

Outword

magazine

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Special Annual

WHEELS

and TECH Issue



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Pride Festival Too Costly for Small Groups

Dear Outword,

I am sorry the Gay Community Center lost money on the Gay Pride event this year. They have many wonderful programs.

One reason they lost money is because they turned down groups because of their inability to pay. I know of two groups, which were turned down because they were not able to pay the large fees. How many more were there?

The Center charges political groups the same amount they charge Bank of America. Some political groups do not have the kind of money required to have a booth at the fair.

Wouldn't it have been better to allow low income groups to pay less than nothing at all? Why should organizations with limited dollars pay the same amount as big corporations?

I hope the Center can address these issues before the next fair, otherwise they may lose more money next year.

Gary Miller

NOM Pledges to Defeat the New York Four

by Charles Peer

The ink from Governor Cuomo's pen was barely dry from signing New York's marriage equality law when the National Organization for Marriage announced a pledge of \$2 million dollars to defeat the four Republican Senators who voted for the bill.

"Politicians who campaign one way and vote the other, can expect consequences come election time," said Brian Brown, president of NOM in announcing that the group has pledged and committed at least \$2 million to oust politicians in New York who voted for equal rights.

"The New York Republican Party is dysfunctional," noted Maggie Gallagher, Chairman of NOM on her website. "... The Republican Party in New York is responsible for passing gay marriage, and sadly it's the families of New York who will pay the worst price of the new government-backed redefinition of marriage."

Log Cabin Republicans, the nations LGBT Republican group, believe differently, saying that the four Republican Senators who voted for the marriage equality should be treated more like heroes.

"(We are) ... particularly proud of the efforts of our New York membership," said Log Cabin President R. Clarke Cooper in a released statement. "We are grateful for the leadership of Senators Jim Alesi and Roy McDonald, and the support of Senators Mark Grisanti and Stephen Saland, with special appreciation for the leadership of Senate Republican Majority Leader Dean Skelos, who brought this bill to the floor and, in so doing, kept the promise he made to Log Cabin Republicans and the voters of New York State last fall."

NOM

continues on page 26

Cruising With the Backstreet Boys



Nick Carter, Howie Dorough, Brian Littrell and AJ McLean are heading out on a 3-day cruise to the Bahamas, where fans can hang with the guys in an intimate setting, along with non-stop music, special performances, a private beach party, games, Q&A sessions, contests and more. The cruise celebration is the perfect way to kick off the holiday season, departing Miami on Dec. 2. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit backstreetboyscruise.com.



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GSA Network Awarded Federal Grant for LGBT Youth Project

The Department of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has awarded The Gay-Straight Alliance Network (GSA Network) over \$285,000 for a multi-level project to increase the capacity of schools and community-based organizations (CBOs) to reach LGBT youth.

This is the organization's first federal grant and will be used for its Safe & Healthy LGBT Youth Project

"This grant for the Safe & Healthy LGBT Youth Project will allow GSA Network to bring its successful programming to more communities and young people, helping to ensure that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth across the country have every opportunity to succeed," said House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. "By providing resources and people ready to help, the GSA Network is

building a better tomorrow, filled with the promise of hope, acceptance, and progress for all."

Using its successful model of training and technical assistance, GSA Network will provide capacity-building assistance to schools and CBOs in at least 20 jurisdictions around the country to create safe spaces for LGBT youth, improve their health and educational outcomes, and reduce their risk for educational and health disparities.

Activities will include hands-on assistance based on local needs,

professional development, ongoing follow-up coaching and technical assistance, provision of materials and resources, and support for policy and advocacy efforts.

"Research shows that LGBT youth remain at substantially greater risk for HIV/AIDS, other STDs, and unintended pregnancy, as well as for mental health problems linked to bullying and harassment," said GSA Network Executive Director Carolyn Laub. "Thanks to the CDC grant, we have a groundbreaking opportunity to lower that risk nationally through proven methods, including the creation of Gay-Straight Alliance clubs and other safe spaces."

The Safe & Healthy LGBT Youth Project is a five-year project, pending renewed funding each year. In total, the Project will directly impact up to 10,500 youth.

New AMA Policy Calls for Marriage Equality

The American Medical Association (AMA) has adopted a policy position declaring that excluding same-sex couples from marriage is "discriminatory" and reaffirming existing AMA policy to support relationship recognition of G&L couples as a means of addressing health disparities faced by those couples and their families.

The American Medical Association (AMA) has adopted a policy position declaring that excluding same-sex couples from marriage is "discriminatory" and reaffirming existing AMA policy to support relationship recognition of gay and lesbian couples as a means of addressing health disparities faced by those couples and their families.

The policy, H-65.973 Health Care Disparities in Same-Sex Partner Households, was adopted by the AMA on Monday, June 20.

"With this deliberate policy

statement by the American Medical Association, the nation's doctors diagnose the pain and injury that exclusion from marriage inflicts on lesbian and gay couples, their children, and loved ones – and makes clear that ending marriage discrimination is the cure," said Evan Wolfson, founder and President of Freedom to Marry.

Four key considerations of the AMA's policy are:

(1) recognizes that denying civil marriage based on sexual orientation is discriminatory and imposes harmful stigma on gay

and lesbian individuals and couples and their families;

(2) recognizes that exclusion from civil marriage contributes to health care disparities affecting same-sex households;

(3) will work to reduce health care disparities among members of same-sex households including minor children; and

(4) will support measures providing same-sex households with the same rights and privileges to health care, health insurance, and survivor benefits, as afforded opposite-sex households. (Modify Current HOD Policy).

Other professional health organizations that support the freedom to marry include the American Psychological Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Gay Celeb Paints Straight Celebs Gay

Artist and daytime TV star Thom Bierdz (Phillip on *The Young and the Restless*) has painted 28 straight movie stars in different stages of gay relationships. "I didn't want to OUT any movie stars, but I wanted to show people that gay relationships on that echelon would be sweet, not scary - so." You can see more of Bierdz work at www.thombierdz.com





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CARES Gives Update on Its *Are You the Difference?* Campaign

Over 200 people attended CARES Second Annual Update for the *Are You the Difference?* Campaign, hearing moving stories about the huge difference in people's lives CARES and other community partners are making.

The update was held Thursday, June 16, and Dr. Michelle Roland, Chief of the State Office of AIDS, explained the rationale behind the campaign and how it fits into the National AIDS Strategy developed by President Obama.

"Sometimes it is easy to forget why we do what we do," said Janet Parker, Client Services Director at CARES. "We get caught up in the day to day grind, but we are ALL helping to end HIV by working hard to make our services more effective in meeting the needs of clients. When we meet their needs and we keep people in care, they are more likely to take their meds and will be less likely to transmit HIV to someone else. It's a simple concept but a challenge to implement. We know that we are making a huge difference in our community."

CARES can't do it alone though, and they also took time to honor others in the fight, including Dennis Mangers and Pastor Rick Cole of the Capital Christian

Center. Mangers, one of the founders of CARES and a long time board member, was honored for his lifetime of service in combating HIV. The Capital Christian Center and Pastor Rick Cole were honored for their work in building bridges of understanding and reducing the stigma around HIV/AIDS.

In just two years CARES has educated 133,688 people; participated in 373 community education events; and tested 5,077 high risk people for HIV, of which 210 tested positive - linking all of them to medical care.

CARES has done a lot and will continue to work hard, but now they need your help. Here's what you can do:

Ask Your Doctor to Offer HIV Testing to Everyone

During your next doctor's appointment ask them to join us in the fight by testing each and every patient they see for HIV. We must test for HIV. It's not an unreasonable request and people's lives depend on it. The Center for Disease Control believes testing people between the ages of 13 and 64 should be a standard practice.

Get the Whole Truth

Educate yourself. Ensure you and everyone you know, especially young people, understand how HIV is transmitted. If you'd like someone to present at your school or church, please contact CARES to



Dennis Mangers and Pastor Rick Cole of the Capital Christian Center were recognized by CARES for making a difference in the fight against HIV.

have a Positive Speaker visit your group.

Pass out Condoms and Lube

This is a difficult topic for some to discuss, but there's no denying that people continue to have unprotected sex and contract STDs. HIV is just one reason to use condoms. Visit a CARES clinic to receive free condoms and lube to distribute to anyone in need.

