

Outword

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Letters

Volunteers Needed for Rainbow Festival

Sacramento's annual Rainbow Festival is coming up on Labor Day Weekend, September 4. The festival is a street party centered at 20th & K Streets.

The event is organized by the Court of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire (CGNIE), and raises money for many worthy causes throughout the year, including the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center.

The Rainbow Festival is looking for volunteers to help with set-up, tear down, admission gates, and more. If you're looking for something fun to do, volunteer for this event.

Visit cgnie.org/?page_id=258 for more information.

Great Getaway Close to Home

Getting away from it all doesn't have to mean going far. Enjoy the last lazy days of summer at SMUD's Rancho Seco Recreational Area - a complete vacation destination that's just 25 miles from downtown Sacramento.

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Additionally, the park can accommodate group events and camp-overs.

New this season are additions, upgrades and improvements to the recreational area including a fenced-in dog park, expansion of the tent camping sites, hot and cold water showers and refurbished portions of the restrooms.

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) owns and operates the nearly 600-acre park.

Reservations are required at least

two weeks in advance for RV, tent and group camping and picnicking.

To see more of what the park has to offer, visit smud.org. For more information, call 916-732-4913 or visit smud.org.

Sac. G&L Center Begins Search for New Executive Director

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center has formed a committee to begin the search and outline the hiring process for the position of Executive Director.

The ad hoc committee is comprised of four board members and two community members and is looking to complete the search by September 30, 2011.

Jake Rowe, the Center's Vice President is the Committee Chair.

For more information, visit SacCenter.org or write Jake.Rowe@SacCenter.org.



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“Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” Repeal Certified

The repeal of the discriminatory military policy “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” has been fully certified by Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Michael Mullen and President Barack Obama.

The certification officially states that the military has completed its review of the repeal and can confirm that the Armed Forces’ implementation of the repeal and the transition to open service will not affect unit cohesion or readiness.

“After all that has happened over the past 17 years since DADT was implemented, today’s certification sets the stage for the beginning of the end of this discriminatory policy,” said Sacramento Valley Veterans (SVV) President Ty Redhouse, SVV is a Sacramento based LGBT veterans group. “For those serving in silence, today marks the lighting of a beacon at the end of dark time. To those who have been discharged under DADT, today brings a measure of hope that they may be able to serve again.”

Lesbian, gay and bisexual troops can begin serving openly 60 days

from the certification, which was announced on Friday, July 22. In addition, those who wish to enlist and join the Armed Forces will no longer need to lie about their sexual orientation in order to do so.

“The days of ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t



Tell’ are quite literally numbered. Very soon, gay and lesbian service members will be able to serve their country openly, honestly and with the dignity they deserve and for far

too long were denied,” said Laura W. Murphy, director of the American Civil Liberties Union Washington Legislative Office. “While this policy’s repeal is a huge step forward, statutes that discriminate against LGBT Americans and their families remain intact. The demise of ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell’ demonstrates that we should not write discrimination into our laws. Now is the time for Congress to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act.”

The ACLU will continue to seek justice for service members who were discharged under the policy but denied the full separation pay granted to other honorably discharged veterans. Department of Defense policy states that anyone honorably discharged for “homosexuality” is entitled to only half the separation pay given to other honorably discharged service members to ease their transition to civilian life.

“‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell’ has been a discriminatory distraction for far too long, and we welcome its repeal once and for all,” said James D. Esseks, director of the ACLU’s LGBT Project. “But significant as this is, the Department of Defense still has serious work to do in terms of implementing the repeal. For example, DoD is still cheating service members who were kicked out under ‘Don’t Ask Don’t Tell’ of full separation pay – DoD regulations give honorably discharged gay soldiers only half separation pay, despite their having served as long as their straight colleagues did. That’s hardly fair.”

The Cost of Pride

Dear Outword,

A letter from Gary Miller in the last issue of *Outword* (July 14, 2011, NO. 436) brought up a challenge to the fees charged to exhibitors to participate at Sacramento Pride.

Mr. Miller’s desire was to see these fees be reduced or to allow a “pay what you wish” arrangement. While I can empathize with his concerns, the economics of the Pride event are such that we don’t have that kind of flexibility.

The 2011 Sacramento Pride Parade and Festival will have cost approximately \$148,000 to produce. This is a huge amount of money and includes expenses such as:

- City permits.
- Sacramento Police Department and private security staffing.
- Sacramento Fire Department staffing and inspections.
- Sacramento County Health Department permits and inspections.
- Rentals and/or purchase of everything you see including portable toilets, fencing, tents, tables, chairs, trash cans, generators, staging, sound equipment, portable radios, signage, banners, decorations, and more.
- Fees paid to entertainers to perform at Pride and the cost to bring them to Sacramento and to put them up while here.
- Expenses for the 350+ volunteers including refreshments, badges, training, t-shirts, etc.
- Contractors such as sound

engineers, janitorial service, street sweeping, and trash hauling.

- Expenses for Center staff who spend all year planning and developing the Pride event.
- Fees paid for the use of private property on Capitol Mall.
- Significant advertising and publicity efforts to get the word out about the event. **(Note from the Editor: As a major sponsor of Pride, ALL of the advertising in Outword Magazine was donated by Outword.)**

We have been fortunate to have significant corporate sponsors such as Jackson Rancheria, Wells Fargo, Comcast, *Outword Magazine*, and FACES (as well as many more), but these cover only about 35 percent of our costs.

The rest of the money comes from admission ticket sales, beverage sales, and the fees exhibitors pay to participate in Pride. We also received a small, in-kind grant from the City of Sacramento (\$8,000) to help offset a portion of the City-related costs.

Profit from Pride (if any) goes directly to the programs and services of the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center. However, because of the rain on Pride Day, attendance was only about one-third of what we had been expecting, and we lost money this year – approximately \$15,000.

This loss has, unfortunately, also gone directly to the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center. If we did not pay the bills it would become impossible to have Pride next year.

Community groups and other charitable, non-profit organizations already pay fees that are two-thirds less than everyone else, and while I would love to be able to reduce fees further as Mr. Miller suggests, Pride costs a lot of money to produce and we need every dollar to make it work financially or wonderful events like Sacramento Pride will cease to exist.

I wish the situation were different.

Sincerely,

Josh Jacoby
Sacramento Pride Director



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Obama Endorses Bills to End DOMA

Commentary by Boyce Hinman

The White House has announced that President Obama supports legislation to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

This is a pretty unusual move for this President, and indeed for most Presidents. Often, Presidents don't take a position on legislation this early in its life.

In 1996, Congress approved legislation, DOMA, banning federal recognition of same-sex marriages even if the marriages were legal in the states in which they occurred. President Clinton signed the legislation.

Since then, DOMA has prevented same-sex married couples from receiving the many benefits that are available to opposite sex married couples under federal law. A few examples of those benefits are as follows:

Social Security Benefits – Many opposite sex couples are on Social Security (SSA) with one of them receiving higher monthly SSA checks than the other. If the one with the higher monthly benefit dies first, the survivor's check can be adjusted upwards. Same-sex married couples don't get this benefit.

