgender Law Center.

"I am very pleased that the Gender Nondiscrimination Act advanced today," said Assemblymember Atkins. "This bill affirms that California does not discriminate, and it is an important step to ensure equal protection under the law for all Californians."

AB 887 takes existing protections based on gender identity and expression and enumerates them as protected categories in non-discrimination laws. In addition, the bill clarifies that gender identity and expression are included in the definition of gender and sex in all California codes.

California non-discrimination laws already define "gender" to include a person's gender identity and gender expression. AB 887 specifically enumerates gender identity and gender expression in order to simplify compliance with existing legal protections.

"All hardworking people in California, including transgender people, should have the chance to earn a living and provide for their families," said Masen Davis, Executive Director of the Transgender Law Center in his testimony before the committee. "The Gender Nondiscrimination Act would strengthen existing protections and ensure that confusing legal language does not come between transgender people and our rights."

LGBT Elders Have Fears About Care Facilities

A majority of older LGBT adults who answered a national online survey believe that staff of long-term care facilities would discriminate against an LGBT elder who was open about his or her sexual orientation, and more than half believe that staff or other residents would abuse or neglect an LGBT elder.

Released April 5, the groundbreaking report, *LGBT Older Adults in Long-Term Care Facilities: Stories from the Field*, utilizes survey results for the first glimpse into some of the issues faced by LGBT older adults in long-term care facilities.

Of the 769 individuals who completed the survey, 328 people reported 853 instances of mistreatment in such facilities.

The survey, conducted from October 2009 through June 2010 did not use a representative or scientific sample, but includes hundreds of personal comments offered by the respondents, ranging from reports of staff harassment to staff refusals to provide basic services or care.

Of the 769 individuals who completed the survey, 284 identified themselves as LGBT older adults. Others said they were family members, friends, social service providers, legal services providers, or other interested individuals.

"Our hope is that this report provokes thought, raises critical questions, and compels future systematic research that can be used to dive deeper into the issues raised by these findings

and the many personal stories we received," said National Senior Citizens Law Center Executive Director Paul Nathanson in a released statement.

Some of the comments point to possible violations of federal nursing home law, while others signify that far more training and awareness by staff is needed in addition to enhanced consumer awareness. The report also points to a wide array of policy remedies that could be enacted to support LGBT elders better and improve the facilities where they reside.

The report's recommendations are directed toward policymakers as well as long-term care providers.

The survey, web site and the report were prepared by the National Senior Citizens Law Center in collaboration with Lambda Legal, National Center for Lesbian Rights, National Center for Transgender Equality, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE).

Survey results, comments and personal videos from LGBT older adults can be found as well as profiles of the authors at www.LGBTLongTermCare.org.

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FAIR Education Act Passes Calif. Senate

A bill that ensures that the historical contributions of LGBT people are accurately and fairly portrayed in instructional materials has passed the California Senate.

Authoring by Senator Mark Leno, SB 48 The FAIR (Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful) Education Act passed the Senate on Thursday, April 14 by a

not identify as straight. We can't tell our youth that it's OK to be yourself and expect them to treat their peers with dignity and respect while we deny



Senator Mark Leno (D- San Francisco) speaking in favor of the FAIR Act at the Queer Youth Advocacy Day rally at the State Capitol on April 4.

23-14 vote, and if signed into law, would add the LGBT community to the existing list of under-represented cultural and ethnic groups already included in the state's inclusionary education requirements.

"Most textbooks don't include any information about LGBT historical figures or the LGBT civil rights movement, which has great significance to both California and U.S. history," said Senator Leno (D-San Francisco). "This selective censorship sends the wrong message to all young people, and especially to those who do

them accurate information about the historical contributions of Americans who happened to be LGBT?"

Research indicates that students who learn about LGBT people find their school environments more accepting of LGBT youth. Students are also more likely to report that their LGBT peers are treated fairly at school - and that other types of peer-to-peer disrespect also declines - when LGBT people and issues are included in instructional

FAIR
continues on page 29

Report Exposes Bullying Advocates

As states and school districts work to stem a tide of anti-gay bullying in American schools, according to a new report, the Religious Right has been leading a concerted effort to stop programs that seek to protect LGBT youth from bullying and to deny that the problem of anti-gay bullying exists.

The report exposes the Religious Right's pro-bullying efforts and the myths it is using to promote them, and was released by People For the American Way on April 13.

The report, *Big Bullies: How the Religious Right is Trying to Make Schools Safe for Bullies and Dangerous for Gay Kids*, can be found online at www.pfaw.org/rww-in-focus/big-bullies-how-the-religious-right-trying-to-make-schools-safe-for-bullies-and-dangerous-for-gay-kids

"The anti-anti-bullying movement sounds like a joke, but it's frighteningly real," said Michael Keegan, President of People For the American Way. "The Religious Right is desperately trying to protect bullies and further marginalize gay and gay-perceived kids by stopping efforts to make schools safe for every child."

The Right's anti-anti-bullying effort relies on four central strategies, according to the report:

- The Indoctrination Myth: Religious Right activists claim that

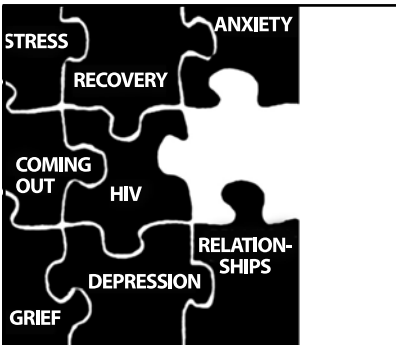
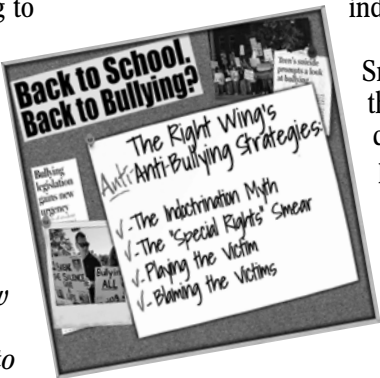
anti-bullying policies will result in "homosexual indoctrination" in schools.

- The "Special Rights" Smear: Opponents claim that recognizing and confronting the problem of anti-gay bullying amounts to granting "special rights" to LGBT kids.

- Playing the Victim: The Religious Right has tried to turn the realities of school bullying on their head, claiming that anti-gay bullies are the real victims, and gay rights groups the real bullies.

- Blaming the Victim: In the crudest part of the anti-anti-bullying effort, Religious Right activists are trying to blame the gay rights movement and gay kids themselves for anti-gay bullying.

"The pro-bullying movement shows just how far the Religious Right is willing to go to stop the recognition and acceptance of gay people at every level of society, and to paint themselves as the victims of the gay rights movement," said Keegan. "The real bullies are the adults who are willing to hurt kids in order to push a political agenda of intolerance and exclusion."



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Greenberg Traurig Attorney Receives Community Service Award

Natalie Hrubos, an associate in the Philadelphia office of the international law firm Greenberg Traurig, LLP, has been honored with the Craig M. Perry Service Award from the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association for her pro bono work representing low-income transgender individuals.

“We are proud to support Natalie in her pro bono legal work and congratulate her on this well-deserved award,” said Michael L. Lehr, Regional Operating Shareholder of Greenberg Traurig. “Her commitment to this work reflects Greenberg Traurig’s dedication to diversity and a culture of pro bono legal work.”

Marc B. Koenigsberg, an attorney in Greenberg Traurig’s Sacramento office joins Mr. Lehr in congratulating Natalie on her accomplishment.

“I’m proud to work with attorneys who share the value of performing pro bono work for the communities in which we live whether it’s in Philadelphia,



Sacramento or anywhere across the country where Greenberg Traurig has offices,” said Koenigsberg. “Assisting transgender individuals with such significant representation is a

testament to Natalie’s commitment to important pro bono work, as well as Greenberg Traurig’s commitment to supporting its attorney who do this important work.”

The Craig M. Perry Service Award is presented annually to a young lawyer – 37 years old or younger or within the first three years of practice – who has devoted substantial time and energy to community-oriented activities, including, but not limited to, pro bono and charity work.