Fight Stigma

If nothing else, you can help end the stigma surrounding HIV. Be conscious about HIV and how it dramatically affects people's lives. Even with huge advances in modern medicine, some people are still too ashamed to get tested.

"Those who are unknowingly HIV positive are the most likely to infect others and perpetuate the vicious cycle," CARES Program Manager Jon Benorden told *Outword*. "The best way to shatter the stigma of HIV is by openly talking about it and sharing what you know. Our latest video is a powerful tool for explaining the current situation - share it with anyone you think should know more."

You can view the video at areyouthedifference.org.

You can also donate to keep the campaign going, visit the CARES website, www.areyouthedifference.org, or call 916-914-6246.

State Assembly Passes Fair Education Act

by Ken Pierce

The California State Assembly has passed a bill that would require schools to fairly and accurately portray the LGBT civil rights movement and the historic contributions of the diverse LGBT community in social science instruction.

The Bill, SB 48, passed the assembly on July 5, on a partisan vote of 49-25. The bill has already passed the Senate and will now go to the Governor's desk, who has not issued a statement on the bill, but is expected to sign it.

"When children are taught about the history of our involvement in humanity and how our achievements matter, we will all have better children," said Tina Reynolds, co-founder of Sacramento based Equality Action NOW. "Thank you Senator Leno!"

Known as the Fair, Accurate, Inclusive, and Respectful (FAIR) Education Act, SB 48 was authored by Senator Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) and sponsored by Equality California and the Gay-Straight Alliance Network. If signed, the bill will add sexual orientation and gender identity to the state's existing anti-discrimination protections that

EDUCATION

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Landmark Decision Supports International Same Sex Couple

commentary by Boyce Hinman

In a major evolution in the federal government's policy on international same sex couples, the government recently dropped its attempt to deport a Venezuelan man who is married to a man who is a U.S. citizen.

The government asked a federal immigration court, in Newark, NJ, to dismiss the case and allow the Venezuelan to stay in this country. The court agreed to do that. It seems quite possible that this is the beginning of a trend of letting foreign nationals stay in this country if they are married to U.S. citizens of the same sex.

The decision to stop deportation proceedings involved Henry Velandia, a Venezuelan professional Salsa dancer. He came here almost 20 years ago. One year ago he married Josh Vandiver in Connecticut where same sex marriage is legal. The couple first met five years ago. They now live in New Jersey.

In 2009 Velandia applied for a "green card." If the card had been issued to him he would have had legal residence in this country. But, instead of granting the request, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) started deportation proceedings against Velandia.

For a long time U.S. law and policy has helped opposite sex couples in similar situations. With opposite sex couples, if a foreign national marries a U.S. citizen, that can be the basis for the foreign national to gain legal permanent residence in this country. However, the same has not been true when same sex couples marry.

The United States is home to about 24,000 same-sex couples in which one partner is an American citizen and the other is not, according to an analysis of 2008

census survey data by the Williams Institute.

According to the New York-based advocacy organization Immigration Equality, thousands of these gay couples, where one is an American and one an immigrant, leave the U.S. each year for countries where gay immigrants are welcome. So, the government's action in the above case could bring hope to many of these couples.

This seems to be part of a trend in which the federal government is granting more and more recognition for the marriages of same sex couples. The government also recently granted same sex spouses and domestic partners significant protections when one or both of them is receiving Medicaid which is called MediCal in California.

Earlier this year the Obama administration announced that it considers major portions of the Defense of Marriage Act to be unconstitutional. That appears to be the basis for the federal government's slowly evolving policy of recognizing same sex marriage.

Boyce Hinman is the founder of the California Communities United Institute. He can be reached at b.hinman@calcomui.org or calcomui.org

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Court Orders DOD to Certify Repeal of DADT

A federal appeals court has ordered that the Obama administration immediately end the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy on gays serving in the military, underscoring the urgent need for the Department of Defense to certify Congress' repeal of the policy.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled July 6, that the U.S. military must stop enforcing the discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy banning openly gay service members while the

repealing the policy in December. Under the law, the policy cannot be removed from the books until 60 days after the military certifies its repeal. The Department of Defense has yet to certify the repeal of the

"Today's ruling underscores the fact that there is no reason for leaving this discriminatory policy on the books,"

government's appeal of a lower court's decision overturning the statute works its way through the courts.

Specifically, the court pointed to the government's recognition in a separate case that unequal treatment based on sexual orientation should be subjected to heightened scrutiny by the courts and the fact that the repeal of "Don't Ask Don't Tell" is well underway.

In light of these facts, the three-judge panel of the court concluded that "The circumstances and balance of hardships have changed, and (the government) can no longer satisfy the demanding standard for issuance of a stay."

President Obama signed a law

statute.

Log Cabin Republicans, a national LGBT Republican group, filed suit in federal court seeking the end of DADT. The case went to trial in July of 2010, and Judge Virginia Phillips ruled on September 9, 2010 that the policy violated the First and Fifth Amendments of the Constitution. However, on appeal of Phillips' decision to end the ban, the 9th Circuit agreed to keep the policy in place until it could consider the matter. The appeals court reversed itself with Wednesday's order by lifting its hold on Phillips' decision.

It was not immediately clear what effect the court's ruling would have on the time line for eliminating the ban.

"Today's ruling underscores the fact that there is no reason for leaving this discriminatory policy on the books," said Leslie Cooper, senior staff attorney with the ACLU Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Project. "The Department of Defense must certify its repeal as soon as possible so all service members can serve their country with honesty and dignity."

Gay servicemembers are still being cautioned against rushing to declare their sexual orientations until the government declares that it intends to abide by the ruling.

However, "unless the administration appeals the order to the U.S. Supreme Court, "Don't Ask, Don't Tell is over," said Dan Woods, the Lawyer representing the Log Cabin Republicans who brought the sought forcing the decision.

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Body Shop Leads in Embracing Green Technology

A lot has changed in the auto body repair business since owner/entrepreneur Dave Picton bought the 32-year-old G&R Body & Paint business in 2001.

For one thing, there has been an industry-wide movement to “go green,” inspired in part by tougher national and California environmental standards and reporting requirements.

Picton and G&R Body & Paint have embraced that new technology, invested in green and sustainable equipment and products, and cleaned up a polluted and rundown work site to become an asset to its Oak Park neighborhood and a leader in the California auto body repair industry.

Picton has both made G&R one of the early adopters of new, greener technologies and, as Vice President of the California Autobody Association, and as

President of the local chapter of the Inter-Industry Conference on Auto Collision Repair (ICAR), has helped lead the industry in a greener direction statewide.

Picton also is active in a number of local business networking organizations, including the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce.

Among the improvements Picton has made to G&R Body & Paint operations is installing a new air compressor and air filtration system that scrubs air from the shop’s computer-controlled paint spray booth to hospital-approved levels, changing to an environmentally friendly, water-borne paint system, and installing new energy-efficient lighting

throughout the shop.

G&R also recycles nearly everything – either by using new technologies that allow parts such as plastic bumper covers to be repaired rather than replaced or by contracting with area recyclers for disposal of waste headlights, tires and sheet metal.

“It all starts with the employees, the culture of the shop, training and the overall healthfulness of the work environment,” Picton says. “At G&R there is a strong cohesion between the painters, the body technicians and the office.”

Going green is a “lot of work,” Picton admits. “We have to be sure the waste we generate, from metal dust to discarded parts, gets recycled to the correct people. Contaminated water or thinner, we



Body Technician Eugene Dorozhin uses G&R Body and Paints’ new state of the art spot welding system to prep a truck for painting.

either recycle onsite or ship it out.

“Repair techniques have improved so much in the past few years, the materials and processes are so good, that we can take someone’s car and do a very

professional job while still minimizing our impact on the environment. But we don’t

PROFILE
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Outword Salutes Sacramento’s Rainbow Chamber of Commerce

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Kerrie D. Webb



Sac G&L Center Launches Strategic Planning Initiative

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center has embarked on an innovative strategic planning initiative designed to evolve year to year and include ongoing community input and participation.