Tax Benefits – Some people work for employers that provide health insurance for their employees and the employees' spouses. Under federal law, for opposite sex married couples, the cost of the spouse's health insurance is not considered income. No one has to pay federal income taxes on the cost of the spouse's health insurance. However, with same-sex married couples, the employee must pay federal income taxes on

the cost of his or her spouse's health insurance.

Immigration Rights – When a U.S. citizen marries a foreign national of the opposite sex, that marriage can enable the foreign national to qualify for permanent legal residency in the U.S. The same is not true when a U.S. citizen marries a same-sex foreign national.

Two bills to repeal DOMA have been introduced in the current session of Congress. Each is called the Respect For Marriage Act. In the Senate, Senator Dianne Feinstein has introduced S.598. The version in the House of Representatives is H.R.1116. S. 598 has 27 co-sponsors while H.R.1116 has 118 co-sponsors. Senator Boxer is a co-sponsor of the Senate bill.

S.598 had a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Senate on July 20, 2011.

The chances of Congress repealing DOMA this year are considered dim. Legislation to do so would have to be approved by both houses of Congress. While this is possible in the Senate, it seems unlikely to be approved by the Republican dominated House of Representatives.

Sadly, next year, an election year, seems an even less likely time for controversial legislation like this to be enacted.

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

Governor Signs LGBT Inclusive Education Bill

Governor Jerry Brown has signed a bill that ensures that the historical contributions of LGBT people and disabled individuals are accurately and fairly portrayed in instructional materials by adding these groups to the existing list of under-represented cultural and ethnic groups already included in the state's inclusionary education requirements.

Titled the FAIR (Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful) Education Act, Senate Bill 48 was authored by Senator Mark Leno and was co-sponsored by Equality California and the Gay-Straight Alliance Network. The bill was signed by the Governor on July 14.

"Today we are making history in California by ensuring that our textbooks and instructional materials no longer exclude the contributions of LGBT Americans," said Senator Leno (D-San Francisco). "Denying LGBT people their rightful place in history gives our young people an inaccurate and incomplete view of the world around them. I am pleased Governor Brown signed the FAIR Education Act and I thank him for recognizing that the LGBT community, its accomplishments and its ongoing efforts for first-class citizenship are important components of California's history."

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 materials.

In addition to including the role and contributions of LGBT Americans in educational materials, Senate Bill 48 ensures that the contributions of disabled

people are included. The bill also adds sexual orientation to the state's existing anti-discrimination protections that prohibit bias in school activities, instruction and instructional materials.

"Today marks a monumental victory for the LGBT equality movement as the struggle of the diverse LGBT community in California will no longer be erased from history," said Equality California Executive Director Roland Palencia. "Thanks to the FAIR Education Act, California students, particularly LGBT youth, will find new hope and inspiration and experience a more welcoming learning environment."

SB 48 passed the Senate in April and cleared the Assembly earlier this month.

EDUCATION
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UC DAVIS Medical Center Lauded as LGBT Health Care Leader

The nation's largest LGBT civil rights organization has recognized UC Davis Medical Center as a Leader in Healthcare Equality for creating a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for LGBT patients and employees.

The recognition is part of the New York-based Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 2011 Healthcare Equality Index (HEI) report, which examines the quality of health care services and policies affecting sexual minorities and their families at hospitals throughout the United States.

UC Davis Medical Center is one of only 27 medical centers nationwide to be named a leader in health care equality in a statement that was released June 30.

Institutions were designated leaders if they "put their values of inclusion into practice by protecting LGBT patients and employees from discrimination, ensuring equal visitation access to LGBT patients and their families and providing all staff with training on LGBT cultural competence."

UC Davis Medical Center garnered recognition for its patient nondiscrimination policies – including an explicitly inclusive hospital visitation policy that defines family or immediate family as any person who plays a significant role in an individual's life – and LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination and equal employment opportunity policies.

"Our unwavering commitment to high-quality, patient-centered care guides us to continually strive to deliver better, more efficient, more personal and more equitable health care," said UC Davis Medical Center Chief Executive Officer Ann Madden Rice. "UC Davis Medical Center's excellence depends on inclusion and diversity, and I am proud of the achievements we have made and continue to make to ensure improved health for all."

As part of its commitment to ensuring more personal and equitable care for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) patients, UC Davis is working to include sexual identity and gender information in its patients' electronic health records. The coordinated effort to use technology to enhance health and reduce health disparities is the first of its kind in the United States, Rice said.

Rice noted that sexual minorities face significant health-care disparities. For example, lesbian, gay and bisexual youth are more likely than heterosexual youth to be bullied by their peers, consider or commit suicide, experiment with drugs and

alcohol, and are more likely to be obese. Studies have found that lesbian, gay and bisexual adults are more likely than heterosexuals to have cancer.

To address these health disparities, UC Davis has developed training modules that educate its health care providers about the critical importance of discussing patients' sexual identity and sexual orientation, to

broadly committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for LGBTI faculty, staff, students and patients. For example, the UC Davis School of Medicine is one of only a few medical schools in the country to incorporate LGBTI health issues in its curriculum.

Edward Callahan, associate dean for academic personnel in the School of

UC DAVIS MEDICAL CENTER

enhance the quality of care that they provide to LGBTI individuals.

"Just as it is helpful for a clinician to know a patient's race, ethnicity and preferred language," Rice said, "knowing a patient's sexual orientation or gender identity provides health care professionals with important insights into their patients' lives, which in turn allows them to make well-informed diagnoses and recommendations."

UC Davis Medical Center is part of an integrated academic health system that is

Medicine, led the development of the LGBTI curriculum and is a champion of initiatives throughout the health system to enhance quality of care for LGBTI patients.

"Giving our LGBTI employees' partners full benefits is another way that we project our academic health center's vision of a healthier world through bold innovation," said UC Davis Health System Human Resources Director Stephen Chilcott.

For more information, visit medicalcenter.ucdavis.edu.

Outword Salutes Sacramento's Rainbow Chamber of Commerce

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Alaska Transgender Driver's License Rules Challenged

The American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska has filed a brief seeking to allow transgender individuals to correct the gender marker on their birth certificates without undergoing major surgery, saying that the surgery requirement places an undue burden on transgender individuals and presents a gross violation of an individual's right to privacy.

"It is unfair and unnecessary to require that transgender people undergo prohibitively expensive and drastic surgery in order to have accurate identity documents," said Jeffrey Mittman, executive director of the ACLU of Alaska. "No one should have to disclose sensitive personal information or be forced to make major medical decisions in order to get a driver's license."

The brief was filed on July 19 on behalf of a transgender woman, K.L., whose United States passport and work documents all identify her as a female.

After initially securing a change to the gender on her driver's license, she was told that her new license would be revoked unless she submitted proof of having surgery.

The American Psychiatric Association and medical experts agree that surgery is medically

necessary for some with gender identity disorder (GID), but not for everyone. Treatment for GID is individualized, and some can be effectively treated without it, making it unnecessary for the state to confirm whether or not an individual has had surgery before correcting a license.