Hrubos engages in significant pro bono work representing transgender individuals seeking legal name changes and corrections to their identity documents and is an active member of the Planning Committee for the Philadelphia Trans-Health Conference, a three-day event that promotes health and wellness within the transgender community through workshops and other educational opportunities.

LGBT Democrats Come to Town

Stonewall Democratic Club members from all over California will be in Sacramento this week attending the California State Democratic Convention. Time has been set aside for two events centered around the Legislative LGBT Caucus and LGBT Democrats.

On Friday afternoon, April 29, the LGBT Caucus Meeting of the State Party will be held. New officers will be elected, members of the LGBT Legislative Caucus (Speaker Perez, Senators Kehoe and Leno, Assemblymembers Ammiano, Atkins, Gordon and Lara) will speak, and there will be discussions about redistricting, as well as hearing from statewide officers and new LGBT candidates.

Sacramento Stonewall’s Vice President Heather Minton is running for Vice Chair of the LGBT Caucus.

Attendance at the Caucus meetings is open to all registered Democrats.

The LGBT Caucus Meeting starts at 4:30 p.m. on Friday afternoon, April 29 in the Convention Center.

Later that night, the Party turns to partying when the LGBT Caucus holds its Hospitality Party. There will be great hors d’oeuvres; no host bar and Chef David English is letting you order off the menu until 11 p.m.

“This is sure to be a great party with lots of energy!” said Patrick Holstine, Sacramento Stonewall’s Communication Chair. “Come mix and mingle with the members of the LGBT Legislative Caucus, Capitol staffers, lobbyists, activists and Stonewall members from across the state.”

The Hospitality Party will be from 10 p.m. to midnight at The Press Bistro, 1809 Capitol Ave. For more information go to www.cadem.org.


Outword Salutes Sacramento’s Rainbow Chamber of Commerce

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Anti-Bullying Law Passes Key Legislative Committee

The California Assembly Education Committee has passed Seth's Law, a comprehensive bill that addresses school bullying by providing California schools with specific tools to prevent and address the pervasive problem of bullying in order to create a safe school environment for all students.

The bill is named "Seth's Law" in memory of Seth Walsh, a 13 year-old gay student from Tehachapi, California, who took his life in September 2010, after facing years of relentless anti-gay harassment at school.

It was passed by the Committee in a 7-3 vote on Thursday, April 14, following powerful testimony by Wendy Walsh, Seth's mother.

"I can't bring my son back. But the California legislature can make a difference today to protect young people across our state just like Seth who are or are, thought to be lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender," said Wendy Walsh. "Schools need to take harassment and bullying seriously when parents or students tell them about it, and when they see it and hear it on the school campus."

The bill was authored by Assemblymember Tom Ammiano and co-sponsored by a coalition of organizations advancing LGBT equality and justice, including Equality California, the ACLU's California Affiliates, the National Center for Lesbian Rights and the

Gay-Straight Alliance Network. "As a former teacher, I know how important it is for our students to feel safe at school. Each day throughout California, LGBT youth experience harassment. Seth's Law will give schools the necessary tools to prevent any young person from being bullied, harassed or worse because of their sexual orientation or gender identity and expression," said Assemblymember Ammiano.

AB 9 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.

Schools often do not have the tools or knowledge to adequately protect lesbian, gay, bisexual, and

BULLYING
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Calls for Full Release of Prop 8 Trial Video Mount

In response to efforts by the Prop 8 Proponents to conceal video of the Prop 8 trial from the public, the American Foundation for Equal Rights (AFER) has escalated the call for the full and unedited release of the *Perry v. Schwarzenegger* public trial footage.

AFER, the City and County of San Francisco, and Media Coalition members including *The LA Times*, CNN, *The NY Times*, FOX News, NBC News, The Associated Press, and others filed briefs urging the court to release the videotapes of the public trial, the transcripts of which have always been public.

"Why should the public be denied the opportunity to see and hear what happened in a public trial in a public courtroom in a case involving the constitutional rights of millions of people?" AFER attorney Theodore J. Boutsous Jr. said in a released statement. "The proponents of Prop 8 have repeatedly attempted to obscure and distort the facts of this trial because they simply have no case and they seem desperately anxious to prevent the American public from seeing the facts for themselves."

AFER Board President Chad

Griffin echoed sentiments once made by Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in regards to another public disclosure case (*Doe v. Reed*) that, "Requiring people to stand up in public for their political acts fosters civic courage, without which democracy is doomed."

Griffin said, "Prop 8 supporters waged a very public and very negative multi-million dollar campaign to block gay and lesbian couples from marrying. If they truly believe in the campaign they waged, they should publicly stand by their defense of Prop 8 in federal court

and not try to stop public access to the trial proceedings. This case involves the constitutional rights of millions of people, therefore, it is especially important for the public to see what happened during trial."

In its brief to the Court, Media Coalition members argued that the case "continues to be closely watched because the legality of California's Proposition 8 ban on sam-sex marriage is of profound interest to millions. Permitting public access to the video recordings of the trial proceedings will only enhance the public's understanding of and provide confidence in the Court's ultimate resolution of this matter."

AFER also launched a campaign encouraging supporters of marriage equality to sign a petition requesting the full and unedited release of the trial tapes. See here: www.afer.org/releasethetapes

Excerpts from AFER's brief can be read in full www.afer.org/.



New Online Setup for LLACE

An anonymous donation is allowing the Lavender Library to swap out its very old software, Winnebago, and move to a more modern software system designed for small libraries, called Surpass.

The new program conforms to all present cataloging standards and allows a number of checkout features, including reserves (i.e. you can ask that a book, or DVD now checked out to someone else be reserved for your use once the checked-out item is returned).

It also employs barcodes, so that checkins and checkouts will be quicker and easier than having to type in words and numbers, which resulted in errors with the old system.

All of us at LLACE look forward to being able to serve you better with the new Surpass system.

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Community Profile

words by Bonnie Osborn

Sacramento Offers Midwesterner Chance to Be True to Self

Bigotry and homophobia inspired Rosanna Herber to leave her hometown of Fort Wayne, Indiana, some 25 years ago. What she found in the capital of one of the most progressive states in the union was a community that has grown increasingly out and proud with each passing year, an evolution that in many ways has mirrored her own.

The middle child of 13 siblings, Herber was 27 years old when she came to the harsh realization that she wasn't going to make it in the Fort Wayne Mayor's office.

The story begins when the Fort Wayne Mayor "finally got enough guts to declare Gay Pride Day," she recalls. As spokesperson for the Mayor, she was assigned to formally deliver the proclamation to the LGBT community.

Word got out though, and displeased constituents inundated the office with angry phone calls. A couple of hours before the scheduled announcement, the Mayor reneged.

To make matters worse, he forbade Herber from letting the LGBT community know. "He said, 'If you want to keep your job, you won't go to that event, and you will keep your mouth shut,'" Herber says. When no one from the Mayor's office showed, a group of LGBT leaders paid Herber a visit. "I marched them into the Mayor's office and said, 'You need to talk to the

man who made the decision.' After that, I knew I couldn't continue to survive in that environment."

"We all have this vision in the Midwest that California is the land of opportunity, where dreams come true, and everyone is treated fairly and justly," she says of her decision to move west. She chose Sacramento because of her governmental experience. But once she got here, she couldn't find a job. "Everyone wanted to know what campaigns I had worked on," she says. "I was new to the area, and no one was willing to take a chance on me."

For a year she worked as the youth program coordinator at Christ Unity Church. "Then I met this young, bright, articulate woman, the same age I was, who was running for city council," Herber says. "After that life really improved."

Newly elected Councilmember Kim Mueller asked Herber to be her chief

of staff. Still shell-shocked from the homophobia of Fort Wayne, Herber cautioned Mueller that her constituents would probably find out she had a gay chief of staff.

"Kim said, 'You know, Rosanna, I think you have a bigger problem with this than I do.'" They both laughed, and Herber served as Mueller's chief of staff until Mueller left for Stanford Law School five years later.