"Many organizations face the challenge of gathering information from their community and then forgetting the important step of communicating how the input and ideas have been used," said Sara Freid, the Center's interim executive director in a released statement. "The Center intends to not only complete this important step, but also to keep the dialogue going."

The initiative's beginning steps include a Community Survey and the use of Focus Groups.

Community Survey

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian

Center has created a short and intelligent survey, that let's you input necessary information for the Center as it envisions the future and defines its strategic focus for the next three years.

Focus Groups

Come join the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center in co-creating the future of the Sacramento LGBTQI community.

These gathering are not your ordinary focus groups. Smart, creative people like you and your input and ideas are imperative to the Center's ongoing success, and

this is your opportunity to be heard.

Although one of the focus groups was held before *Outword* went to press, three additional meetings are scheduled for August 3, a Faith-based organizations focus group: August 17, a Businesses focus group: and August 24, a Multicultural focus group. All of the focus groups will be from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Center, 1927 L St.

To take the survey and to find out more about the center and the focus groups, visit SacCenter.org

"Your input will inspire the very best from the Center," said Center Board President Gail Mancarti. "Together we will define the direction of the Center and ensure its lasting success."

HHS Plans to collect LGBT Health Data

HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius has announced new draft standards for collecting and reporting data on race, ethnicity, sex, primary language and disability status, and announced the administration's plans to begin collecting health data on LGBT populations.

Both efforts aim to help researchers, policy makers, health providers and advocates to identify and address health disparities afflicting these communities.

"Health disparities have persistent and costly affects for minority communities, and the whole country," Secretary Sebelius said. "Today we are taking critical steps toward ensuring the collection of useful national data on minority groups, including for the first time, LGBT populations. The data we will eventually collect in these efforts will serve as powerful tools and help us in our fight to end health disparities."

Under the plan announced June

29, HHS will integrate questions on sexual orientation into national data collection efforts by 2013 and begin a process to collect information on gender identity.

This plan includes the testing of questions on sexual orientation to potentially be incorporated into the National Health Interview Survey. The department also intends to convene a series of research roundtables with national experts to determine the best way to help the department collect data specific to gender identity.

"The first step is to make sure we are asking the right questions," Secretary Sebelius said. "Sound data collection takes careful

planning to ensure that accurate and actionable data is being recorded."

"These new data standards, once finalized, will help us target our research and tailor stronger solutions for underserved and minority communities," added HHS Director of the Office of Minority Health, Dr. Garth Graham. "To fully understand and meet the needs of our communities, we must first thoroughly understand who we are serving"

The public may submit comments for the draft minority data collection standards at www.regulations.gov under docket number HHS-OMH-2011-0013. Public comments will be accepted until August 1. For more information on improving data collection within the LGBT community visit www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/lgbt06292011a.html

Legacy Wall Project Plans Midtown Mural

Midtown, despite being the hub of some of Sacramento's finest art galleries and the home to the wildly successful Second Saturday Art Walk, could use a little dressing up – and that's exactly what a planned new Midtown Mural is hoping to do.

To get the paint on the walls, CGNIE and Kennedy Gallery have joined in a community partnership project for the mural. The project is being overseen by the owner of Kennedy Gallery, Michael Kennedy who is also the 38th Emperor of

CGNIE and Empress 38 Key Pears.

"There were many ideas and names floated around until "The Legacy Wall" was selected," Kennedy told *Outword*. "We're planning on painting the first brush strokes on August 1."

The idea is for a mural to stretch from the sidewall of Kennedy Gallery, located mid-block on 20th street between K & L Streets, and around the entire back of Head Hunters.

There will be two ovals, one on each of the corners, that say "Welcome to Lavender Heights," welcoming visitors to the unofficial core of Sacramento's LGBT community.

MURAL

continues on page 26

outwordmagazine.com

Vintage Train Offers a Return to Luxury Rail Travel

When it comes to combining Wheels & Technology, a look back to older technology offers some surprising glimpses into a time when just “getting there” wasn’t quite enough. You had to get there in style. And one of the best ways to do that was aboard a luxury train.



You can experience that luxury yourself, thanks to The Greenbrier, a resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, as they have announced plans to revive the luxury train experience in America with the July 2012 debut of

The Greenbrier Presidential Express.

In a move that recalls the glamour of the unveiling of the streamlined 20th Century Limited express train in 1938, The Greenbrier Presidential Express will bring the resort’s

signature décor and service to Washington, DC’s Union Station. Guests will board for a six-hour, non-stop trip to White Sulphur Springs, on the 15-car train that accommodates up to 240 passengers and features a board room car, salon car and even an open-air car for admiring views and photography.

“We want to bring back the glamour of rail travel,” says Jim Justice, chairman and owner of The Greenbrier. “Everything from the décor

to the food will make you feel as if you are already at the resort.”

A team of 40 skilled craftsmen in Pottstown, PA, are refurbishing all 15 cars with the finest woods and fabrics. The cars, originally built in the 1950s, served as the long distance trains for the Union Pacific and Santa Fe railroads.

World-renowned decorator and the resort’s curator Carleton Varney, president of the Dorothy Draper & Company, with his associate Brinsley

Matthews, have taken The Greenbrier’s signature Dorothy Draper décor and applied it to the train’s interiors and exterior.

This project is being designed, built and operated by a new West Virginia company, The Greenbrier Express Company, Inc., co-founded by Jim Justice, Paul Nichini and Ross Rowland.

For more information about The Greenbrier Presidential Express and The Greenbrier, please visit: www.greenbrier.com.

Great Rebates from SMUD

This summer, look to SMUD for simple energy-saving solutions. When it’s time to purchase new or replace old appliances, equipment, electronics or lighting products for your home, check with SMUD first. SMUD recommends high efficiency products that use less energy to operate and offers rebates on qualified ENERGY STAR® models.

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Faith “Experience” Leads to Truth in Diverse Tradition

Darrick Lawson’s circuitous faith journey has led him to a new kind of “church” that just might change the world – and help heal the historic breach between the LGBT and faith communities.

When Lawson realized he was gay, he did what any good preacher’s kid would do – he asked God to fix it. For 2-1/2 years he participated in “Go Straight” therapy.

When he finally realized, at age 28, that therapy wasn’t working and he was gay, his mentor outed him. On the day his father left to assume a pastorate in another city, Lawson’s long-time church kicked him out.

At his next church, the non-denominational New Hope, Lawson played keyboard in the worship band

Thompson resigned, Lawson and Howard left as well.

“We had pretty much decided we were done with church, even though I’d had a faith relationship my whole life,” Lawson recalls. “Then Dr. Thompson approached us with the idea of doing something pretty radically different.

“Dr. Thompson had come to the realization that to truly help people find God, and for the world to see peace, we have to be able to worship together across faith lines.”

faith at the July 24 Experience service.

“It really doesn’t matter what your faith background is. The message in all those faiths is that some people are not welcome. When we fight for civil rights we fight our battles against people of faith. But for people of faith who realize God’s love is for all mankind, it really is a tragedy for them. They want to know how to reach LGBT people, when every time they try, they face this wall.

Lawson and Howard play keyboard and organ at Experience services, and Lawson serves as board president. On their seventh anniversary, the church bought a cake and helped them celebrate. “As a gay couple, to have your church be that accepting was for me mind-blowing,” Lawson says.

The Experience founders hope to



Dr. Darrick Lawson outside his Midtown chiropractic office, The Healing Touch Chiropractic, with his official greeters Atlas, Hugo and Coco.

– until church members found out he was gay. One Sunday morning he arrived to perform, only to be turned away at the front door.

“Through all the difficult times of being kicked out of two different churches and choosing to leave one, never have I doubted the nearness of God,” Lawson recollects.

Lawson met Dale Howard, who was raised Southern Baptist, and the two later married. It was progressive Congressman Robert Matsui’s funeral that initially drew them to Westminster Presbyterian. Lawson was ordained as elder and Howard ordained as deacon by Westminster’s popular pastor, Dr. David Thompson.

Thompson’s service at Westminster ended abruptly in 2009 though, when the church’s national governing body took over operations – a response, many believe to Thompson’s progressive positions on LGBT rights and other social issues. When

“The Experience” is an interfaith worship experience that brings together Christians, Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Wiccans – people of any and all faiths. “It’s really powerful to feel the spirit of God within you when you hear the Muslim call to prayer,” Lawson says.