Additionally, such surgery is extremely expensive and potentially dangerous. The State Department no longer requires transgender people to have surgery before it will correct the gender marker on passports and a growing number of states have stopped requiring surgery for changing the gender marker on a driver's license.

"Having a driver's license that doesn't match my appearance and identity would place me at risk of discrimination and physical harm," said K.L., who has lived as a woman for two years.

The state Supreme Court has found that the Alaska Constitution's

ALASKA
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New Report Shows Increase in Hate Violence Against LGBTs

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) has released a new report documenting 27 murders of LGBTQ and HIV-affected people, the second highest yearly total ever recorded, according to the report.

The report *Hate Violence Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and HIV-Affected Communities in the United States in 2010* was released on July 12 and contains data collected concerning hate violence against LGBT and HIV-affected people from 17 anti-violence programs in 15 states across the country.

Among those reporting, transgender people and people of color faced the most severe hate violence, and reports of violent crime increased 13 percent for LGBTQ and HIV-affected people.

The states that participated were Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Texas, Vermont and Wisconsin.

In 2010, NCAVP documented 27 anti-LGBTQ murders, the second highest yearly total ever recorded by the coalition. This is a 23% increase from the 22 people murdered in 2009.

"This increase in murders signals a pattern of severe, ongoing

violence against LGBTQ and HIV-affected communities," said Jake Finney from L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center in Los Angeles, California.

Seventy-percent of the 27 reported hate murder victims in 2010 were LGBTQ and HIV-affected people of color, which represented 44 percent of total survivors and victims. This reflects a disproportionate targeting of people of color for severe and deadly violence. As well, people of color were less likely to receive medical attention when they needed it and less likely to receive appropriate responses from the police.

Transgender women made up 44

percent of the 27 reported hate murders in 2010, while representing only 11 percent of total survivors and victims. As well, transgender people were more likely to have injuries as a result of attacks and less likely to receive medical care.

"Transgender individuals and people of color face multiple forms of discrimination on the basis of race, gender identity and other factors, which can make them more vulnerable to severe violence," said Maria Carolina Morales from Community United Against Violence in San Francisco, California. "Additionally, the general public, law enforcement, and the media may be less inclined to address, prevent and respond to violence against these communities, making this violence seem invisible and ignored."

VIOLENCE
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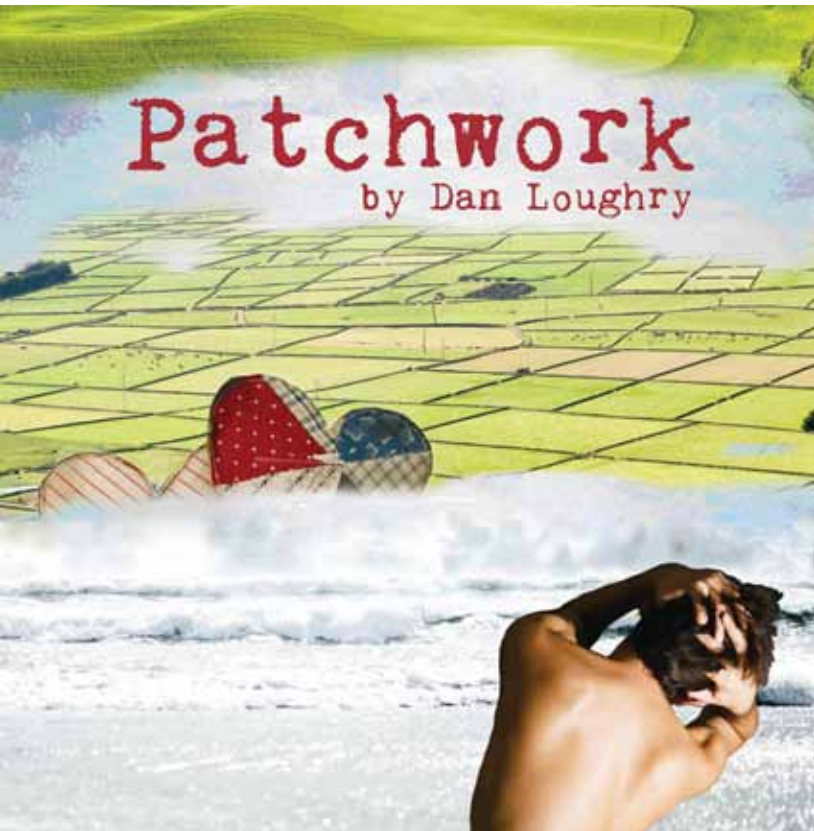
Described by one reviewer as “hands down the best AIDS-era saga since *Angels in America*,” Dan Loughry’s *Patchwork* spans the decade from the late 1980s to the brink of the millennium, and explores the effects of the AIDS crisis on one extended Midwestern family.

The debut novel begins against the backdrop of the NAMES Project Quilt in Chicago in 1989 as the ailing Randy Manning, his partner Sal, and Randy’s parents spend a day at Navy Pier to see the AIDS quilt, where Randy plans to unveil his own

remembrance piece.

After Randy’s death, Sal disappears to Los Angeles where he tries to reconcile his past, his HIV status, and a world where the promise of new drugs coexists with the possibility of new love.

Patchwork portrays a mercurial decade in its characters’ lives: lovers in transition and a family in the midst of personal upheaval as they struggle to redefine themselves in the shadow of tragedy.



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The new 2011-2012 Printed Edition is out now! Pick up a copy at your local Modesto GLBT friendly business.

Wine Country LGBT Retirement Community Now In Development

by Tim O'Bayley

GLBT seniors who want to live independently and luxuriously now have a new option - Fountaingrove Lodge is the nation's first retirement community with the option of continuing care for the LGBT community.

Fountaingrove Lodge - located on ten acres in Sonoma County in the heart of California's Wine Country - observed its Model Grand Opening on June 18-19 with a well-attended open house and ribbon-cutting, and a first look of

- ranging from 830 to 2,001 square feet - designed in the Craftsman style of architecture, with the use of fine woodwork and stone inside and out that echo the native rocks and trees on the site.

The property will boast a library,

with a fully equipped weight room and an outdoor pool. In addition, gourmet meals, weekly housekeeping, concierge services, and home and yard maintenance will also be available.

"We anticipate that this project will become a hub for the broader North Bay LGBT community," says OSL co-founder and principal Cindy Gallaher. "Our goal is to provide a beautiful, secure, social, and dynamic community for LGBT seniors, with the dignity and respect they deserve."

Fountaingrove Lodge will also be a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC), providing peace of mind for a growing number of seniors who want to live independently now, but would like to have health care services close at hand should the need arise. Health care services will be made available in the home, paid for on a fee-for-service basis as a resident may need it, and include state-of-the-art emergency call and response systems.

In addition, there will be an



the model home.

The community is set to open its doors in late 2012 or early 2013 and is already in high demand, with approximately 50 percent of units already reserved.