With Mueller's support, Herber came out to co-workers and got involved in the LGBT community. She was the Chair of SACWN, a professional networking organization for lesbians, joined the board of the Lambda Players and performed in several local theater companies. She also got involved with LGBT politics as a founding member of CAPPAC, the first bipartisan gay/lesbian political action committee in Sacramento.

In 1992, Herber joined SMUD as the public utility's Government Affairs Representative, the start of a career now in its 19th year. In her current role as Speakers Bureau Manager, she coordinates SMUD's Speakers Bureau, prepares presentations for SMUD executives and helps develop strategic community

engagement programs.

Herber has a varied background in public service. She was founding president of the Sacramento Metro



Chamber Toastmasters Club and founding president of Stage Signs, which provides theatrical interpretation for the deaf. She served as president of the Sierra Curtis Park Neighborhood Association for two years, during which time the association played a significant role in shaping the development of Curtis Park Village, a 72-acre mixed-use infill project.

"I'm proud to have served on those boards, because it allowed me to show other organizations that gay people can contribute, and that we are everywhere – we are their sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, mothers,

fathers."

Herber currently serves with Dr. Darrick Lawson as Chair of the Rainbow Chamber Foundation's LGBT Redistricting Committee working to establish the LGBT community as a "community of interest" for the city and county redistricting efforts. .

The Sacramento community has changed since she arrived from Fort Wayne, just as she has changed.

"When I came to town in 1986 SACWN didn't have even have the word 'lesbian' in its name because it was feared women would lose jobs if they were known to be gay. Even the River City Democratic Club didn't have the words 'gay' or 'lesbian' in its name..."

Step after step our community has grown in pride and is now willing to be out, open and proud," she says. "I want to say thanks to all the people in the LGBT community who mentored me and gave me the courage and strength to come out as I did community service. I think there have been people that I have disappointed and people that I have pleased, but in the end I'm so grateful for their leadership. It opened doors for me."

Her advice for young LGBT people just starting their careers: "From the beginning, be who you are.

"Your life will be so much more enriched by being who you are. The people who don't like you aren't going to like you anyway. You will find people who will be attracted to your honesty and who will want to be your friend."

Herber and her spouse and partner of 15 years, Kim, reside in Curtis Park.

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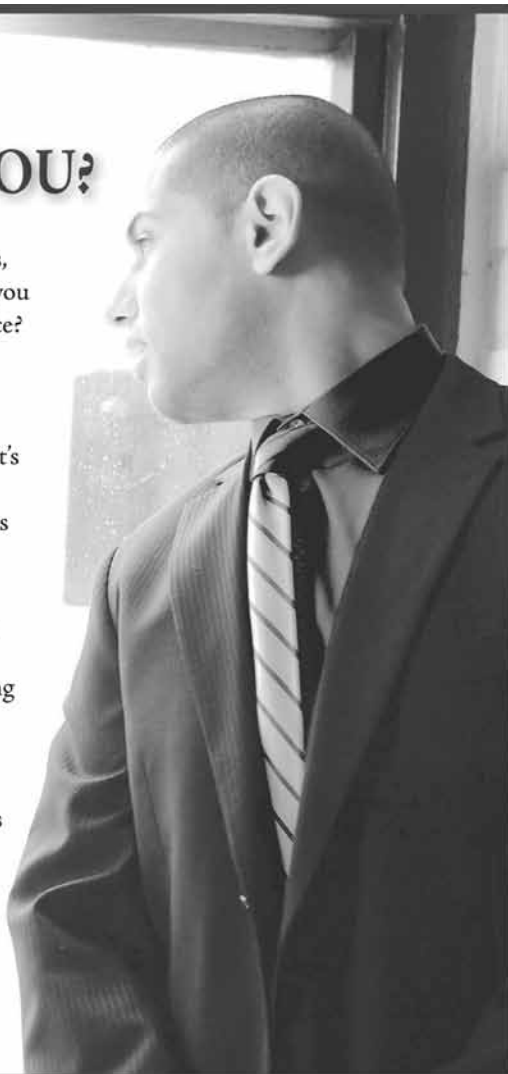
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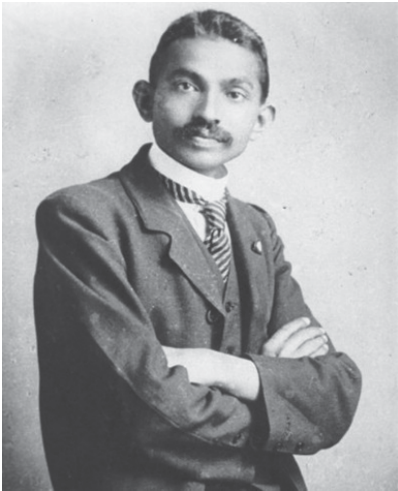
“Gay Gandhi” Book Banned in India

The Indian state of Gujarat has banned a new book about Mohandas “Mahatma” Gandhi in protest against its revelation that the Indian independence leader left his wife to live with a man.

In a similar direct threat to freedom of speech and freedom of the press, there are calls to ban the biography in other states and throughout India.

Commendably, some of Gandhi’s descendents have opposed such censorship, calling for free and open debate. Gandhi’s great grandson, Tushar Gandhi, responded to the Gujarat ban with the comment: “How does it matter if the Mahatma was straight, gay or bisexual? Every time he would still be the man who led India to freedom.”

The book, *Great Soul*, is broadly pro-Gandhi, although not uncritical or sycophantic. Written by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author and former executive editor of the *New York Times*, Joseph Lelyveld, it reveals Gandhi’s love for the German-Jewish architect Hermann Kallenbach, when he lived in South Africa in the early years of the 20th century.



Mohandas “Mahatma” Gandhi in *videshi* (foreigner) outfit at 19 years of age.

The evidence of Gandhi’s relationship with Kallenbach comes from letters between them, including Gandhi’s profession of love for Kallenbach. They shared a home together and worked together politically on the non-violent resistance struggle in South

Africa.
“Your portrait (the only one) stands on my mantelpiece in my bedroom,” he wrote to Kallenbach. “The mantelpiece is opposite to the bed.”

Gandhi added: “How completely you have taken possession of my body. This is slavery with a vengeance.” Gandhi asked Hermann to promise not to “look lustfully upon any woman.” The two men pledged “more love, and yet more love. ... (such as) the world has not yet seen.”

“Critics of the book condemn the author for revealing that Gandhi loved a man,” said Peter Tatchell, human rights campaigner and Director of the London based Peter Tatchell Foundation. “They say this is insulting to his memory and offensive to the whole Indian nation. What nonsense. His sexuality does not diminish his political achievements or his character one iota. Only a homophobe would take offence at the evidence that Gandhi had a same-sex relationship”

Farmers Markets Springing Up

As May approaches and summer creeps in, local farmers are preparing for another season of weekly, downtown certified farmers’ markets.

The markets begin on May 3 and run through October 26. The six weekday farmers’ markets are open from 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

There will be two new locations added to the weekly circuit, including East End Capitol Park at 15th and L Streets on Thursdays and St. Rose of Lima Park at 7th and K Streets on Fridays. Both of the new markets will start on June 2 and continue through September 30.

“Farmers markets have gained popularity over the years as locals are becoming more invested in eating and shopping local,” said DSP Director of Marketing & Outreach Lisa Martinez. “Adding two new farmers markets to the district will offer downtown residents and workers more locations to buy fresh produce all summer long.”

California certified farmers markets provide farmers with a venue to sell their crops directly to the public. Markets eliminate packing, shipping and wholesale

costs and save money for both the farmer and consumer.

For the latest Farmers Market news look on Facebook or on Twitter @DowntownSac. For more information, visit www.downtownsac.org/farmersmarkets.

Weekday Downtown Certified Farmers’ Markets include:

Tuesdays

Roosevelt Park, 9th and P Streets
Fremont Park, 16th and P Streets

Wednesdays

Chavez Plaza, 10th and J Streets

Thursdays

Capitol Mall, 6th and Capitol Mall
East End / Capitol Park, 15th and L Streets

Fridays

St. Rose of Lima Park, 7th and K Streets

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Outword Magazine 13



Reason #29
Being a pet owner is a bigger responsibility than I thought, but I couldn't be happier with my decision to adopt Haus. I met him at an Outword Sponsored fundraising event for a local animal rescue group. Now Haus has a forever home, and I have a forever companion.

