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# Announcements

## Sacramento's George Raya Makes *Honor 41*' List

Honor 41 has announced the 2014 edition of The 41 List that honors and celebrates 41 Latina/o LGBTQ role models, including Sacramento's own George Raya. The list of 41 honorees includes activists, actors, community leaders, activists, artists, elected officials, students and more.

Raya earned his spot on the list for a decades long roll as an activist, both for the Latino/a community and the LGBT community, most recently for his work with the Sacramento LGBT Center where he serves as a board member.

"I hope my story inspires other Latinas/os to be Out and Proud about their dual identities!" Raya told *Outward*. "I have never accepted society's negativity or stereotypes about Latinas/os, and I sure as hell will not accept the same about being gay."

Some of the other honorees include: Jose Gutierrez, Founder of The Latino GLBT History Project in Washington, DC, Helen Jaramillo, Azusa Unified High School District Board Member, Alfredo Pedroza, Wells Fargo Executive, Ralfa Gonzalez, international artist, Daniel Armando, Film maker, Yojanke Jimenez, Hairstylist to the stars, and various community leasers/activists such as Ari Gutierrez, Co-Chair of LA's Latino Equality Alliance and Herb Sosa, Founder of Florida's Unity Coalition.

"Everyone has a story, so having the opportunity to capture the stories of these amazing role models and sharing them with others is incredible," said Alberto B. Mendoza, Founder of Honor 41 and Producer of The 41 List. "I know by sharing these stories, we are making it easier for Latino LGBTQ individuals to come out and live their lives with honor and pride."

Honor 41's name originates from a hate crime in Mexico City in which 41



**George Raya**

men were beaten, arrested, and eventually disappeared for their sexual orientation. Since the incident in 1901, the number 41 has been used as slang in Mexico to refer to a person of different sexual orientation. Honor 41 confronts the terrible history behind the number and reclaims it to honor inspirational individuals in the LGBTQ community and proudly remember the arduous path toward acceptance and equality.

For more information about Honor 41, including more information about the honorees and a video, visit [www.honor41.org](http://www.honor41.org).

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## The Wisdom Project to Hold Open House

The Wisdom Project will begin holding monthly enrichment programs, meetings or workshops at the The E.M. Hart Senior Center beginning with an Open House Community Gathering for LGBT elders, allies and care providers on Wednesday, July 30 from 2 - 4 p.m. in the Redwood East Room of The E.M. Hart Senior Center, located at 915 27th Street.

There will be an LGBT Senior Cultural Competency Presentation by a SAGE Educational Ambassador, and representatives from local organizations and agencies that serve aging seniors.

LGBT elders are invited to provide handout information and give a brief overview of their agency services. Meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

For more information call Cathy at 218-760-415 or email her at cathy.perry@att.net, or on the web at [www.servant-hearts.org](http://www.servant-hearts.org).

## RainbowPAC to Host Meet-&-Greet with Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins

The Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce's Rainbow Political Action Committee is hosting a Meet-and-Greet mixer with California Speaker of the Assembly Toni G. Atkins, on Wednesday, August 13, from 5:30 -7:30 p.m.

This unique opportunity to meet the first openly lesbian speaker of California's Assembly will be held at Gallery 2110, 2110 K Street. The event is limited to 50 people. General admission is \$75 and sponsorships are also available.

To register for the event, visit business.rainbowchamber.com/events/details/rainbowpac-meet-greet-with-assembly-speaker-toni-atkins-20.

For more information about RainbowPAC, visit [www.rainbowchamber.com](http://www.rainbowchamber.com).

## In Memory of Sue Strong, RN.

Susan Strong, the founding Executive Director of CARES, the Center for AIDS, research, education and services passed away on July 1, 2014 just two weeks after the dinner celebrating CARES' 25th anniversary.

Susan was too ill to attend the dinner on June 18 where I spoke about the history of CARES and Sacramento's response to AIDS and highlighted her contributions to CARES and its clients.

In preparation for my remarks that evening, I had set out weeks before to interview her and the dedicated Dr. Neil Flynn, the first doctor to provide medical services at CARES. I wanted to test my own memory and to capture what each remembered about the beginning and evolution of this organization that ultimately became one of the most highly regarded, comprehensive centers for the treatment of HIV/AIDS in the country.

When I called her cell phone one afternoon a week before the dinner, her beloved husband Jim answered and told me that he was sitting bedside with Susan in the hospital and recounted a series of challenges they had faced since Susan's struggle with breast cancer had begun nearly a decade before. He said she was sleeping at the moment but was certain she would want to talk to me because leading CARES was the most fulfilling experience of her long and distinguished career.