“You realize that what we have in common is so much more than differences. What we have in common is the powerful stuff – forgiveness, compassion, love.”

The Experience brings 50 to 75 people together each Sunday at 4:04 p.m. at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. The non-traditional worship time allows Experience participants to continue worshiping in their chosen faith communities, as many do.

One of the Experience’s goals is to reach LGBT people, who “more than anything else, probably don’t want to hear it,” Lawson says. To that end, he will share his journey as a gay man of

create a model that will grow locally and throughout the world.

“For the LGBT community, if this were to spread across the world into Muslim nations, think about when that happens,” Lawson says. “Think about, in a Muslim nation, Muslims, Jews and Christians all worshipping together, and they accept gay people and women.

“Going from a faith of ‘God needs to fix this’ to a faith of ‘God made me this way,’ and to be able to embrace the person I am, the man God gave me to love, and realize we are still held in his arms and accepted, has been quite a journey, but one I wouldn’t change. I think our community needs people who have had that experience.”

The Experience Worship Service is at 4:04 p.m. on Sundays at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, located at 15th and J Streets. Their home on the web is ExperienceSacramento.org. Dr. Darrick Lawson will give a sermon on Sunday, July 24, 4:04 p.m.

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Houseboat Luxury Amid Lake Shasta’s Rugged Beauty

by Ron Tackitt

I’ve never been houseboating before. I’ve heard a lot about the trips that others have taken, but until recently, I had yet to experience it for myself. Happily, that has changed.

Several of my friends and coworkers and I have been talking with the folks at Houseboats.com for almost two years trying to find a time that we could get away from the office long enough between *Outwords* deadlines, to drive up to Shasta Lake and be on the water for longer than two days. Recently, that opportunity came about and we were able to spend four full days on the lake.

We arranged to have a mid-line houseboat, that could sleep 12, and had, pretty much, all the comforts of home. We had no desire to fill the boat to capacity but we did end up with a great group of eight and that seemed just-right for us.

Our boat had four sleeping rooms in the main cabin, and two “penthouses” up on the top deck that accommodated all of us, without having to make the couches out into beds. That turned out to be really nice because if someone got up early and started mulling around in the kitchen, they were not right on top of someone sleeping on the couch.

Before our trip we held a

loaves of bread and an entire cooler full of various bags of lettuce. Along with the stuff that was specifically earmarked for the main meals!

When we all realized the gravity of how much food was on board, we quickly dubbed our weekend, “Fat Camp.”

We thought we were going to

the quality of service was pretty amazing. Think of a relaxed Ritz Carlton.

After a short tour of the boat and a tutorial of how to drive it, one of the dock hands pulled our houseboat out of the marina and headed us out for open water. Once there, another dock hand picked him up, and we were free to navigate.

We could not have picked a better weekend to be on the lake as far as weather was concerned. Ours was perfect. It had been over 100 just days before we got there, but

and coves all up and down the lake, picking the best one was our only challenge.

Our first evening we were greeted by a small flock of Canadian geese that swam around the back of the boat. Watching them, against the backdrop of calm water, catching the last of the evening’s light and hill after hill covered with trees, made for a pretty magical first impression.

The next day a friend joined us, and brought a ski boat with him. That increased the fun factor! When not being used to fling folks

water and waves breaking off the bow. Heaven.

Bedtime came early each night. The darkness and the silence worked together to naturally tell our bodies that we’d had enough. Of course, eating and drinking all day might have also added to our sleepiness, but that’s another story.

Mornings brought about a familiar routine, brew some fresh coffee, mull around trying to wake up, then someone would make breakfast. After all, we had five dozen eggs to go through. Once satisfied, it was off to find another spot on the lake to hang out, stop the engine and float around in the water on a couple of styrofoam noodles.

We did this for four wonderful days. The houseboat was very comfortable, if not particularly well insulated for noise, and with just eight of us aboard, we all had plenty of room to ourselves. Some of us worshipped the sun on the top deck, others read books on their iPads or took naps, and there was almost always someone foraging in the kitchen.

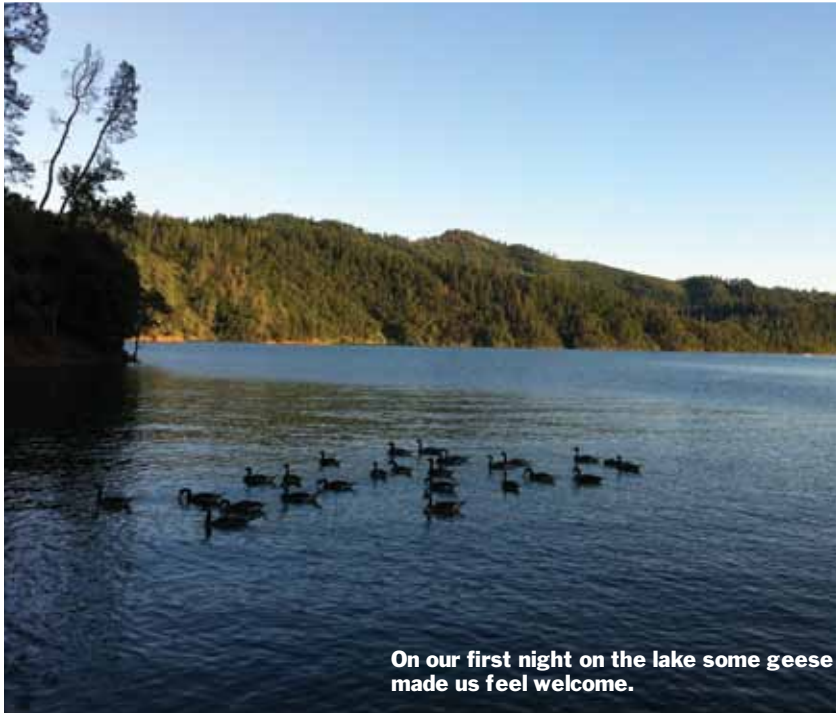
All in all, this was a great trip, and there were only two things we would do differently; bring less food and get the bigger houseboat, AKA the Titan.



Captain Fred at the helm.



Panaramic views all around.



On our first night on the lake some geese made us feel welcome.

planning meeting and assigned each person with a main meal, and left lunch open for each person to fend for themselves. In hindsight, we should have taken those meals into our plan, as everyone, not wanting to run out of food, brought way more than necessary.

We had eight containers of sour cream, seven salsas, two hummus, ten bags of chips, nine containers of sliced lunch meat, six or seven

have to walk all our stuff from our cars to the dock, but upon arrival were very pleasantly surprised that the Houseboats crew was more than ready and able to help. Their “QuadSquad” mounted on ATVs with trailers pulled up to our cars, unloaded all of our stuff and drove it to the boat. Once we were cleared to board, the squad even loaded the goods onto our boat for us. They were wonderful. In fact

then dipped down to the mid 80s to low 90s. (The day after we left, it rained all day.)

We had great cruising/floating weather. The water had warmed up and there was usually a slight breeze that helped cool the boat and keep us from having to use up precious gasoline to run the AC.

Each night we pulled the boat up to land and tied up to a couple of trees. There are wonderful nooks

around on an inner-tube, or fetch ice, it was quite easily pulled behind the houseboat.

One evening we were parked in a spot where we did not have cell phone reception and it led to a great ski boat trip out onto the lake to find bars. (Can you hear me now?) I couldn’t have cared less, so I sat in the front and enjoyed the last sunlight of the day, dangling my hand over the side in the cool

When we did have to return to the real world, we brought the houseboat back to the marina and once again, a dock hand came and moored the boat back in its place. The same great service that we experienced upon our arrival, we experienced again upon our return. The checkout process was quick and efficient, and it seemed almost too quick that we were in our cars and on our way home.

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Community Profile

by Charles Peer

A Little Bit of PeraDice Rolls Into Midtown

Midtown shoppers and browsers have a new store to peak into, one filled with distinctive housewares, cards, gifts and beauty products. One of the nicest aspects of the store though, is the warm greeting you will get from owners Steven Pera and Jim Wagner and their official tail-wagger, Schnitzel.

more local artists and vendors represented in the store.