Freshen Your Décor for Spring

by Liette Tousignant

Spring is finally here, and you're ready for a change. What better way to freshen things up then to spruce up your décor? One really quick, easy and inexpensive way to get a new look is to paint your walls with a great new color.

If you're like most of us, it isn't the painting that's the problem – it's re-hanging all your artwork that poses the real challenge. Stop worrying! With a few basic guidelines, you can reduce stress and frustrations and achieve your new look with ease.

Here are a few simple tips to perfect picture hanging:

- A horizontal piece will look best hanging on a large wall. For example, it's often perfect to hang above a sofa.
- A tall piece of artwork fits perfectly in a tall narrow space and will create the illusion of a higher ceiling.
- As for size, a simple rule that never fails is to hang small items over small pieces of furniture and big items over large pieces of



Painting with dramatic colors can change the whole look of your home, at a very affordable price. Image courtesy RobertR, www.splashyartist.com

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furniture. If you don't have one big art piece, try combining two or three.

• Creating a grouping is a great way to create a focal point in a room. For a horizontal series, align

pieces so the tops of the frames, the centers, or the bottoms are in a line.

• For a vertical series, it's best to keep the centers of the pictures in a vertical line. Hang odd numbers, they're easier to hang than even numbers.



Creating a grouping is a great way to create a focal point in a room.

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• When it comes to height, hang your artwork so the center hangs approximately 60" to 66" from the floor. In rooms where you spend the most time sitting, your art should be lower so you can enjoy it without having to look up.

• Take a photo of your room to confirm the placement of artwork. The different perspective eliminates distractions and allows problems to leap out at you.

For more picture hanging tips and how to videos go to www.utrdecorating.com

Liette Tousignant is an interior decorator who was so frustrated with the hassle of hanging pictures that she invented Hang & Level, a picture hanging tool now sold at all Home Depot and Target stores across the country.

Avoiding the Pitfalls of Buying a New Home

Gay and lesbian couples are in a unique situation when it comes to mortgages and home purchases. The problem lies less in getting a mortgage or purchasing a home than in what happens to the property if the relationship breaks up or one of the partners dies.

Navigating the home buying process and the mortgage maze is intimidating enough. Add to it the societal and legal complications of being a same-sex couple and you are potentially in for a stressful ride. Knowing what to prepare for and thinking ahead can only make that ride a little bit smoother.

It's tragically funny to approach starting a new phase in a relationship and buying property by thinking about what might happen if that relationship ends, but that kind of planning is crucial.

"If a couple is buying, they need

an agreement in writing," says attorney Joan M. Burda. "If you have one partner who puts down more and they break up ten years later, and the house has to be divided, you have a mess. They need to work this out in the beginning."

Fortunately, a new guide is out there to answer your questions and help avoid some of the pitfalls you may encounter. It lists examples of the challenges you might encounter, and offers solutions to avoid them.

The guide is free, and you can view it online at www.mortgageloan.com/lgbt/

Curtis Park Hosts 25th Anniversary Home Tour

Of all the enclaves in Sacramento, only in Curtis Park can you find examples of Spanish Revival, Tudor, Colonial, Mediterranean, French Norman, Craftsman Bungalow, Cottage, Streamline Moderne and more, all standing side by side and gracefully flanking a charming eighteen-acre park.

On Saturday, April 30, everyone is invited to stroll through this richly eclectic neighborhood and stop inside and visit eight residences as the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association presents its 25th Anniversary Curtis Park Home Tour.

"The homes reflect the lifestyles of the owners, from traditional to contemporary, whimsical to sophisticated, neutral to colorful," said Lori Harder, Volunteer Chairperson for the Home Tour

Committee.

In this neighborhood known for its remarkable collection of period houses built between 1910 and 1935, this year's Home Tour will also feature three homes that have just undergone major interior renovations, including intriguing new kitchens.

The Tour kicks off at 10 a.m. at the north end of Curtis Park, advance tickets are \$20 and are sold on the day of the tour for \$25. Tickets can be purchased online at




www.Sierra2.org, or at the Sierra 2 Center, Collected Works or home furnishings boutique, Haus.

For tickets or more information, call Sierra 2 at 916-452-3005 or visit www.Sierra2.org.

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WEAVE Challenges Men to Take a Stand -- In Heels

WEAVE, Women Escaping A Violent Environment, is daring all Sacramento men to participate in their first *Walk a Mile in Her Shoes* event in an effort to increase awareness about sexual assault and domestic violence, as well as to raise donations in support of sexual assault programs.

All men are invited to participate in the event, in which they will be challenged to walk a route in midtown Sacramento that is equivalent to one mile wearing red high-heels (although event organizers say that cheating will be encouraged for those who can't make the full mile).

Women are also encouraged to attend to cheer on participants, and to enjoy the party that will be held directly after the event.

"We've got a fire captain's commitment to form a team," said Chris Ford, a volunteer on WEAVE's event planning committee.

"Firemen are real men!"

WEAVE has been involved with several community partnership events and fundraisers such as the Women in Brewing event hosted by Rubicon to raise money for WEAVE's sexual assault programs. Another successful event was



Men can not only bring attention to the issue of men's violence against women but by taking part in *Walk a Mile in Her Shoes*, they can show very visible public support for ending violence against women. Photo courtesy James Hamilton, torontogp.blogspot.com.



the 14th Annual Nissan Retire Your Attire clothing drive that collected articles of clothing to benefit

WEAVE's Suited for Success program. However, *Walk a Mile in Her Shoes* will be WEAVE's very first walking affair.

Donations for WEAVE's Walk a Mile in Her Shoes will be obtained through registration fees, ticket sales from the event and after party, and from personal contributions.

party that can be purchased in advance, or for \$10 on the day of the walkathon.

The after party includes live music from KZZO NOW 100.5 and bite size delicacies provided by Paesanos, Zocalo and Yogurtagogo. All proceeds from the event will go towards WEAVE's sexual assault programs.

For more information on WEAVE or the upcoming *Walk a Mile in Her Shoes*, please visit www.weaveinc.org or call 916-448-2321.

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How to Throw the Perfect Party

by Raymond Wayne Bacon

Throwing the perfect party isn't the same as it was when your parents left town and you called all your friends over to drink and call pizza to deliver. Throwing the perfect party has gotten complicated as we get older.

Is it themed? What's the occasion? Do you have to dress like Lady Gaga (again)? Are you throwing it for a reason? What do you wear? Your guest will have questions, too: Do I bring a present? Is there going to be seating? Can I bring a friend?

These are just some of the looming questions that people ask themselves if they are going to a party. In organizing a party you have to think of all the questions (and more) that people may ask before sending any kind of invitation out, this way you don't have a lot of people asking the same questions.

The secret to throwing a perfect

party is being well organized. In being organized you'll need to plan in advanced, work out the small details and that way during the party you can have just as much fun as your guests.

You should give yourself a minimum of two months before an event or party. The first question in planning your party is what kind of party is it? Is it a themed party? With themed parties you want your guest to have time to create or buy their costume.

Is it a birthday party? Is it an adult's birthday, in which you provide alcohol, or a child's birthday, in which you make goodie bags for other children and



PARTY
continues on page 29

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Easy Spring Garden Projects that Make a Big Impact

Gardening is officially in season in Sacramento, and whether you are a longtime garden hobbyist or new on the scene, there are many easy-to-do projects you can do that will have you bragging to your friends about your incredible green thumb in no time.

Outword took a trip to Green Acres Nursery & Supply to talk to their experienced staff, and they gave us a list of fun and easy garden projects that will get you outside and playing in the dirt this weekend.

Project 1: What does your front porch say about you?

Give your front porch a makeover this spring by turning it into a space that reflects your unique personality. If you have classic taste, start by flanking your front door with two large potted plants.