"In just the last few weeks we have received an incredibly enthusiastic response from the LGBT community," says Bill Gallaher, co-founder and principal of Oakmont Senior Living (OSL). "Construction of the main building hasn't begun and yet half of the units are already reserved, which truly illustrates the demand that exists for this type of community and the void that we are gladly able to fill."

More than 400 people attended the Model Grand Opening weekend festivities at Fountaingrove to get a look at the bungalow model home on the site. The event garnered significant media attention, with guests and dignitaries admiring the high-quality workmanship and exquisite design of the model home.

A proclamation from California State Senator Mark Leno added to the prestige of the ribbon-cutting and VIP preview celebration.

Residences at Fountaingrove Lodge will be comprised of six beautiful bungalows and 64 gorgeously-appointed apartment homes in nine different floor plans



business center, bank, salon and day spa, great hall for special events and dancing, library, gift shop, pet park, and bocce court, with wireless service in the main common areas.

Residents can join friends for a glass of wine in the lounge, grab a snack in the bistro or enjoy meals in the formal dining room. They can also throw a private party in the Wine Cave, rustle up a game of cards, watch a favorite film in the HD theatre, or get creative in the art studio.

Fountaingrove Lodge is also adjacent to the spectacular championship Fountaingrove Golf Course.

The inclusive community will feature an on-site fitness center

onsite care center which will provide memory care for residents with Alzheimer's/dementia. Options such as temporary home health care, follow up care during recuperation from short-term illness or injury, and full time private care are available without leaving the community

Fountaingrove Lodge is the first of its kind in our community, for our community, and built in our backyard.

The Fountaingrove Lodge Sales Office is located on-site at 4210 Thomas Lake Harris Drive in Santa Rosa, California. For more information or to schedule a tour, call 707-576-1101 or visit www.FountainGroveLodge.com.

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Who's the Abs Guy in Katy Perry's New Video?



More than 45 million people have seen Perry's new music video, and the buzz seems to be about the hunk with the abs that apparently Perry found abilicious as she licks them in her video. Well, his name is Richard Nuzzolese, he's an Italian/Russian model who lives in Los Angeles and you can read and see more of Richard, and Perry's video, at RumorFix.com.

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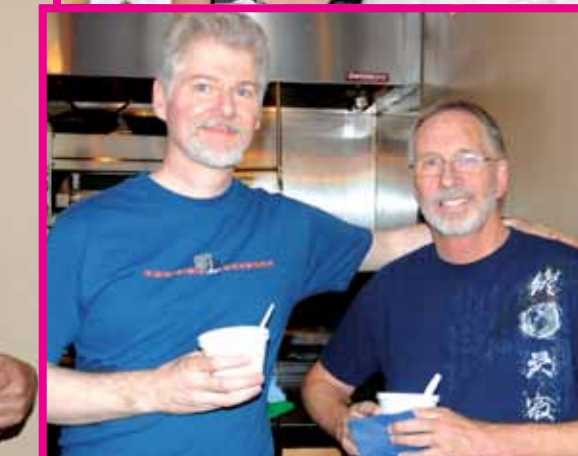
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Out & About

PFLAG Ice Cream Social

PFLAG, Taylor's Market and Outword hosted an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 10. There was plenty of ice cream and root beer floats, thanks to donations from Clover Stonetta Farms and River City Root Beer. The social raised over \$800 for PFLAG Sacramento.



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Fire Spectacular Heats Up Land Park

The fourth annual *Fire Spectacular* is the wildest Sacramento event of the year, bringing fire performers from the Bay Area and beyond. Last year's show was absolutely mesmerizing with costumes, music, drama and fire. Pictured here is Wesley Gomes with dancers from last year's event. Catch the magic at the Amphitheatre in South Land Park, August 13, from 7 - 10 p.m. (or learn how yourself at a workshop from 3 - 6 p.m.) www.sacredfire.com. Photo by Andy Pischalnikoff.

Celebrity Designer Encourages HIV Testing

In an effort to elevate public awareness about the importance of HIV testing, Janssen Therapeutics is teaming up with David Bromstad, host of HGTV's *Color Splash* and winner of the first season of HGTV's *Design Star*, to announce the *Know Yourself: Get HIV Tested* initiative. You can watch Bromstad and hear his important message at www.multivu.com/mnr/51105-janssen-therapeutics-david-bromstad-hiv-testing



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Kathy Griffin on the Sacramento Red Carpet



Jimmy Short & Mark Curtis Otani welcomed Kathy Griffin to Sacramento at her concert on Sunday, July 17. "We brought our own 'red carpet' — the same one we brought when we went to see Joan Rivers at The Crest last March. The show at the community was SOLD OUT I am proud to say — backstage, Kathy was very funny and extremely petite?"



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Mystery, Music & Mayhem Highlight STC's New Season

The Sacramento Theatre Company is giving a peek into their 2011 -2012 season that begins with a visit to Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, makes a holiday stop with the ever popular *A Christmas Carol* and ends in *A Little Shop of Horrors*.

The fun begins in October 2011 when STC presents *Frankenstein* (Oct. 5 - 30) on the Main Stage. From the classic Mary Shelley novel comes this story of a scientist who oversteps the boundaries of conscience. The thriller has been riveting audiences for over 150 years and is currently on the reading lists of many schools in our region.

On STC's Pollock Stage, comes the very funny *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks* (Nov. 9 - Dec 18). This comedy about two unlikely partners (a Baptist minister's widow and an acerbic dance instructor) brings lots of laughter and some unexpected tears. In the charming

Pollock Stage you'll feel like you're on the dance floor, too!

It must be Christmas when STC again delights audiences with *A Christmas Carol* (Nov. 30 - Dec. 24). This is STC's musical version of the classic holiday ghost story - this year with a few added surprises! Whether this is your holiday theatre tradition, or your very first time, our production will fill you with both the Dickens and holiday spirit!

In January 2012, in the spirit of last year's wildly successful, *The Musical of Musicals: The Musical*, our Pollock Stage transforms for *Ruthless!* (Jan. 11 - Feb. 19) another hilarious musical comedy spoof

STC
continues on page 21



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Entertainment

Keeping Faith and Rocking with Jennifer Knapp

by Brent Bourgeois

Singer-songwriter Jennifer Knapp burst onto the Christian music scene with her 1998 gold-selling album *Kansas*, winning two Dove Awards and a Grammy nomination. But in 2004, she walked away from her career, claiming stress and burnout. There may have been a more personal reason for her decision though.

In 2010, concurrent with the release of her latest album, *Letting Go*, Knapp revealed in several interviews that she is a lesbian, and has been in a committed same-sex relationship since 2002. She still holds to her Christian faith though, and feels that by being honest about her sexuality, her faith is actually enhanced.

Outword was able to catch up with her, and talk to her about her new career path, just in time for a return engagement in Sacramento, this time at St. Mark's United Methodist Church on Friday, August 12, at 7:30 p.m. as part of the Moon Lecture Series where she will be appearing with openly gay Bishop Gene Robinson.