When we connected the next day between naps she was finally in the comfort of her own home. She was weak and groggy but I could hear the energy and pride in her voice as we reminisced about the day in 1989 that Ray Nelson, COO of Mercy called and told her that he and representatives of Sutter and UC Davis Medical Center wanted her to become the first Executive Director of a new outpatient clinic for people living with HIV/AIDS.

They had converted a former suite of doctor's offices at 2770 Capitol near Bernardo's into treatment and counseling

**Susan Strong**

spaces and Dr. Neil Flynn and a young Physician's Assistant, now doctor, Mike Dupratt were already seeing patients when Susan arrived. She hit the ground running, setting up the licensing and operational

**STRONG**  
*continues on page 19*

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# Briefly Put

## Obama Signs Order on LGBT Workplace Discrimination

President Obama signed an executive order July 21 to protect LGBT people from workplace discrimination during a ceremony at the White House.

The order bars businesses that contract with the federal government from engaging in discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. It also explicitly bans discrimination against federal employees based on their gender identity, building upon prior actions by the administration to extend basic fairness and explicit protections to transgender people.

The executive order notably does not include a religious exemption that would have given religiously affiliated government contractors a special license to discriminate using taxpayer dollars against LGBT people.

## Republican-Appointed State Judge Overturns Colorado's Marriage Ban

Adams County District Court Judge C. Scott Crabtree struck down Colorado's ban on marriage for same-sex couples on July 9, becoming the latest of more than 20 federal and state judges to rule in favor of the freedom to marry in recent months.

Judge Crabtree was appointed by Republican Governor Bill Owens in June 2001. The ruling was immediately stayed pending appeal.

In total, 24 rulings in recent months have found that bans on marriage for same-sex couples are unconstitutional.

## Utah AG Appeals Marriage Case to U.S. Supreme Court

Utah attorney general Sean Reyes announced that he will ask the Supreme Court to review a June ruling in Kitchen v. Herbert. The ruling, by the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, found that Utah's ban on marriage for same-sex couples is unconstitutional, and upheld a lower court ruling by a Utah federal judge in December.

The Supreme Court does not have to take Utah's appeal; four of the nine justices must vote to hear a case. The justices could also wait to see how other appeals courts rule on marriage bans before them.

"The Supreme Court should take this case and swiftly move to end marriage discrimination across the country," said Evan Wolfson, president of Freedom to Marry.

## 10% of the World's Population Live in Places Where Gay Couples Have the Freedom to Marry

A new analysis released by Australian researcher Tony Pitman and confirmed by Freedom to Marry shows that more than one in every ten people across the world live in a nation or state where same-sex couples have the freedom to marry.

Out of a global population of approximately 7.2 billion people, 725 million now live in a freedom-to-marry jurisdiction. It was the U.S. state of Pennsylvania that pushed the world percentage beyond 10 percent for the first time in history when gay couples won the freedom to marry there on May 20, 2014.

The Netherlands became the first country in the world where same-sex couples could marry when it passed a law in 2001. In total, gay and lesbian couples can marry in Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England/Wales/Scotland, France, Iceland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Uruguay, and in some jurisdictions of Mexico and the United States.

## First Mississippi Mayor Announces Support of Marriage for Same-Sex Couples

Mayor David Garcia of Waveland, Mississippi, has announced his support for marriage for same-sex couples, becoming the first mayor in Mississippi to do so and joining a number of mayors in southern states who back freedom and dignity for all loving couples and their families.

"As mayor of the city of Waveland, Mississippi, I understand that the strength and health of our cities are enhanced when all families are protected and supported," said Garcia. "We know many people in loving and committed same-sex relationships who are active participants in improving our communities and we've seen how important marriage has been for them and their families. Because I believe in fairness for all American families, I support the freedom to marry for same-sex couples willing to take on that commitment."

## DOJ Releases Guide To Reform HIV-Specific Criminal Laws

The Justice Department has announced a Best Practices Guide to Reform HIV-Specific Criminal Laws to Align with Scientifically-Supported Factors, that will provide technical assistance regarding state laws that criminalize engaging in certain behaviors without disclosing known HIV-positive status.

The guide will assist states to ensure that their policies reflect contemporary understanding of HIV transmission routes and associated benefits of treatment and do not place unnecessary burdens on individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

Generally, these laws do not account for scientifically-supported level of risk by type of activities engaged in or risk reduction measures undertaken and may criminalize behaviors that the CDC regards as posing either no risk or negligible risk for HIV transmission.