Keep your plant selection simple and uniform, like a pair of Boxwood spirals or a set of patio trees. Do not be afraid to add a spiller. We recommend a mix of white Bacopa and Wire Vine for a more traditional look.

If you are more of a free spirit, start with a bistro set or your favorite chair, (we love Adirondack chairs), then decorate with a variety of pots in different sizes and colors, filled with an assortment of your favorite plants.

If you have an overhang, look for a spot to put a hanging basket. The splash of color will draw your eye upwards and balance out the scene.

Project 2: Plant a modern day Victory Garden

Today, vegetable gardening is as hot of a trend as it was in the era of the victory garden, and April is the ideal month to install a summer vegetable garden.

Vegetable and herb gardens are easy, fun, completely customizable, and they pay huge dividends come summer. Veggies and herbs can be grown in the ground, in containers, up a wall, hanging from baskets or in a kitchen window, as long as they get at least six hours of sunlight a day.

To get started, visit Green Acres Nursery & Supply and select from their locally grown

tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, cucumbers, squash, melon, herbs and so much more. Plant in rich organic soil, irrigate and fertilize regularly.

When it comes to harvest time, you will be crying "victory" as you share your crop with friends and family.

Project 3: Plant a Shade Tree

A Chinese Proverb says, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."

A shade tree is a wonderful addition to any landscape and leaves a lasting impression. The benefits of shade trees are endless. Not only do they purify the air and reduce energy costs, they reportedly increase property value by up to 15 percent and can add brilliant fall color to your landscapes.

Get started by selecting an area in your yard that can support a mature tree. Next meet with one of Green Acres Nursery & Supply's staff to pick out a shade tree that suits your taste and size specifications.

Next, get it in the ground, irrigate and fertilize regularly. You will be enjoying the big benefits of shade trees by this summer. Visit www.idiggreenacres.com to download our complete planting guide.

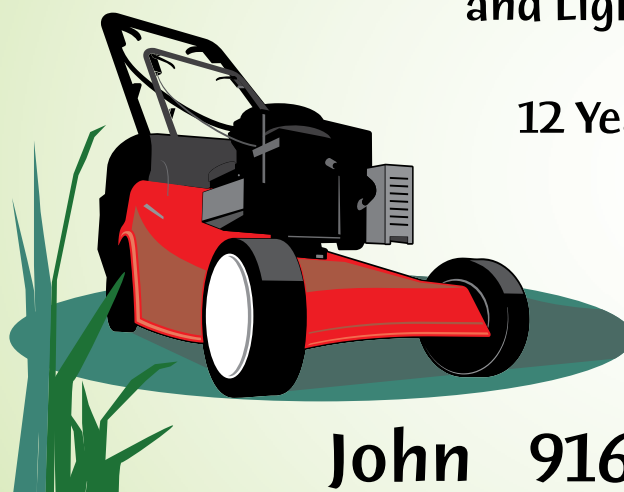
Before starting any garden project always consider the amount of light the area gets and how you are going to irrigate any plants. For more ideas and advice visit with the knowledgeable nursery men and women at Green Acres Nursery & Supply.

Green Acres Nursery & Supply is a local and independently owned garden center in Roseville and Sacramento, where you will always find a friendly face and knowledgeable nursery men and women to lend a helping hand. With just one visit you will see how their customer service and exceptional products set them above the rest.

GARDEN

continues on page 30

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your electricity usage with power from renewable resources; for \$6 a month, SMUD will meet 100 percent of your usage; and, for \$10 a month, SMUD will offset your carbon footprint from renewable resources and carbon offset projects as well as meet 50 percent of your electricity needs (offset is based on carbon footprint of the average Sacramento resident).

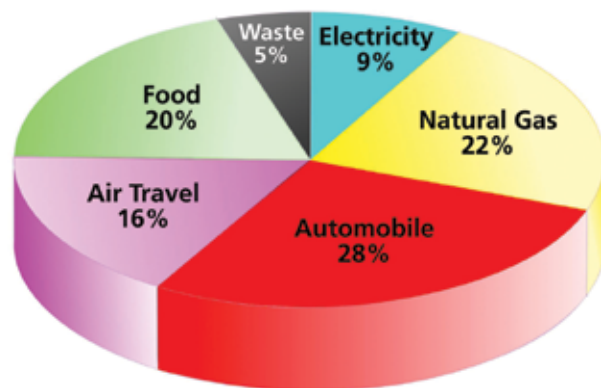
If you have a business and you want to show your commitment to the environment, your business can be a Greenergy partner too. Sold in \$10 blocks of 1000 kWh, your business can go green. The average small

business' electricity usage is under 2000 kWh per month. Just give SMUD a call and they will help you make the best choice for your business.

If you are already a Greenergy member and still want ways to reduce your carbon footprint, you can:

- Drive less
- Conference call instead of flying
- Reduce electricity use during peak

**Typical Household Carbon Footprint
In the City of Sacramento: 19.1 Tons of CO₂e**



such as the solar carport at Arden Fair Mall and additional turbines at the SMUD Solano Wind Farm.

More than 50,000 of your neighbors have opted-in to Greenergy since the program began in 1997. These participants have helped improve local air quality by removing the equivalent of 30,000 cars from our roads or over 150,000 tons of CO₂ (in accordance with the EPA's Green House Gas Equivalencies calculator).

Now it's your turn. If you would like to opt-in to Greenergy, you have options. For \$3 a month, SMUD will meet 50 percent of

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- Recycle
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- Replace your incandescent light bulbs with CFLs or LEDs
- Buy energy efficient appliances. When you do, take advantage of SMUD rebates

So, if the recent Earth Day got you motivated, go green 365 days a year by opting in to Greenergy today. For information visit smud.org/greenergy or call 1-888-742-SMUD.

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Out & About

DQB Supports the Gender Health Center

We had a nearly sold-out night at Drag Queen Bingo on Wednesday, April 13, and Rusty and Do Me were working their Bustierres off, but it was worth it. Because of your generosity we raised \$1,200 for the Gender Health Center. Thank You! And thank-you also to Hamburger Patties and their hard-working staff - you have no idea what they go through! The next Drag Queen Bingo is May 11, come join the fun!



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Coronation 2011: A New Royal House in the Realm of C.G.N.I.E.

Coronation 2011 was a lavish affair this year, mixing pageantry and masquerade for Terry Sidie and Michael Johnson as they took their richly deserved accolades and final walks as co-Emperor 37. The Coronation ceremony was highlighted with a live performance by Evelyn Champagne King that had everyone on the dance floor! Congratulations to the newly crowned Court of Double Fabulous, The Excalibur Emperor 38 Michael Kennedy and The Diamond Butterfly Gotti Empress 38 Key Pears.



Entertainment

Hugh Jackman Struts His Stuff in S.F.

X-Man Hugh Jackman returns to his musical roots for a two week limited engagement at the Curran Theatre in San Francisco, the only city presenting his brand new show.

The sexy star will perform his favorite songs from Broadway and Hollywood backed by a 17 piece orchestra, and it is hardly Jackman's first stab at singing for his supper.

For his portrayal of the 1970s singer-songwriter Peter Allen in *The Boy From Oz*, Jackman received the 2004 Tony Award for Best Actor in a musical.

Previous musical theater credits include *Carousel* at Carnegie Hall, *Oklahoma* at the National Theater

in London, *Sunset Boulevard* and Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*.

Jackman also took on the prestigious role of Oscar host at the 81st Annual Academy Awards, and he hosted the Tony Awards three years in a row, from 2003-2005.

Hugh Jackman In Performance at the Curran Theatre runs May 3-15. For more information, visit www.shnsf.com.



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Entertainment

Cirque du Soleil Returns to Sacramento with Quidam

The newest arena show from Cirque du Soleil, Quidam, will be performing in Sacramento at the venue formerly known as ARCO Arena, for eight performances only.

Quidam had its world premiere in Montreal under the Big Top in

April 1996. Since that time, the production has toured on five

continents and has been experienced by more than 10 million people.

In December 2010, Quidam embarked on a new journey, performing the same captivating production, but now in arenas throughout North America.