"We're also looking to work with local jewelers, right now we have four of them in the shop," said Pera. "We'd like to get the mix of local artists up to around 35 to 40 percent, that way when we do



Steve Pera, Jim Wagner and Schnitzel hope you will drop in and say hi at their new new Midtown shop PeraDice.

Pera and Wagner may already be a familiar couple to you, both are actively involved in the LGBT community, and Pera is currently the president of the Sacramento Valley Bears. They have been a couple for seven years and Domestic Partners for five years. Schnitzel is the newest member of the family.

The store is named PeraDice, a pun on Steven Pera's name, but also a nod to the shopper's paradise the two have created.

"We're only stocking products that impress us as uniquely interesting," said Pera, and with 28 years of experience as a Northern California retailer, he has a keen eye for what is unique. He and Wagner have searched the world for a blend of scents, materials and textures to fill their shop - and tempt their customers.

"When you buy a gift for someone, or even for yourself, you want to know the 'back story,' a little about what makes it special," said Pera. "Most of our artists and manufacturers have an interesting story behind them, and we are happy to share it with you."

The creatively assembled artists

and manufacturers featured at PeraDice range from the well-established to the newly launched and include Agraria, Baroni, Further and KleanSpa, to name a few.

"Agraria is a luxury home fragrance sold in select stores around the world, favored by actresses Meryl Streep, Susan Sarandon and Cher and designers Giorgio Armani and Ralph Lauren," said Wagner. "Not so very long ago though, Agraria was just a quiet shop on San Francisco's Nob Hill."

There's plenty of glamour and glitz in the store as well, including pieces from renowned jewelry designer Sarah Baroni. Working in her Northern California studio, the prolific Baroni is represented in over 1,000 shops across the country.

She refuses to rest on her laurels though, and she continues to create more than 250 designs each year," said Wagner. Her jewelry is done in sterling, 24K gold vermeil and gorgeous stones, with design styles ranging from mandala to hand-hewn wax."

PeraDice is also looking to get

Second Saturdays, we can help expose more local artists."

Wagner says that even though the store has been open for only a short time, they have already exceeded their expectations. Like all good business owners though, growth is in their foreseeable future.

"We'd like to get a bigger store, but we want to stay in the area, stay in Midtown," said Wagner. "This store is kind of like an incubator. It gives us a chance to see what people are drawn to. Initially it was cards, and we got a lot of comparisons to Etc. (formerly Postcards Etc.). Were not just all cards though, or all candles, we're an eclectics mix of different items.

PeraDice is located at 918 24th St., between I and J streets. The store is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; on Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.; and closed Monday. You can reach them at 916-930-0600 or peradice.com.

"I want somebody to be able to walk in here with \$10 and leave with a card and a gift," said Pera. "Plus, if you just want to drop in and say hi, or pet Schnitzel - we like visitors."

Entertainment

Free Summer Music in Davis

The Mondavi Center has announced the return of the popular SummerMusic series on the UC Davis Quad, and this year's lineup features Cajun sounds and Indian rhythms.

Steve Riley & the Mamou Playboys

The SummerMusic series kicks off on Saturday, July 16 with a Cajun dance party on the Quad. Led by Riley, a master of the Cajun accordion, the band boasts a wealth of musical talent.

Their churning interpretations of Cajun French music from the

backwaters of Southwest Louisiana have kept them justly celebrated for over 20 years, including three Grammy nominations.

Non Stop Bhangra

The party continues on Saturday, August 13 with a free dance lesson courtesy of Dholrhythms Dance

Company, followed by dance performances accompanied by DJ Jimmy Love spinning an eclectic mix of Bhangra, hip hop, reggae and electronica.

This unique experience celebrates the beautiful, vibrant spirit of Bhangra, a traditional Punjabi folk music and dance.

Both events begin at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. The UC Davis Quad will open at 6:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.MondaviArts.org.

American Idol Alum in Sacramento

Straight women and gay men will no doubt be swooning when *American Idol* contestant Casey James hits the stage at the California State Fair on Sunday, July 24.



A golden-haired hunk, James charmed *Idol* fans with his skillful guitar playing and his laid-back Southern style. He made it to the Top 3 on *American Idol* in 2009.

James has since signed with Sony Music Nashville, and his debut CD is scheduled for release later this year. The sexy singer recently opened for Sugarland during the March leg of their *Incredible Machine* tour.

To see the entire list of performers appearing at the State Fair this year, visit www.BigFun.org.

There is still only one Madonna and even today, in her fifties, she remains culturally relevant. This comic book shows the influences on her music and style that in turn have influenced every pop star who aspires to not only make songs that people will always remember, but have an impact on society. Due to be released in August from Bluewater Productions, the 32-page comic book is titled *Female Force: Madonna*. Visit www.bluewaterprod.com or check them out in your local comic book shop, Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com.



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by Chris Narloch

Music Circus Season Begins with Two Classics

Kick Off Summer with *The Producers* and *Oliver!*

The tent has long since been replaced by the Wells Fargo Pavilion, but the Music Circus is as much a sign that summer has returned to Sacramento as it ever was.

Check out the first two shows of the 2011 season.

The Producers

The winner of a record-breaking 12 Tony Awards, this outrageous, side-splitting Mel Brooks musical makes its Music Circus premiere. Gary Beach stars as Roger De Bris, the Tony Award-winning role he originated on Broadway and in the 2005 movie.

Don't miss down-on-his-luck Broadway producer Max Bialystock and accountant Leo Bloom as they sing and dance their way through the biggest show-biz scam in history.

The Producers plays July 12-17 at the Wells Fargo Pavilion.

Oliver!

This is the dramatic musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' novel about the orphan who dared to ask for more. Oliver's adventure takes him through London's underworld of pickpockets and

features beloved classic songs such as "Food, Glorious Food," "Consider Yourself (at Home)" and "As Long As He Needs Me."

Oliver! plays July 19-24 at the



Bob Amaral as Max Bialystock, Sarah Cornell as Ulla and Matt Loehr as Leo Bloom in *The Producers* at Music Circus through July 17. Photo by Charr Crail.

ruffians and to the truth about his past.

The musical's Tony-winning score

Wells Fargo Pavilion.

Visit www.SacramentoMusicCircus.com.

Pop Music Star Lance Bass Launches Weekly Show on SiriusXM

Pop music star/former 'N SYNC member Lance Bass is hosting *The Pop Ten*, a new weekly music and pop culture show that features guests, interviews and the newest musical releases across varied genres.



The Pop Ten with Lance Bass airs Friday nights from 10 p.m. to midnight ET on SiriusXM OutQ, ch.108.

As listeners across the country get their weekends started, Bass counts down the top ten songs and pop culture happenings for the week, joined in studio by celebrity guests and a regular crew of his closest friends.

"I can't wait to host this weekly pop culture party on SiriusXM," said Bass. "I want *The Pop Ten* to be the soundtrack my fans jumpstart start their weekends with."

The Pop Ten music countdowns will feature Bass' favorite tracks of the week – dance, pop, rock, world music, country, plus music from new artists he loves – as well as contributions from fans and friends via Twitter @lancebass, Facebook and live calls from listeners.

"Lance is a pop music aficionado whose personality and perspective – as both a fan and an artist – make him a great fit for SiriusXM," said Scott Greenstein, President and Chief Content Officer, SiriusXM. "As an artist, he's earned his spot in pop culture history. As the host of *The Pop Ten*, he will delight millions of longtime fans and have fun making new ones."

Lance will host the show from New York and LA. An encore presentation of the show will air Saturday nights on OutQ from 9:00 – 11:00 p.m. ET.

For more information, visit www.siriusxm.com.



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Harry Potter and Horrible Bosses

Summer blockbusters are upon us, and it doesn't get much more "blockbuster-y" than this – the last *Harry Potter* film and a high-concept, low-down comedy entitled *Horrible Bosses*.



Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2

I wasn't wild about Part 1 – too long, too dark, and too slow – but they were obviously saving the good stuff for Part 2 of the big screen version of J.K. Rowling's penultimate installment in her

staggeringly successful series of *Harry Potter* books.