The last time you were in Sacramento, you played at Harlow's. The crowd was mainly women, including many lesbian couples, and adult beverages were flowing. Yet during the show it seemed like church – people raising their hands, except they held cocktails. This scene would have struck conservative Christians as wrong on many levels.

They probably felt they were in a

safe environment where they weren't being judged, whichever way they approached their divine worship. For me, that's always been something that I've wanted to let loose in people in approaching issues of faith with music and community. One of the hallmarks of building that environment is creating an environment of safety, for us to be able to be who we genuinely are, feast or famine, ugly or pretty.

Seems more likely of a place where Jesus would hang out?

Yeah, what's funny is, I'm probably far more uncomfortable in those situations than the audience members are: when the old fans who are familiar with my older work try and make it "church," when I actually don't want it as an artist (chuckles). I don't mean that in a bad way, but sometimes it's a hard habit to break, when people of faith feel like whenever we do a community event, the divine experience has to be manufactured in a way that we liturgically do it, you know: 'We have to be raising our hands or singing the Jesus-y songs to be worshipping Jesus,' and I've never

necessarily felt that way.

Most churches say, "We welcome everyone," but they don't really mean it. They mean, "You can come in, and we'll love you, but you're going to have to change."

Many LGBTs are dis-invited to participate in the community in which they have been involved and it's like, 'We want you to keep coming to church, but, we don't want you to sing in the choir, we don't want you to play music, we don't want you to participate in any leadership roles; you can stack chairs and you can sit in a pew.'

The bottom line is that those people are permitted to attend so that they will see the light and stop being gay. And nobody is going to stick around in that environment. And it does hurt. What I say to these churches is, if you really do mean that everyone is welcome, and you really do want to create a community, then maybe it would be good to evaluate what the difference is between a tradition, and who we really say we are, and then acting that out in the full measure of the Gospel.

I always found the label "Christian artist" to be restrictive. You now have two labels: Christian and lesbian. Do you

just want to be known as "Singer/songwriter Jennifer Knapp?" On the other hand, we all need an angle, and "Christian-lesbian singer/songwriter Jennifer Knapp" creates a sauce all its own.

Some days it's really annoying, to be quite honest, but one thing I've learned, even inside the Christian music thing, if it's crap, nobody's gonna stay and listen. I can fulfill the label of gay, I can fulfill the

Dorrie Moon Lecture Series, which brings dynamic speakers and liberal Christian authors to the Sacramento community to speak to important ethical issues of our time.

They will be appearing on August 12 at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Mark's Way, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and are available at www.stmarksumc.com or 916-483-7848.



label of Christian, I can fulfill the label of chick rocker, but if I don't have the community-building art to begin with, people aren't going to stick around.

Jennifer Knapp will be appearing with Bishop Gene Robinson in Sacramento as a part of the Bob &

Brent Bourgeois is an award-winning songwriter, recording artist, music producer, and the vice president of a record company. His first book, Left Behind: Jesus in the Age of the American Empire, was published in 2008 by Apocryphile Press.

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Entertainment by Chris Narloch

Beyonce 4 Reviewed

Plus Alicia Keys Redux

Alicia Keys collaborated on *Empire State of Mind*, one of her biggest hit records, with music mogul Jay-Z, who happens to be married to another music mogul by the name of Beyonce. Both women released CDs recently, which are reviewed below.

Alicia Keys *songs in A minor - 10th Anniversary Edition* MBK/J Records/Legacy

It's been ten years since this multi-talented musician and singer-songwriter burst on to the music scene with her debut album, *songs in A minor*, which sold more than 11 million copies worldwide and earned her five Grammy Awards, including Best New Artist.

The R&B queen has had a number of hits since then, but her first album remains her best, and this re-release improves on what was already a great achievement. Available as a 2-CD Deluxe Edition and also in a Collector's Edition, which expands on the second CD and adds a third disc DVD, this 10th Anniversary edition is a must for Keys' fans.

Since those fans already have the original disc, the real find here is the additional music on the second CD, which includes bonus tracks, demos and live performances. My favorite extras are the Funky Blues Demo for "If I Were Your Woman," Keys' hot live version of "The Doors' Light My Fire" and a great remix with NAS on "A Woman's Worth" that is even better than the original version.

Beyonce *4 - Columbia Records*

If they stay in the game for any length of time, every artist eventually has a CD that fails to live up to expectations, and Beyonce's fourth solo studio release looks like the one.

The album's first single "Run The World (Girls)," a lame attempt to repeat her "Single Ladies" success, stalled on the charts, and deservedly so.

The problem with that song and much of the rest of 4 is not Beyonce, or not her voice anyway, which swoops and growls and sounds as amazing as ever. The most disappointing elements are the lyrics and melodies on the disc, too many of which, like "Run The World," are dull and uninspired.

Beyonce sings the heck out of them, but nothing can light a fire under weak, inferior material such as "Party" (featuring Andre 3000), "Love on Top" and "Rather Die Young." Even the ubiquitous Diane Warren contribution, "I Was Here," fails to live up to that songwriter's already low standards.

On the plus side, Beyonce works up a sweat on the rocking "Start Over," and she sounds like her sexy self on "1+1" and on "Countdown," two of the better tracks on 4.



Submarine & Tabloid at the Crest

If you're looking for a cinematic break from sequels and CGI, look no further. Two new indie films at the Crest for brief runs have both been getting raves from critics and audiences alike.

Submarine

Fifteen-year-old Oliver Tate has two big ambitions: to save his parents' marriage via carefully plotted intervention and to lose his virginity before his next birthday. Worried that his mom is having an affair with New Age weirdo Graham, Oliver monitors his parents' sex life by charting the dimmer switch in their bedroom.

Oliver also forges suggestive love letters from his mom to his dad. Meanwhile, he attempts to woo his classmate, Jordana, a self-professed pyromaniac who supervises his journal writing – especially the bits about her. When necessary, she orders Oliver to cross things out.

Tabloid

Award-winning documentary filmmaker Errol Morris (*Gates of*

Heaven, *The Thin Blue Line*) spins a remarkable true-life tale of love, sex, obsession, religion and scandal in this portrait of a beauty pageant

winner who abducted and restrained the object of her desire,

SUBMARINE
continues on page 21



Craig Roberts as Oliver Tate in *Submarine*.

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Cole Porter and Irving Berlin at Music Circus

The Music Circus season continues with works by two of the greatest artists in the history of American music, Cole Porter and Irving Berlin. In between those musicals, Lerner and Loewe's *Camelot* will grace the Music Circus stage.

Anything Goes

The current Tony-winning, Broadway revival starring Sutton Foster is knocking them dead in New York, but you don't have to travel across the country to hear Cole Porter's fabulous score. *Anything Goes* plays July 26-31 right here in River City, at the Wells Fargo Pavilion.

Featuring a book by Guy Bolton and P.G. Woodhouse, *Anything Goes* includes such Cole Porter classics as "You're the Top," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "It's De-lovely" and the title song.

A British nobleman, a sheltered heiress, a Wall Street stockbroker, a bombastic nightclub singer and Public Enemy 13 are all aboard a luxury ocean liner. Set sail for fun as Cole Porter's madcap tap-dancing musical comedy classic returns to Music Circus for its first

production in the Wells Fargo Pavilion.