The story concerns young Zoe, a lonely child seeking to fill the void of her existence, who slides into an imaginary world – the world of Quidam – where she meets characters who encourage her to free her soul.

The show's international cast features 52 world-class acrobats, musicians, singers and other performers.

Tickets for Quidam, performing May 11-15 in Sacramento, are available online at www.cirquedusoleil.com or by calling 1-800-745-3000.



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Sunday, May 15th

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The Lily's Revenge Is Sweet

This not-to-be-missed theatrical event is described as a five-act, five-hour fantastical cornucopia of theatre, party, circus and social experiment.

The Lily's Revenge brings together over 50 Bay Area artists and performers for a rollicking world premiere courtesy of Magic Theatre in San Francisco.

The epic collaboration is created and performed by the uniquely talented Taylor Mac, who plays a lily desperate to marry a bride.

The production that played in New York City prompted Adam Feldman of *Time Out New York* to rave that the show "surpasses any American theater in New York this year."

The Lily's Revenge runs through May 22. For more information, visit www.magictheatre.org or call 415.441.8822.



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Entertainment

Rarely Seen Dutch Masterworks on View at the Legion of Honor

One of the world's best private collections of 17th-century Dutch and Flemish paintings, including masterworks by Rembrandt, Frans Hals, Gerrit Dou, Jan Steen and others, will be on view at the Legion of Honor July 9 through Oct. 2.

Organized by the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts, where it debuted earlier this year, Dutch and Flemish Masterworks from the Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Collection presents paintings exceptional for their quality, superb condition and impeccable provenance.

In the Netherlands, the grand history and religious subjects favored in much of Europe fell out of fashion; Dutch artists began to create portraits not only of individuals, but also of the cities, buildings, landscape and society of this prospering nation.



***Sleeping Man Having His Pockets Picked* by Nicolaes Maes (Dordrecht 1634–1693 Amsterdam), ca. 1655 is one of the paintings that will be on display at the exhibit at the Legion of Honor. The painting, cropped here, is oil on panel and is from the Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Collection, courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.**

Premier examples by the most talented artists of the Dutch Golden Age, many of these works are distinguished by a glowing quality of light reflecting Holland's proximity to the sea and the swiftly changing weather patterns that sweep across the flat countryside.

As exemplars of an unsurpassed period of artistic, cultural, scientific and commercial accomplishment, the paintings in the Van Otterloo collection provide a rich overview of one of the high points of Western European art. The paintings in the Van Otterloo collection – over 60 portraits, still lifes, landscapes, history paintings, maritime scenes, city profiles and genre scenes—depict life in the 1600s as the Dutch Republic increased in maritime strength and came to dominate international trade.

"I think it is this universality of artistic interest that appeals so much to modern audiences," observes Dr. Lynn Federle Orr, the curator in charge of European art for the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. "In the paintings of the Dutch Golden Age, we sense the achievements of a cohesive society, the benefits of honest labor, the warmth of a spare but comfortable home, the quiet beauty of a productive landscape. And occasionally we see ourselves (and our foibles) in the delightful antics depicted in Dutch genre scenes."

The Legion of Honor is located in a neoclassical building overlooking Lincoln Park and the Golden Gate Bridge at 34th Ave. and Clement St., SF. For more information, visit LegionOfHonor.org or call 415-750-3600

Fast Five Burns Rubber at IMAX

There will be a surplus of testosterone splashed all over the enormous screen at Sacramento's Esquire IMAX Theatre, when Paul Walker, Vin Diesel, Dwayne Johnson (aka The Rock) and Tyrese Gibson provide the guy candy in this hunky, high-octane sequel to those *Fast and Furious* films.

In *Fast Five*, former cop Brian O'Conner (Paul Walker) partners with ex-con Dom Toretto (Vin Diesel) on the opposite side of the law.

Dwayne Johnson joins returning cast-members Jordana Brewster, Chris Bridges, Sung Kang, Gal Gadot, Matt Schulze, Tego Calderon and Don Omar for this ultimate high-stakes race.

Fast Five opens April 29 at the Esquire IMAX Theatre on K Street in Sacramento. Visit www.imax.com/sacramento.



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Calendar

Apr.

compiled by Charles Peer

Thursday, 28

YOU SHOULD MEET MY SON

Meet the director of this hit gay movie, and award winner at film festivals across the country, in a benefit showing to support PFLAG and SIGLFF. No admission, just please make a donation. Meet & greet at 5:15, movie at 6 p.m. The IMAX Theatre (a DVD projection, not an IMAX film), 1211 K St. Info: 916-443-IMAX

ONE FOR THE ROAD

The Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus presents songs of traveling, destinations and the call of the open road. Get in and buckle up, it's going to be a fun ride. 8 - 10 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 21st & J Streets. Info: SacGayMensChorus.org

Friday, 29

STATE LGBT CAUCUS MEETING

LGBT Democrats from all across the state will be attending the state Democratic Party convention and will hold an open caucus meeting with all Caucus members speaking, new candidates and election of new officers. 4:30 p.m. Convention Center. Info: cadem.org

STATE LGBT CAUCUS PARTY

The LGBT Caucus is holding its Hospitality event with a no host bar; great hors d'oeuvres and ordering off the menu until 11 p.m. and mixing and mingling with the members of the LGBT Legislative Caucus, Capitol staffers, lobbyists, activists and Stonewall members from across the state. 10 p.m. to midnight. The Press Bistro, 1809 Capitol Ave.; Convention Center. Info: cadem.org

Saturday, 30

COSUMNES PRESERVE WALK

Enjoy an early morning walk in the Cosumnes River Preserve, south of Sacramento, observing birds and other wildlife. Optional brunch afterward. Carpool from downtown Sacto. at 6:45 a.m. sharp. G&L Sierrans. Info: hiking_fool@mac.com

TASTING FOR A CAUSE

The Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation is hosting a wine and beer tasting and silent auction to benefit the NorCal AIDS Cycle. \$20. 2 - 6 p.m. Veterans Memorial Hall, 100 E. St. Auburn.

ART FOR A CAUSE

Eat, drink and dance to benefit the NorCal AIDS Cycle, with live music and art performances, wine, cheese, dessert and other goodies. Gina Rossi Art Studio, 1801 20th St.

MOTHER LODE JAZZ PARTY

A day for cool blues with headliners Maxx Cabello and Tommy Castro, plus food and drinks and more. 5 p.m. \$25. Benefit for local non-profits. Outdoor event area at Jackson Rancheria, 12222 New York Ranch Road, Jackson. Info: JacksonCasino.com

WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES

Are you man enough to squeeze into some stilettos and walk a mile (or around the block) to show your support for ending sexual assault? Then join WEAVE for this benefit walk. \$35 (includes shoes for men) 9 a.m. Zocalo, 1801 Capitol Ave. Info: WEAVEinc.org

WHITE PARTY 2011

Taryn-Thru-U hosts this annual homage to Spring, with a VIP Stripper Lounge, DJ Pornstar and Stoli Drink Specials. Wear all white and get in free. 10 p.m. to closing. Badlands, 2001 K St.. Info: 16-441-6823

VIVA LA FRANCE

The Camelia Symphony Orchestra presents works by Ravel, Debussy and Sain-Saens. Plus silent auction, wine tasting (6 p.m.) and pre concert talk (7:15 p.m.) 8 p.m. Memorial Auditorium. Info: 916-808-5181 camelliasymphony.org

May

Sunday, 1

SVL COMMUNITY BRUNCH

Breakfast burritos and black beans are being added to the regular menu. \$10, 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

MAY DAY MASOCHISM

An SVL sponsored charity event with three fantasies performed, BBQ, beer bust and cigar social. 3 - 6 p.m. The Bolt Bar, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com SVLClub.org

ONE FOR THE ROAD STOCKTON

See Thursday, 4/28. 3 - 5 p.m. Central United Methodist Church,

3700 Pacific Ave., Stockton. Info: SacGayMensChorus.org

BARE CHEST FINALS

The search for the 2012 Bare Chest Calendar Men is reaching its climax, come cheer on your favorite. 5 - 9 p.m. DNA Lounge, 375 Eleventh St., SF. Info: barechest.org

MOTHER LODE JAZZ PARTY

A day for hot jazz, with six different jazz bands performing, plus food and drinks and more. 10 a.m. - all day. \$25. Benefit for local non-profits. Outdoor event area at Jackson Rancheria, 12222 New York Ranch Road, Jackson. Info: JacksonCasino.com

DIVAS & DAMES

Bay Area Divas and Dames join together in an evening of upbeat, high-energy music, dance and comedy to benefit The Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. 7:30 p.m. Marines Memorial, SF. Info: 415-273-1620 HelpIsOnTheWay.org.