The *Harry Potter* movies have been staggeringly successful as well, and most of them deservedly so. This one begins as Harry, Ron,

MOVIES

continues on page 26

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Drop Dead Diva Goes Gay Lesbian Teens at The Prom

Mark your calendars because you won't want to miss the fifth episode of this season's *Drop Dead Diva*, which airs on Lifetime on Sunday, July 24.

Entitled *The Prom*, the episode features a story ripped directly from the headlines that portrays the real life challenges faced by Constance McMillan.

A gay teen refused permission to bring her girlfriend as a date to the high school prom, McMillan battled a myopic and homophobic school system. The episode features out gay celebrities including Wanda Sykes, Lance Bass, Clay Aiken, and Amanda Bearse, with a special cameo by McMillan herself.

The Prom will pay homage to the struggles faced by McMillan and so many other gay teens across America, by giving them a positive reminder that good things can happen when you stand up for yourself.



Brooke Elliott stars in Lifetime's show "Drop Dead Diva."

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If you've dared to even think about starting your own business, you undoubtedly have the drive and skills it takes to do it. Still, you may have found yourself wondering: Do I have enough experience? Do I really have the resources?

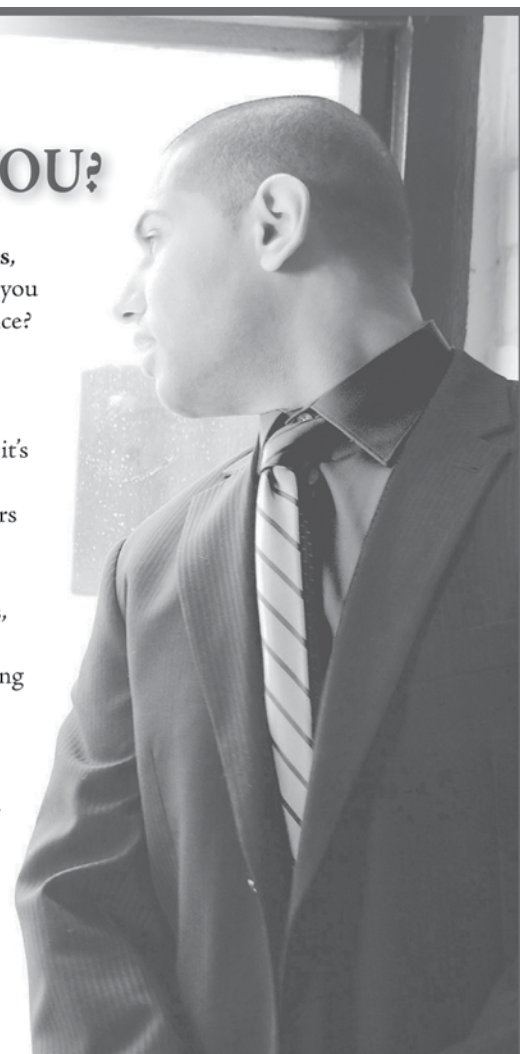
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If you are interested in learning more about the Nationwide Agency Capital Builder Program, please contact Del'Esa Lee, at (916) 924-4305 or LEED26@nationwide.com.



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Calendar July

compiled by Charles Peer

Thursday, 14

ECLECTIC TRASH BOOK CLUB

Join this LGBT book club for a lively discussion of *Bob the Book* by David Pratt. 7 p.m. Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. Info: 916-492-0558 LavenderLibrary.org

STATE FAIR CONCERT

It's opening day of the State Fair, and tonight's free concert features The Fab Four - The Ultimate Tribute. 8 p.m. Free (\$10 for Gold Circle). Cal Expo. Visit BigFun.org for the day's complete schedule.

WAITER'S RACE

It's Bastille Day, and what better way to celebrate than with a Sac. version of the footrace that made Paris famous. The Fun starts at 7

p.m. on L St, circles the block twice between 18th & 19th before finishing at the L Wine Lounge.

FIESTA EN LA CALLE

A night of calle music with Orix and Cambio del Piel. 5 - 8:30 p.m. Free. Cesar Chavez Park, 9th & J Sts.

Underwear Runway Show hosted by The Denim Spot (9 p.m.) Badlands, 2003 K St. Info: 916-441-6823

CONCERT IN THE PARK

The Nickel Slots, Whiskey & Stitches and Bright Faces perform at this family-friendly event. Food



Defending the Caveman

Paul Perroni is one of the Cavemen in this hilariously insightful play about the ways men and women relate, leaving both sexes roaring with laughter as they recognize themselves in the stories being told on stage. Through 9/11. Cosmopolitan Cabaret. 916-557-1999 CalMT.com

Friday, 15

70'S BASH & UNDERWEAR

Chantel will be channeling Studio 54 at this birthday bash, with help from Taryn, Mona & Gillette, Danielle and Synergy (8 p.m.), then stick around for Timoteo

vendors will be selling yummy eats and drinks, and adult beverages will be available in the beer garden. Cesar Chavez Park, 910 I St.

MBA FASHION, ART & MUSIC

Author Elizabeth Currid-Halkett will speak on the importance of fashion, music and art, followed by an after party featuring music by Tainted Love. Cocktail attire. Hosted by Midtown Business Assoc. 5 - 9 p.m. Harlows, 2708 J St. Info: mbasac.com

STATE FAIR CONCERT

Tonight's free concert features Blue Oyster Cult. 8 p.m. Free (\$10 for Gold Circle.) Cal Expo. Visit BigFun.org for the day's complete schedule.

ROCK & ROLL HISTORY TOUR

Discover Downtown's historical connection to The Beach Boys, The Rolling Stones, Gloria Gaynor and even Blondie in this tour highlighting Sacramento's contributions to the contemporary popular music scene. Every Friday. RSVP: 916-442-8575

Saturday, 16

BASSI WATERFALL HIKE

Come see an impressive waterfall and awesome granite landscape on this moderate hike in the Sierras, around four miles total. 8:30 a.m. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-737-2152.

SGMC GARDEN PARTY

The Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus hosts a festive evening

under the stars filled with great food, tasty wines and exciting raffle prizes. 7 - 9 p.m. Lawler Gardens, 2720 Armstrong Dr. RSVP: 877-283-1576 sgmcinfo@gmail.com

SINGING ON GAY STREET

Guitarist and vocalist David Deerfeeder presents a cabaret musical tribute to GLBT contributors to the Great American Songbook, from Cole Porter to k.d. lang. Hors d'oeuvres and "mocktails" will be available. Free. 7 p.m. Hosted by Solano Pride Center. Unity Hall, 350 N. Orchard Ave., Vacaville. Info: 707-447-0521

LADY BUSINESS

Witty and wild women take over the comedy stage in *Not Like Me*, a night of improv based on true stories about comedians. 8 p.m. Sacramento Comedy Spot, 1050 20th St. Info: 916-444-3137 SacComedySpot.com

THE MAMOU PLAYBOYS

The Cajun sounds of Steve Riley & the Mamou Playboys give a taste of Louisiana. Free. 7:30 p.m. UC Davis Quad. Info: 866-754-2787 MondaviArts.org.



Sac. Shakespeare Festival

"1570's Wild Child" from *The Taming of the Shrew* meets "1970's Flower Child" from *As You Like It* as City Theatre presents their annual Shakespeare Festival under the stars at Land Park. For a complete listing of show times and dates, running in rep through July 31, visit SacramentoShakespeare.net

Sunday, 17

LA FEMME MAGNIFIQUE

A pageant to crown the most beautiful drag queen in California as well as the California La Femme Plus, with competition in: Evening Wear, Theme Wear, Talent and Las Vegas Showgirl. 5 p.m. Head Hunters Patio, 20th & K Sts. Info: darcellexv.com/

KATHY GRIFFIN D-LIVE

From Hollywood gossip to celebrity screw ups - and there is so much fresh material - this queer friendly comic is coming back to Sac for another great night of laughs. Community Center Theatre. Info: 916-808-5181 Tickets.com

STATE FAIR CONCERT

Tonight's free concert features Lee Greenwood. 8 p.m. Free (\$10 for Gold Circle.) Cal Expo. Visit BigFun.org for the day's complete schedule.