Camelot

With a book and lyrics by Jay Lerner and music by Frederick Loewe, *Camelot* is based on the King Arthur legend as adapted from the novel *The Once and Future King* by T.H. White.

Arthur, Guenevere, Lancelot and Merlin come alive in Lerner and Loewe's inspiring musical of love, intrigue, idealism and magic in ancient England.

"Don't let it be forgot, that once there was a spot, for one brief, shining moment that was known as Camelot"

Camelot plays August 2-7 at the

MUSIC CIRCUS
continues on page 21

Follies Reviewed from the Kennedy Center Sondheim Revival Moves from DC to NYC

On a recent business trip to Washington, DC, I was lucky to snag one of the last tickets to the final performance of the Kennedy Center's smash revival of Stephen Sondheim's *Follies*, with Bernadette Peters, Jan Maxwell and Elaine Paige.



Bernadette Peters in the Kennedy Center Production of *Follies*. Photo by Joan Marcus.

After its sold-out, limited engagement ended in DC, it was announced that the production would move to Broadway, with its starry cast and 28-piece orchestra intact. Read on for my review of the original DC production.

Sondheim revivals are on a roll in New York City, where Broadway has seen critically acclaimed, hit productions of at least three classics by the composer in the last decade, including *Sweeney Todd*, *Company* and, most recently, *A Little Night Music*.

You can now add to that list

Follies, which is certain to pack 'em in when it opens at the Marquis Theatre on Broadway, beginning August 7, 2011.

Bernadette Peters stars as Sally, one of a group of aging showgirls who reunite in the theater where they spent their glory days. Sally hopes to recapture her former happiness, and her former love, Benjamin, a married man who happens to be married to Sally's former friend, Phyllis.

Danny Burstein plays the frustrated husband of Peters' character, Jan Maxwell is Phyllis,

and Ron Raines portrays the emotionally unavailable object of Sally's affection.

Peters, Burstein, Raines, and Maxwell are all superb, but the real star of any Sondheim show is the master's music, and *Follies* contains several of his best songs.

Bernadette Peters has collaborated on a number of Sondheim shows, and she absolutely nails the heart-breaking ballad "Losing My Mind," which is sung by the star in front of a dramatic backdrop of enormous red roses.

Jan Maxwell has an even splashier role as Phyllis, and she more or less steals the show on "The Story of Lucy and Jessie" and, especially, "Could I Leave You?"

Elsewhere, Linda Lavin hits the bull's-eye on her big number, "Broadway Baby," and Elaine Paige has a lot of fun with "I'm Still Here," which has become a signature song for that other famous Elaine (Stritch).

The cast benefitted greatly from their orchestra in DC, and if you see the show in New York this fall, you will be treated to 28 musicians there as well, a rare occurrence on Broadway during these days of cost-cutting and downsizing.

For more information, visit www.folliesbroadway.com.



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Outword
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SSPCA Mobile Adoption

The good folks at Maita Subaru are hosting an SSPCA Mobile Adoption. So if you're looking for a furry companion, cat or dog, to keep you company in a stylish new Subaru, or just to share the love, stop on by and give 'em a rub behind the ears.

See:

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a.m. 525 Howard St., SF Info: FolsomStreetFair.org/alley

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Chicago DJ Ted Eiel heats up the dance floor for this party celebrating Bears. 9 p.m. - 3 a.m. CatClub, SF. Info: bearracuda.com/Dore

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Whether you are building or redecorating, there are eight common lighting mistakes that Lighting Designer Joe Wilson and this seminar will help you avoid. 9 - 10 a.m. Free. Lumens Lighting, 2028 K St. RSVP: 916-273-1686 Lumens.com

Sunday, 31

UP YOUR ALLEY

Whatever your gear or fetish, you will fit right in at this annual SF homage to the kinkier side of life. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Dore Alley, between Howard and Folsom, SF. Info: FolsomStreetFair.org/alley

BILLY ELLIOT EN CABARET

Tony Award winner Faith Prince and other company members from the touring cast of the hit Broadway musical *Billy Elliot*, plus cabaret star Shawn Ryan and other special guest stars. Benefit The Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation. 8 p.m. Marines Memorial Theater, 609 Sutter St. SF. Info: 415-273-1620 HelpIsOnTheWay.org

STATE FAIR CONCERT

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

Aug.

Tuesday, 2

CGNIE MEETING

Meet members of the Court of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire, and find out what CGNIE is all about and how you can join them at their monthly general meeting. Potluck. 6 p.m. Kennedy Gallery, 1114 20th St. Info: www.cgnie.org

Wednesday, 3

G&L CENTER FOCUS GROUP

A faith-based organization focus group to help co-create the future of the Sacramento LGBTQI community. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sac G&L Center, 1927 L St. Info: 916-442-0185 SacCenter.org

TRANSCENDENT MAN

A Conversation About the Future is a powerful discussion about the possibility of immortality becoming reality by 2045. Broadcast live from Lincoln Center in New York City to local theaters. 8 p.m. Info: FathomEvents.com

Thursday, 4

LEATHER 101

The Sacramento Valley Leathercorps hosts a class on boot blacking and care for leather gear. 18+ open to all. \$5 suggested donation. 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. The Geery Theater, 2130 L St. Info: svlclub.com

Friday, 5

VETERANS NIGHT OUT

Join the LGBT Sacramento Valley Veterans and active duty folks for a night on the town with food, fun and camaraderie. Start at 5:30 p.m. at the Depot, (2001 K St.) Then we'll go to Head Hunters for those who want dinner. Info: 916-436-7676 SacLGBTVeterans.org

BURLESQUE HUSH

It's HUSH Ladies Night and Joy's Burlesque Birthday Bash! with a live burlesque show, dancers, prize for best outfit ('guys' and dolls), games, prizes, make-a-date, and yes, even more (cuz, you're gonna be there!) No cover. The Depot, 2001 K St.

KINGS OF DRAG

A mash-up of the Miss America Pageant, American Idol, Halloween and a Monster Truck Show. Benefit for PAWS. 8 p.m.



DNA Lounge, 375 Eleventh St., SF. Info: 415-282-BEND sfdragkingcontest.com

NORCAL BLUES FESTIVAL

Eleven fantastic bands covering a wide range of blues, blues-rock and rock'n'roll. Wide variety of fantastic festival foods, arts and crafts. 5 - 10 p.m. Auburn Regional Park, Auburn Info: 916-650-4640 NorCalBluesFest.com

CONCERT IN THE PARK

Musical Chairs, Be Brave Bold Robot and Adrian Bourgeois 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.