Wednesday, 4

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, 5

LEATHER 101

The Sacramento Valley

CALENDAR

continues on page 28

Bare Chest Calendar Men Contest Finals Set

The search for the 2012 Bare Chest Calendar Men is reaching its climax, and the finals contest is taking place on Sunday, May 1, from 5 - 9 p.m. at DNA Lounge (375 Eleventh St., SF) Pictured here are three of the finalists: Stafford Hemmer, Steve Guenther and Will Swagger. \$5 Advance, \$10 at the door. barechest.org. Plus you can get a sneak peak at the winners on Saturday, May 21, at The Bolt.



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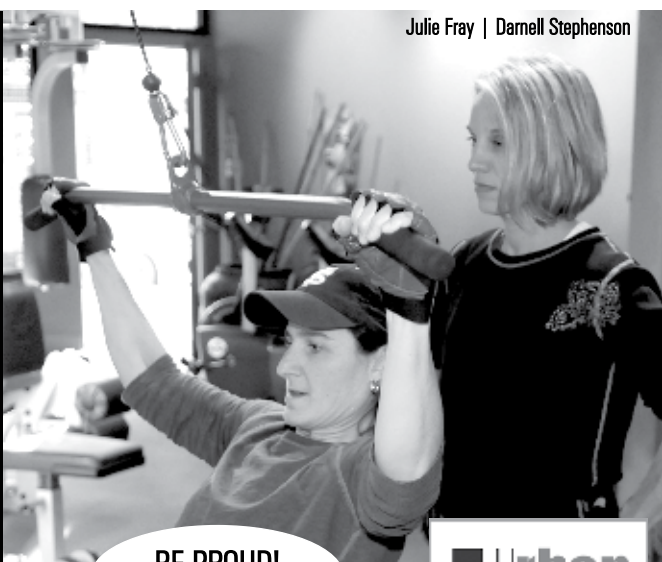
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Entertainment

Lambda Players Celebrate Our Lives

The Lambda Players' newest offering is a collection of comedic and dramatic stories, scenes and skits reflecting the lives of the LGBT community.

Celebrating Our Lives reveals stories about love, sex and self that run the gamut from coming out to self-discovery, from sexual

awakening to exploration, from first loves to heartbreak and everything in between.

Written by Tom Swanner (*Opening Lines*, *Countess Dracula*), Matthew Burlingame (*Recovery Mode*, *Paperclip Messiah*) and Matthew Crehan-Higgins (*Casual Sex Diaries*), *Celebrating Our Lives* reflects our lives with unabashed realism and enduring hope.

The production stars Bethany Hidden-Cauley, Steve Lazano, Matthew Burlingame, Mahlon Hall,

Tabitha Stout, Cimerron Spell and Violet Nichols and is directed by Matthew Burlingame.

Celebrating Our Lives contains strong language and adult situations. It will be performed at 8 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays through May 27, at the Lambda Players Theatre, 1127 21st St.

For tickets and more information, call 916-444-8229 or visit LambdaPlayers.com

Sherlock Holmes at STC

Michael Laun, who directed Sacramento Theatre Company's recent runaway hit *The Musical of Musicals*, returns to STC to helm Steven Dietz's *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*.



Robert Downey, Jr. and Jude Law made the iconic detective and his sidekick hot again in their recent big-screen movie about Holmes,

and this new theatrical production promises similar intrigue, adventure and even romance.

Based on the original 1899 play

by William Gillette and Arthur Conan Doyle, Dietz's work pulls characters and plot twists from two original stories: *A Scandal in Bohemia* and *The Final Problem*.

The Final Adventure underscores the great friendship between the brilliant, if enigmatic Sherlock Holmes (played by William Elsmann) and his loyal, if doddering physician friend, Dr. Watson (Michael RJ Campbell).

STC's production also stars Troy Thomas as Holmes's nemesis Professor Moriarty and Michele Hillen as siren Irene Adler.

Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure plays at STC through May 22. Visit www.sactheatre.org for more information.

Bring a Little "Snooki" Home for Your Next Party

Looking for the newest drink sensation to wow your guidos and guidettes at your next pool party or BBQ? This treat inspired by *Jersey Shore* may be just the thing to party-up your next bash.



So, liven things up with Snooki – the *Snooki Bomb Pop* that is. This delicious cocktail recipe from Exclusiv Vodka is inspired by *Jersey Shores* star Snooki Polizzi and is sure to be the life of the party, just like her.

The *Snookie Bomb Pop* is a flavorful blend of Exclusiv Orange, Exclusiv Raspberry, Orange Curacao, sour mix, and 7UP. The ingredients are shaken and poured as a shot with a fiery red sink of grenadine to finish it off.

Noted mixologist, Daniel Seelbinder, designed the drink exclusively for Exclusiv Vodka, and dares you to mix it at home.

Exclusiv "Snooki Bomb Pop"

1/2 oz Exclusiv Orange
1/2 oz Exclusiv Raspberry
1/2 Orange Curacao
1/2 Sour mix
Splash 7Up
Shaken, poured as a shot
Sink grenadine

For more innovative recipes, visit www.exclusiv-vodka.com

Antigone Tackles Society's Timeless Questions

When the towers of society, politics and finance are crumbling around us, do we succumb to the demands of society and government, or do we fight for what's right, even if that means our end?

Although that sounds like a question for our times, it is instead one of the questions that Sophocles asks in his timeless work *Antigone*, and is asked again in Jean Anouilh's retelling of the Greek classic, seen through the prism of more modern times.

Integrity versus compromise, the individual versus the state, moral rights versus human laws – *Antigone* rips into these timeless issues and focuses on the showdown between King Creon and his niece Antigone, who has defied his order – punishable by death – to prohibit the burial of her brother after a brutal civil war.

The newest incarnation of *Antigone* to hit the Sacramento stage is being presented by KOLT Run Creations and is directed by Lisa Thew and stars Kelly Ogden.

The production also features local talents Patrick Murphy, Kellie Yvonne Raines, Ernesto Bustos, Daniel Fagan, Gay Cooper, Brandon Lancaster, Analise Langford-Clark, Ben Moroski, Jeff Webster and Mitch Worrell-Olsen.

Jean Anouilh's *Antigone* will be performed at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings from April 29 through May 28, at California Stage, 2509 R St., in midtown Sacramento. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at www.KOLTRunCreations.com.



Patrick Murphy as King Creon and Kelly Ogden as Antigone in KOLT Run Creations production of *Antigone*. Photo by Tina Reynolds.

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Calendar

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ME & MY SOFFA DANCE

A night of fun and dance with a SOFFA – Significant Other, Family, Friend or Ally of a transgender person. So bring anyone, all are welcome. Free dance lessons and DJ Dancing. 7 - 10 p.m. Hosted by the Gender Health Center, St. Marks Church, 2391 St. Marks Way. Info: TheGenderHealthCenter.org

BOLT UNDERWEAR PARTY

Look! Under there! We just made you say underwear. Strip down to your tightie-whities, boxers, etc., and get happy hour prices from 9 p.m. to midnight. The Bolt Bar, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com

Saturday, 7

VALLEY BEARS GAME NIGHT

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

WEAR YOUR FETISH

Michael Brandon and Brent Gannetta and the current and past Mr. Bolts host a night celebrating fetish, with flogging

and hog tie demonstrations. Plus raffles and shot boys. 9 p.m. (followed by lockdown). Benefit for Shriner's Hospital. The Bolt Bar, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 SacBolt.com

A TOAST TO MUSIC

The Camelia Symphony Orchestra hosts a wine tasting with regional wines and local cuisine, silent auction, raffles and wine barrel auction that includes a private bottling party. \$40. 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Old Sugar Mill, 35265 Willow Ave., Clarksburg. 916-929-Info: 916-929-6655 camelliasymphony.org

Sunday, 8

VICKI LEWIS LIVE

Vicki Lewis, best known for her role as the quirky Beth on the NBC sitcom *NewsRadio*, will perform in a special concert to benefit Calf. Musical Theatre. 7:30 p.m. Cosmopolitan Cabaret, 1000 K St. Info: 916-557-1999

Monday, 9

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

Tuesday, 10

COWBOYS/COWGIRL SOCIAL

Join Capital Crossroads Gay Rodeo for a social and soda/beer bust. 7 p.m. The Bolt, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: 916-649-8420 capitalcrossroads.org

Wednesday, 11

DRAG QUEEN BINGO

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

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materials.