Thursday, 21

FIESTA EN LA CALLE

A night of calle music with Sacred Fire. 5 - 8:30 p.m. Free. Cesar Chavez Park, 9th & J Sts.

OUTDOOR JAZZ CONCERT

Ecuadorian born guitarist Iván Nájera headlines this evening of

CALENDAR
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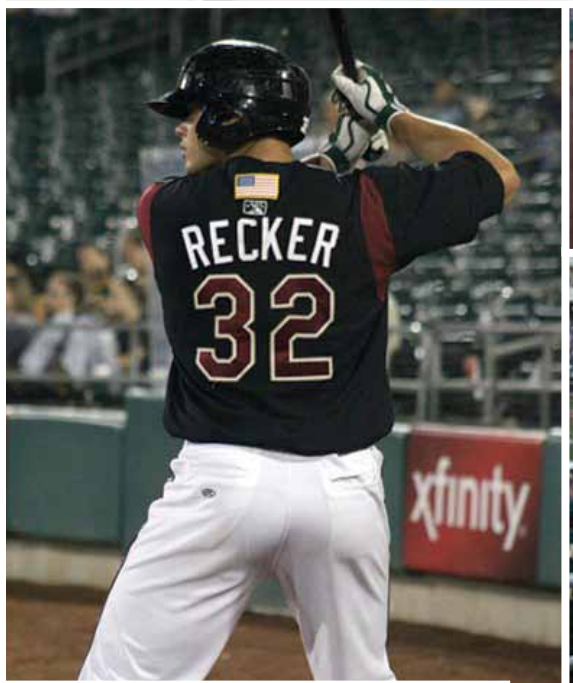
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Outword Night with the Rivercats

It was an amazing night of baseball and good friends at the Third Annual Outword Night at the Rivercats. We totally sold out our section, thanks to a lot of help from the Sac. Valley G&L Softball league and players. Meanwhile the Sac. Gay Men's Chorus hit a home run with their rendition of the National Anthem that had everyone standing on their feet - and cheering wildly. A part of each ticket sold went to the The G&L Center, and we raised over \$800 for them. Photos by Stephen Crowley, www.wix.com/crowleyphotos/crowley, and Charles Peer.





L'AMOUR SHOPPE

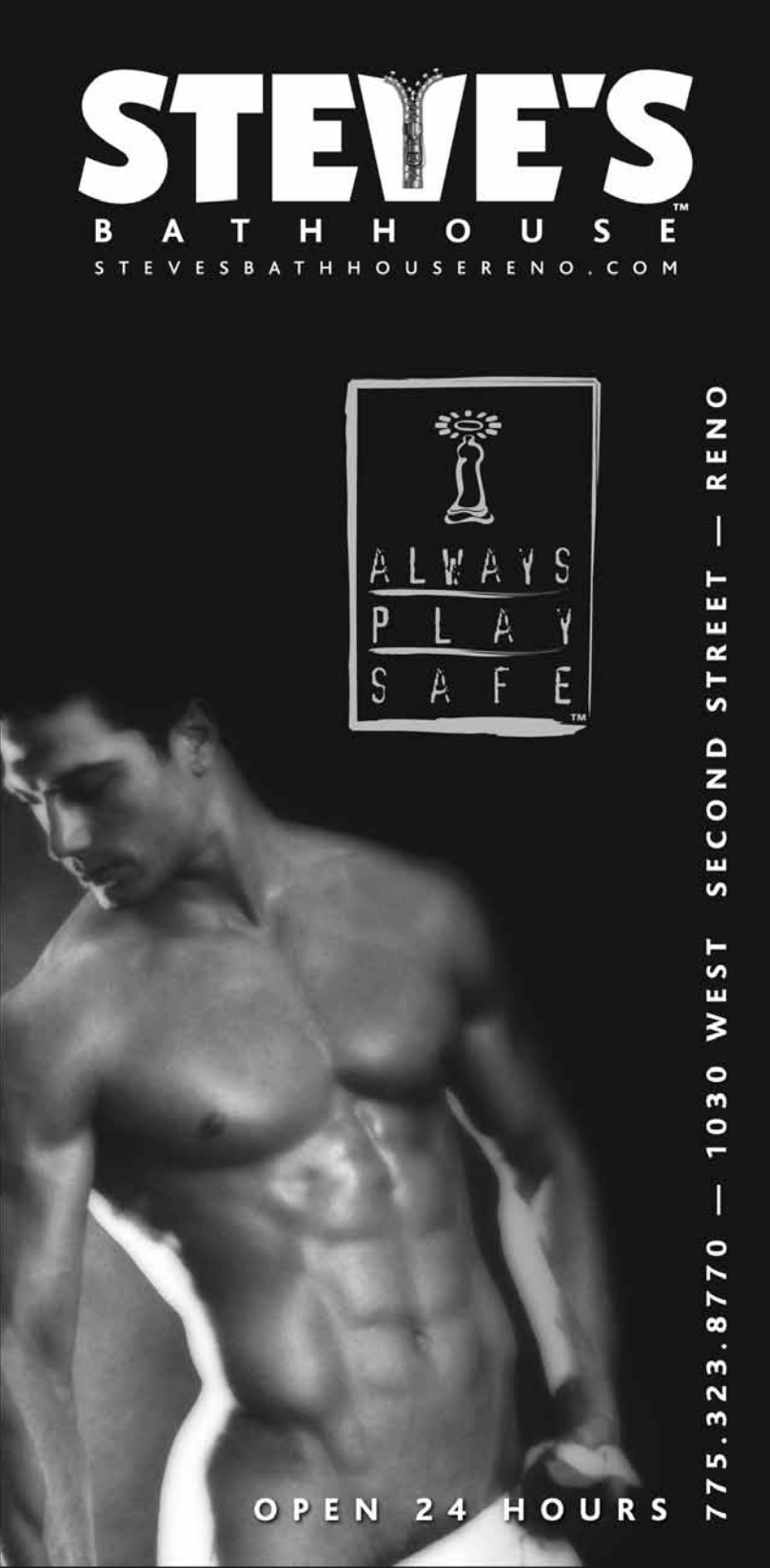
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Ten of the Ugliest Cars Ever Sold in America

by Ron Tackitt



#10 - 2007 Toyota Camry
What has long been one of the most boring cars ever made, took a turn for the worse in 2007. It is the epitome of “car in the microwave” styling. The front end droops over like it has a bad overbite, the sides are featureless and the rear looks like five different committees made certain parts of it and melted wax over it to make it stick together.



#9 - 2005 Subaru Tribeca B9
As they say in Drag Queen Bingo, “Not malignant but B-9!” With the grill that made the car look like it was sucking on rotten eggs, you barely notice the rest of the car. Best to just have it removed altogether.



#8 - 2003 Chevrolet SSR
This was just a bad idea all around. A two passenger truck styled like one from the thirties, yet comes with a hard cover over the bed, so there is almost no usable cargo space. Then priced like an exotic car. What’s the point?



#7 - 2008 Scion Xb
When this second-generation Xb came out, the guys in the advertising department put barf bags in car magazines along with the Xb’s ad. If this car was so ugly it was cute, that campaign might have worked. As it is, the bulbous rear bumper, the stupidly squat greenhouse and a front end so boring you fall asleep looking at it, make it a car few have found a space in their driveway for.



#6 - 2010 Toyota Prius
The previous generation was boring for sure, but they took that and tried to give it a more aggressive look. The lock-jaw front bumper, the pinched and pulled front headlights and the wildly overdone tail lamps all conspire to make this car look cheap and dumb.



#5 - 1996 Ford Taurus
Leave it to Ford to take something that is inherently good, if not great, and make it a nightmare. My brother and I used to call this car the “Fish Car.” Look at the front end straight on and you will see what we mean.



#4 - 1973 Ford Mustang II
The 1996 Taurus was not the first time Ford screwed up a good design. In trying to take the Mustang upmarket, they gave it a more upright grill, lots of chrome and a vinyl Landau roof treatment. Um, hello? This used to be a sports car, not a secretary’s car. Not to mention they were so slow a Honda Civic could outrun them.