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 Benessere Vineyards. RSVP

800-427-4124 WineTrain.com

Saturday, 6

CCAF RUMMAGE SALE

Capitol City AIDS Fund is having a rummage sale to benefit Harm Reduction services and Oak Park Outreach in the Sac Valley AIDS Run/Walk. Lots of great things to buy, raffle with prizes every half hour and plenty of refreshments. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Badlands' Parking Lot, 20th St. Between J & K sts. Info: www.capcityaidsfund.org

AM. RIVER LAGOON WALK

Stretch your legs and see some wildlife on this early morning (8 a.m.) walk into a remote section of the American River Parkway, starting at Rio Americano High School, leading to a hidden lagoon full of wildlife including

Lazy Bear on the Russian River

The Bears and their admirers are heading to Guerneville for fun in the sun and water, with dances, pool parties, bonfires and some new events like Grungster and the Bears with PeeWee Balls Golf Tournament. Day trippers welcome. Aug. 3 - 7. Visit LazyBearWeekend.com for a full schedule of events.

turtles. G&L Sierrans. Info: cjjpalhome@comcast.net

OAK PARK CONCERTS

Nagual and Mad Planet headline this concert filled with fun, sun and great music. Free. 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. McClatchy Park, 33rd St. and 5th Ave. Info: 916-804-7333 www.nakedcoffee.net

Sunday, 7

SVL COMMUNITY BRUNCH

Biscuits and gravy, sausage, pancakes and more, and coffee and juice are now included and the bar is open! \$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

VERGE JUMBLE SALE

A creative rummage sale benefiting Verge's exhibitions, artist residencies, education programs and studio space. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Verge Center for the Arts, 625 S St. Info: vergeart.com

Thursday, 28

MEDICARE TOWN HALL

A meeting for seniors concerned with the attacks on Medicare. Lunch provided. St. John Vianney Hall, 10497 Coloma Rd., Rancho Cordova. Info: sacramentolabor.org

GAYLESTA

LGBTQ therapists & mental health workers meeting. 6:30 p.m. Stonewall Alliance Center, 358 East 6th St., Chico. Info: StonewallChico.org

FIESTA EN LA CALLE

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

STATE FAIR CONCERT

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

Friday, 29

CONCERT IN THE PARK

Lite Brite and Mondo Deco 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.

LINCOLN SUMMER CONCERT

Mumbo Gumbo headlines this evening of music, bring your chairs and blankets. Free. BBQ dinner available for purchase. 7 - 10 p.m. Beerman's Plaza, Lincoln. Info: 916-645-9713 LincolnArts.org

LA CUECA BRAVA

La Raza Galleria Posada hosts Mariaio Rojas and Rafael Manriquez in concert. \$10. 7:30 p.m. 1022 22nd St. Info: 916-446-5133

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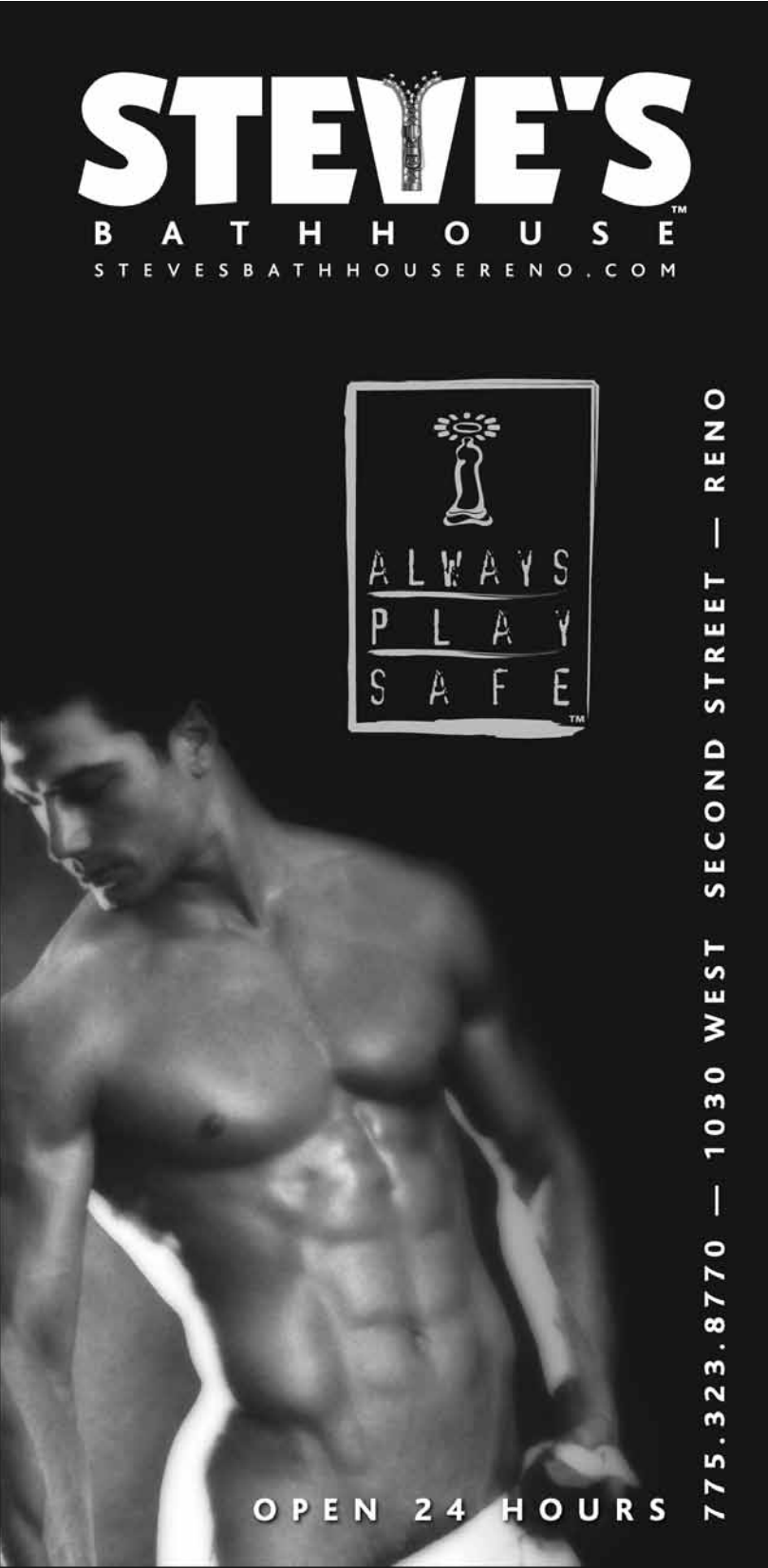
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Education

continued from page 7

“I am awed and humbled to be part of this historic moment,” said Carolyn Laub, Executive Director of Gay-Straight Alliance Network. “Today, we’ve written the latest chapter in the LGBT civil rights movement – one that will now be presented fairly and accurately in California schools. By signing the FAIR Education Act and ending the exclusion of the LGBT community from instructional materials, Governor Brown has realized the hopes of youth who have been fighting for safe and inclusive schools, where all students learn about our history and gain respect for each other’s differences as a result. This is a part of the American story that we can be proud to know all students will learn.”