"As a gay young man, I struggled with accepting my identity for years," said Isaiah Baiseri, a senior at Glendora High School, who testified at a Senate committee hearing in support of SB 48. "In school, I never learned that people like me had achieved great things like leading a civil rights movement. Instead, I had only learned stereotypes. I'm thankful the Senate passed SB 48 so that someday other students like me can learn our history."

In addition to including the role and contributions of LGBT Americans in educational materials, the FAIR Education Act adds sexual orientation to the state's existing anti-discrimination protections that

prohibit bias in school activities, instruction and instructional materials.

The bill is co-sponsored by Equality California and the Gay-Straight Alliance Network.

"We thank the Senate for recognizing the need to educate students about the historic contributions of LGBT leaders to California and the struggle for LGBT equality," said Jim Carroll, interim executive director of Equality California. "This legislation will ensure all students understand the diversity of our state and its history, and it will foster greater awareness, respect and safer schools for all students."

The next stop for SB 48 is the Assembly where it will be heard in policy committees.

Bullying

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transgender (LGBT) students and others from bullying, which remains a serious issue across California and the rest of the nation. Students, parents and school employees often don't know what the rules are or what to do if bullying occurs.

GSA Network reviewed the Web sites of every school district in California and found that only 34

percent post their Student Non-Discrimination Policy. Of those, only 84 percent include sexual orientation and only four percent include gender identity and gender expression. Furthermore, only 24 percent of school district Web sites in California provide information for students and parents on where and how to file a complaint.

hire a clown? Another question for this party is where will it be held? At your house or a rented location?

This brings up another question to perfecting your party. How much is in your budget? What is your budget?

Not all of us can have a Super Sweet 16 party such as the ones seen on MTV, where the parents spend thousands of dollars. What goes into your budget is the most important part.

To properly estimate the costs of a party, determine how many guests are coming. Then you will want to decide on whether you will be serving hors d'oeuvres, full course meal or have people bring food/snacks.

The next thing you'll need to decide is whether there will be alcohol. Will you provide the alcohol or have everyone BYOB (bring your own beer).

To even get the party started you'll need to estimate the number of guests that will be coming. How will you invite people? Will you do a Facebook invite, or an eVite, hand

delivery, or will it be one of those "word of mouth" parties?

In this invitation you should have the location, time, what kind of party, and whether or not they will need to bring something. Usually, 70-80 percent of the people you invite will show up. You will also want them to contact you somehow, so that you can have an accurate count of how many people will be coming.

Setting the mood for a party is also one of the keys to a successful party. To do this you want to set the mood with lighting and music.

Now that it's party time, be sure to have fun and enjoy your own party. If your guests see that you are stressed they will be discomforted. The main idea with this party is for you to have just as much fun as your guests are having.

Raymond Wayne Bacon is an Event Designer at Royal Events, events fit for a queen, a full service event planning company located in Sacramento, CA. For more information email him at ray@aroyalevent.org

To learn more, visit them at 901 Galleria Blvd. in Roseville, or 8501 Jackson Road on the corner of Florin-Perkins in Sacramento.

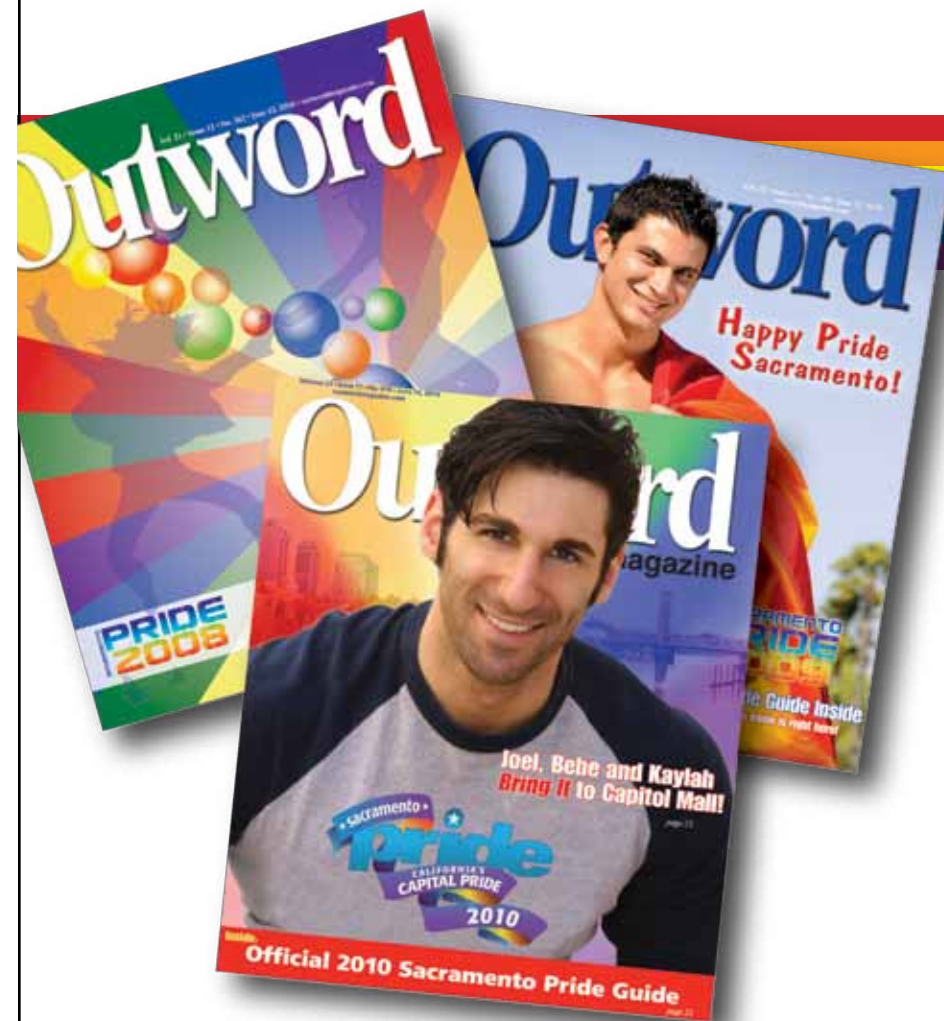
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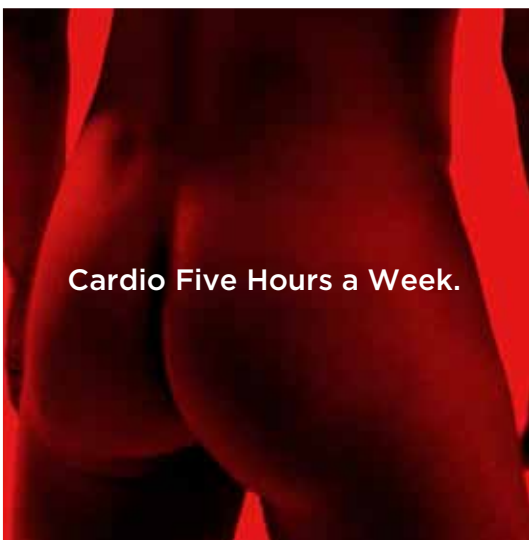
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