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# Help Save a Pet's Life at Front Street's Paws To Party

The Front Street Animal Shelter is hosting their second annual Paws to Party, celebrating the wonderful work that saves thousands of animal's lives each year by helping to find them loving and caring homes.

"Sacramento's GLBT community helps to sustain Front Street," said the shelter's Volunteer Coordinator Janice Wagaman. "We could not be stellar without you! Join us for the hottest party of the year!"

Paws to Party will be held at the California Automobile Museum, located at 2200 Front St., Sacramento, on Friday, August 22, from 6 to 9 p.m.

At the event, Paws to Party guests will enjoy celebrated cuisine from local restaurants, exceptional wine from local wineries, and cold brews from Sacramento's best breweries, while dancing to the musical styling of Roni and the Flight - Sacramento's favorite party band.

A silent auction will showcase packages from vacation escapes to treasures from local artists - and all of the proceeds will go to help save the lives of animals in need.

The Front Street Animal Shelter is now the region's leader in saving animals lives. Its mission is simple, save the lives of homeless pets. Each year, thousands of animals come through the shelter's doors and find their forever homes. Last year, more than 6,600 animals were saved.

The shelter's goal is to increase the number of animals who are adopted and continue to decrease the number of pets who are destroyed simply because no one wants them. Events like the Paws to Party celebration help raise much needed awareness throughout the community, drawing attention to important shelter programs like:

- Animals in Need, a Front Street program that saves lives by providing advanced veterinary care to sick or injured stray animals that come to the shelter
- Titanic's Pantry, a free pet food bank for those who are experiencing difficulty feeding their pets during these hard economic times
- Spay Neuter Sacramento, a program designed to help low income residents of the

City of Sacramento to spay and neuter their pets at little to no cost in order to redeem them from the shelter

- Vaccination Clinic, which provides low cost vaccinations to low income residents to improve pet health throughout our community

You can save lives, too! Come to the Paws to Party event, have a wonderful time, and help save a life. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.SacPetSearch.com](http://www.SacPetSearch.com).



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# Sacramento Log Cabin Republicans Chapter Restarts

by Charles Peer

**A**fter a well attended reception held July 21 at which members of the community were invited to come and learn more about the Log Cabin Republicans, those in attendance decided to regroup and restart the Sacramento Chapter of the Log Cabin Republicans.

Impetus for the reception came from Fred Schein, President of Log Cabin Republicans of San Francisco and Terry Sidie, who hosted the Reception at FACES.

With the new chapter in Sacramento, there are now eight Log Cabin chapters in California; San Diego, Orange County, Palm Springs, Los Angeles, Ventura, Marin County and San Francisco, and the process is underway to activate

opportunity to rebuild the chapter," Weddle told *Outword*. "I am also looking forward to educating fellow members of our community on what we stand for and that there is a place for us in the community."

The first meeting for the Sacramento Chapter will be August 3, at 4 p.m. in the front bar of FACES, located at 2000 K St. in Midtown.

Schein estimates that there 9,000 - 10,000

chapters in San Jose and at UC Berkeley.

"Log Cabin California's highest priority is to become 'chartered' by the California Republican Party," Schein told *Outword*. "This is a procedure whereby volunteer groups with specific focus are recognized by the Party. Such groups include business, ethnic and women's interest clubs."

Other priorities include fostering Republican principles in the LGBT community by various means including speakers, Op Eds, and participation in various LGBT public events such as Pride and the Castro Street Fair. Membership and chapter growth are also priorities. "A substantial part of that entails ensuring that LGBT Republicans are aware of our organization and how to join," Schein said.

To begin the process of reactivating the Sacramento Chapter, a provisional board of directors was selected. Leading the group will be Ken Weddle, President; Terry Side, Vice President; Britt Macdonald, Treasurer; Lori Stafford, Secretary; and Billy Ray Parrish, Member at Large.

"As the new (and former President) of Sacramento LCR, I am looking forward to the

LGBT Republicans in the greater Sacramento area and predicts success for the Sacramento Log Cabin Republicans Chapter.

Log Cabin is the descendant of LGBT Republicans in the Bay Area and Los Angeles in 1977 who organized to oppose the Briggs initiative which would have banned LGBT persons from teaching in California schools. Since then, LCR has grown to have chapters across the country. San Francisco considers itself Log Cabin's founding chapter.

"This is a very exciting time for LGBT Republicans," Schein said. "Not only are we increasingly part of Republican Party organizations, we are now seeing a growing number of competitive, openly LGBT Republican candidates around the country. Right here in California, Carl DeMaio has become the favored candidate to win the 52nd Congressional District in San Diego."