Violence

continued from page 9

The report’s specific recommendations include calling for the following changes:


- Fund critically needed research and data collection on hate violence against LGBTQ and HIV-affected communities, their access to services, and violence prevention initiatives.
- Gather data about sexual orientation and gender identity in all federal, state and local government forms.
- Create new public and private funding streams and target the use of existing funds to increase access to anti-violence services for LGBTQ and HIV-affected individuals, particularly for those disproportionately affected by hate violence–i.e. transgender people and people of color.
- Create programs and campaigns to reduce anti-LGBTQ hate violence. Prioritize the leadership of those most impacted by severe hate violence within these programs.
- Stop the culture of hate through policymakers and public figures denouncing anti-LGBTQ violence.

This year’s report also includes real-life stories from LGBTQ survivors of hate violence to call immediate and necessary attention to the need to end the culture violence in which these incidents of hate violence occur.

NCAVP is coordinated by the New York City Anti-Violence Project. The entire report can be found on their web site, www.avp.org

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Alaska

continued from page 9

privacy clause protects individuals’ right to self-expression and to be free from the disclosure of sensitive personal information and government intrusions on their decisions about medical care.

“The surgery requirement not only violates Alaska’s laws, it demonstrates a profound lack of understanding about what it means to be transgender,” said John Knight, staff attorney with the ACLU Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Project. “The state cannot deny transgender people an accurate driver’s license based on an arbitrary and unconstitutional policy that clashes with accepted medical standards.”

The brief can be found at: www.aclu.org/lgbt-rights/kl-v-state-alaska-brief

Attorneys include Knight of the ACLU Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Project, Thomas Stenson and Mittman of the ACLU of Alaska and Stephanie Boehl of Perkins Coie.

STC

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– Sing out, Louise!

A change of seasons brings suspense to our Main Stage. If you thought ‘texting’ was dangerous, perhaps you should *Dial “M” for Murder* (Feb. 29 – Mar. 25). In the vein of the classic Alfred Hitchcock motion picture, this suspense thriller will keep you on the edge of your seat until the very end! And on the Pollock Stage: *Barrymore* (Mar. 28 - May 6) from the author of *The Belle of Amherst*, last season’s surprise hit – is a one man tour-de-force about John Barrymore (Drew’s grandfather!). This fascinating show opens up to us the world of the Barrymore legacy.

Finally, on the Main Stage, the season ends with *Little Shop of Horrors* (Apr. 25 - May 20), the hit musical by Alan Menken (composer of *Beauty and the Beast* and *Sister Act*). Watch out for the downtown florist’s very unusual plant!

Subscription packages are designed to fit all budgets. Renewals start at the beginning of July 2011. New subscribers will have an opportunity to sign up at the beginning of August 2011 and single tickets will go on sale in September 2011.

For more information, visit www.sactheatre.org.

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Music Circus

continued from page 18



Jason Graae, Vicki Lewis and David Elder in *Anything Goes* at Music Circus July 26-31.
Photo by Charr Crail.

Music Circus.

Annie Get Your Gun

There’s no business like show business! Especially when you’re on tour with *Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show*. Sharpshooter Annie Oakley has eyes for lug-headed Frank Butler,

who’d rather have a girl who wears satin. With music by Irving Berlin, including “Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better” and “I Got the Sun in the Morning,” *Annie Get Your Gun* is one of the treasures of the American musical theater. Plays August 9-14. Visit www.calmt.com for more information.

Submarine

continued from page 17

a Mormon man, after he was sent on a mission to England.

Morris interviews Joyce McKinney to get her side of the story, and clearly she considered her behavior to be an act of love and rescue. Lawyers for the Mormon man, Kirk Anderson, felt differently, and McKinney was accused of kidnapping and rape.

The tabloid media in the U.K. went wild and tagged the story as “The Case of the Manacled Mormon.”

Both films open Friday, July 29 at the Crest in Sacramento. Visit www.thecrest.com.

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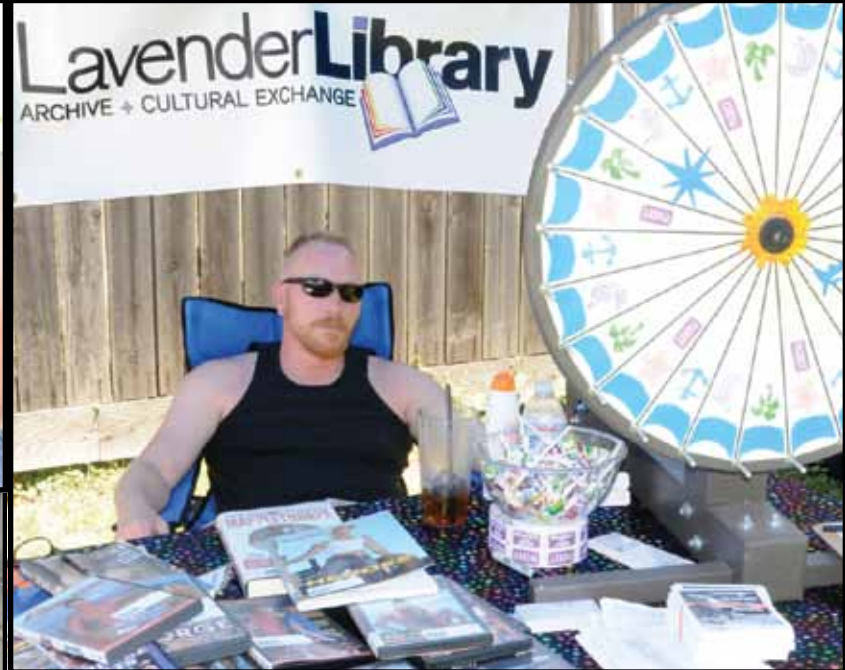
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Out & About

Leather, Bondage and Pups at Valley Heat

The Sacramento Valley Leathercorps hosted a three-day seminar called Sacramento Valley Heat on July 9 - 10 at The Bolt Bar. The event featured classes, workshops, BBQ hosted by Kenny and The Bolt and demonstrations, there was also a community fair on Saturday, July 10, with information booths from the Lavender Library, CARES, Breaking Barriers and other groups and vendors. For more information on the SVL, visit www.sacvlylthrcorp.org



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Camelot

AUGUST 2-7

In the role of King Arthur, **Davis Gaines** is best known for performing the role of the Phantom in *Phantom of the Opera* over 2,000 times worldwide.

Playing the role of Lancelot, **Sean Hayden** has performed in the national tours of *Mamma Mia!* and *Light in the Piazza*.

Irving Berlin's

ANNIE GET YOUR GUN

AUGUST 9-14

Starring as Annie Oakley, **Beth Malone** previously appeared in the original casts of *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, *Ring of Fire* and *Bingo*.

Edward Watts, playing Frank Butler, has performed in the New York production of *The Fantasticks* as well as the tours of *Les Misérables* and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*.

MISS Saigon

AUGUST 23-28

The role of Kim will be played by **Ma-Anne Dionisio**, who has performed the role internationally, as well as Eponine in the tour of *Les Misérables*.

Eric Kunze returns to Music Circus as Chris, the role he performed on Broadway. He was last seen at Music Circus as Che in *Evita*.

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