#3 - 1970 AMC Gremlin
Easily just one of the ugliest cars ever made. From the weird, wavy front end to the upswing in the rear window, then the steep drop off of the hatch, this car, more than any other, looks like an old shoe, with wheels.



#2 - AMC Matador
Obviously some of the same people worked on this car that worked on the AMC Gremlin. Bulbous and weird, this car doesn’t have one line or crease that promotes beauty. The huge rear end, with its snaggletooth, giant tail lights looks like an oversized butt in polyester stretch pants. Even a starring role in a James Bond movie couldn’t do anything to help this heifer.



#1 - Pontiac Aztek
This car is the most compelling reason to kill the Pontiac division ever devised. It has a bizarre, disjointed front end, an overly-tall butt, and everything in-between looks like it was glued on as an afterthought. Hopefully the designer responsible for this went on to Walmart to design signage.



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Education

continued from page 8

prohibit bias in school activities, instruction and instructional materials.

“There are studies that have shown that inclusion of LGBT people in instructional materials is linked to lower rates of bullying,” said Benancio Garza, EAN’s Youth Spokesperson, “that along with strong anti-bullying laws should help kids like Lawrence King, who was killed for being gay, have a better view of himself and others respect him for who he was.”

“This legislation sends the critical message that equity and accuracy are essential components of excellence in public education and the LGBT perspective in history and the social sciences is equal to that of any other group,” said

Angela F. Luna, EAN’s Education Lead, teacher, and author of the first school workbook about Harvey Milk. This legislation will literally save lives as it validates LGBT youth as well as LGBT educators across California.”

“We are selectively censoring history when we exclude LGBT Americans, or any other group of people, from our textbooks and instructional materials,” said Senator Mark Leno (D-San Francisco). “We can’t tell our youth that it’s OK to be yourself and expect them to treat their peers with dignity and respect when we deliberately deny them accurate information about the historical contributions of Americans who happened to be LGBT.”

Calendar

continued from page 23

hot jazz, with Alfresco dining and beverage specials available, and museum spotlight talks during intermission. 6 - 9 p.m. \$12. Crocker Art Museum, E. Wendell Davis Courtyard, 216 O St. Info: 916-808-1182 crockerartmuseum.org

STATE FAIR CONCERT
Tonight’s free concert features Sugarfoot’s Ohio Players and the SOS Band. 8 p.m. Free (\$10 for Gold Circle.) Cal Expo. Visit BigFun.org for the day’s complete schedule.

CROCKER LUNCH & LEARN
Enjoy lunch at the Crocker Cafe before or after the talk on Franz Bischoff’s *Red and White Roses*. Noon. Free with Museum admission. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St. Info: crockerartmuseum.org

Friday, 22
CONCERT IN THE PARK
Prieta, Kelps and The Denver Piledrivers perform at this family-friendly event. Food vendors will be selling yummy eats and drinks and adult beverages will be available in the beer garden. Cesar Chavez Park, 910 I St.

STATE FAIR CONCERT
Tonight’s free concert features Aja Vu - The Music of Steely Dan. 8 p.m. Free (\$10 for Gold Circle.) Cal Expo. Visit BigFun.org for the day’s complete schedule.

WINETRAN’S VINTNER LUNCH
Watch the scenic beauty of the Napa Valley pass by while enjoying Executive Chef Kelly Macdonald’s four-course prix fixe menu with paired wines from Dick Vermeil Wines. RSVP 800-427-4124 WineTrain.com

Saturday, 23
HIKE IN THE MOUNTAINS
Escape the valley heat on a moderate hike in the cool Sierras, location to be determined by the melting snowpack. A nice change of scenery guaranteed. G&L Sierrans. Info: 916-481-2757

SO, YOU WANNA BE A QUEEN?
Empress Carlene Chance hosts this night for Drag Queen wannabees, for men and women! There will be a fun show, raffle and food. 6 p.m. \$10. Club Paradise, 10100 Lower Sacramento Rd. Stockton.

STATE FAIR CONCERT
Tonight’s free concert features War. 8 p.m. Free (\$10 for Gold Circle.) Cal Expo. Visit BigFun.org for the day’s complete schedule.

Sunday, 24
CROCKER CLASSICAL
Chamber musician and recording artist Lois Brandwynne performs works by European Impressionist composers Debussy and Ravel and select pieces by Chopin. 3 p.m. \$12. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St. Info: crockerartmuseum.org

Profile

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compromise safety to do it. We don’t cut corners – everything is done the way the manufacturer suggests on every repair.”

G&R Body & Paint participates in the Certified Green Investor Registry Program, which contracts with GRC-PIRK to audit the shop’s progress in reducing energy use and eliminating pollution. In 2010 G&R became the first body shop in California to be recognized as a “GreenLink Shop” by the Coordinating Committee for Automotive Repair.

G&R also works with VeriFacts, a quality control and training program that works to keep G&R

repair technicians abreast of the latest and best methods and technologies.

“We are very proud of what we’ve accomplished in the past 10 years,” Picton says. “We have cleaned up the building and facility and built a thriving business where the old one was, and we’ve done it in a way that has helped protect the environment and the quality of life of the people who live and work in our community.”

G&R Body & Paint is located at 4220 Stockton Blvd. They can be reached at 916-731-8203 or online at www.grbodyshop.com

Movies

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and Hermione go back to Hogwarts to find and destroy Voldemort’s final horcruxes. When Voldemort finds out about their mission, life as they know it will never be the same again.

Don’t miss your chance to see Harry and “Voldie” go toe to toe one last time when the final *Harry Potter* movie opens in IMAX 3D at Sacramento’s Esquire Theatre on Thursday, July 14 at 11:59 p.m.

Visit www.imax.com/sacramento.

Horrible Bosses
I had low expectations going into this one, and there is no doubt that the latest “guy-com” variation on *The Hangover* is crass, crude and socially un-redeeming. It’s also frequently funny as hell.

Jason Bateman, Jason Sudeikis and Charlie Day co-star as the three “Hangover-esque” schlubs who plot revenge on their contemptible

managers. The real stars, of course, are the horrible bosses, and the casting there is two-thirds inspired, one-third familiar, and completely hilarious.

Kevin Spacey spits out insults as only he can in a role that he has polished to perfection after several previous outings. It’s Aniston and Farrell who surprise though, as, respectively, a deranged, she-devil dentist who wants to drill her male employee in more ways than one, and a drug-addicted sadist. (Farrell, with a balding wig and a protruding forehead, is almost unrecognizable as the latter.)

Granted, the outcome is entirely predictable, but everyone has had a horrible boss at some point, and the gimmick pretty much sells itself. You also get to see Jennifer Aniston say and do things that would have never gotten past the censors on *Friends*.

Mural

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“The wall will not only create community visibility and enhance the well being of Lavender Heights,” Kennedy told Outword, “but also generate some much needed funding for the Sacramento G&L Center and other LGBT nonprofits.

Plans call for the wall to be divided into squares that will sell for \$150 each, with proceeds divided between the Imperial Court (which will be divided to benefit many local LGBT charities) and the Sacramento G&L Center.

Anyone or organization wishing to sponsor or purchase a square may contact Kennedy at Kennedy Gallery, located at 1114 20th Street, at 916-446-1522 or visit CGNIE.org for additional information about the Legacy Wall Project.

“Young or old, whether you are an accomplished artist or not, all are welcome to participate,” said Kennedy. “Lets leave a legacy!”

NOM

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“This achievement marks the first time a Republican led chamber has enacted marriage equality, and we look forward to building on our successes in states across the country. Log Cabin will stand with the allies who stood with us today as part of a stronger, more inclusive Republican Party,” said Cooper.

To learn more about Log Cabin Republicans and their effort to support the New York Four, visit LogCabin.org

Get Decadent - and Win a Trip!



Over 100,000 gay men will descend on New Orleans for this year’s Southern Decadence, six days of sin, repent, repeat. Deborah Cox will be headlining, and there is no stop to the entertainment and hot men and women. Best of all, you can win a free trip from M2 Lubricants - not to mention a New Orleans size helping of personal lubricants! Visit www.M2sweeps.com for all the details.

Outword's Third Annual Sing Along

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Sing Along! with

**Saturday
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