"I have created a motto for us," Schein said. "Log Cabin – bringing special Pride to the Republican Party since 1977."

For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/logcabinsacramento?ref\\_type=bookmark](http://www.facebook.com/logcabinsacramento?ref_type=bookmark).

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## Federal Appeals Court Orders Recognition of Utah Same-Sex Marriages

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit denied Utah's request to suspend a lower court's ruling ordering the state to recognize the marriages of same-sex couples who were legally married after a federal court struck down a state ban, but before the U.S. Supreme Court temporarily halted additional marriages from taking place.

For more information on this case, please visit: [www.aclu.org/lgbt-rights/evans-v-utah](http://www.aclu.org/lgbt-rights/evans-v-utah)



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# Drag Queen Bingo Raises \$1,324 for SIGLFF 2014



The Sacramento International G&L Film Festival was the beneficiary for DQB on Thursday, July 3, and thanks to all you wonderful Bingo Players we raised \$1,324 to help fur this year's Festival ([siglff.org](http://siglff.org)). Thanks to our ever effervescent DQs Rusty Nails and Paul Domemoore. Outword's Drag Queen Bingo has now raised over \$88,460. See more photos and download them for free at [outwordoutabout.shutterfly.com](http://outwordoutabout.shutterfly.com). The next Drag Queen Bingo will be on Thursday, August 4 at Mangos, 20th & K Sts, come join the fun!

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# Sac G&L Tennis League To Hold Signups for Fall Season

by Charles Peer

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Tennis League is prepping for its Fall 2014 Season and is encouraging players of all abilities to come out and enjoy a game of tennis. Divided into four skill level divisions, players from beginners to top-notch amateurs will find a spot to fit in.

All of the matches are Doubles, and although there are no Mixed-Doubles matches, men and women are welcome to form mixed teams. And of course, transgender players are also welcome; in fact, the league is open to everyone regardless of sexual identity.

"Tennis is a great sport for all skill levels," SGLT President Jeff Bedell told *Outword*. "The league is a great way to improve your skills, engage in friendly competition and get some exercise."

Signups for the new season will be held on Tuesday, August 5 and Tuesday, August 12 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the McKinley Park Tennis Courts, located near the corner of McKinley Blvd. and 33rd St. There will also be free play on these dates from 6 to 9 p.m.

Players that do not have partners will be paired up with other available partners with the same skill level when possible.

Individual matches are about an hour long and scheduled from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday nights at the McKinley Park Tennis Courts and begin on Tuesday, August 19, and end on Tuesday, November 4, with the exclusion of September 2, due to Labor Day. Following league play, a championship tournament will be held on Saturday, November 15 and Sunday, November 16, also at McKinley Park.

Not all the fun is on the courts of course, and in addition to the camaraderie and new friends you will make, there will also be a celebratory banquet on Saturday, November 15.

"I've loved all the new friendships I've made since I joined SGLT," said David Ramos, SGLT Secretary. "I joined this league several years ago and I have loved every minute spent training and competing with other members looking for a healthy and physically active social group. This was a new sport for me so I was nervous when I started and didn't know what to expect, but today I'm confident stepping onto that court and



Nathaniel Grey and Tiffany Thomas celebrating their first place finish in the 2014 SGLT Summer League D Division Doubles Tournament. Photo by Robert Rushing.

grateful for all the new connections I've made."

League fees have not been set for the 2014 season yet, but will include court time fees paid to the city, the banquet and of course, those championship medals and trophies!

For more information, please visit [www.sgltennis.org](http://www.sgltennis.org) or [www.facebook.com/groups/125646214186250/?ref=br\\_tf](http://www.facebook.com/groups/125646214186250/?ref=br_tf).

## Celebrating 30 Years Since *Sloan v. Falwell*



Members of the community came together on Sunday, July 13 at Headhunters to celebrate with Jerry Sloan (front row, center) his confrontation with Jerry Falwell that ultimately led to a lawsuit that Sloan won. The \$5,000 awarded to Sloan was used to start The Lambda Center, Sacramento's first LGBT Center. Sloan also presented information on the launching of the Sacramento LGBT History Project, which will make a timeline of Sactown history, collect memorabilia and do oral interviews of Sacramento's LGBT leaders, past and present. To learn more, visit [www.facebook.com/jerry.sloan?ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/jerry.sloan?ref=ts).

# Stephanie, Darlene & Roberta Surround Sacramento

by Chris Narloch

This August should be certified as Soul Queen Month in Northern California as three of the most stunning female singers in all of soul music perform live in or around Sacramento.

Stephanie Mills



## Stephanie Mills

You'll have to drive over to Cache Creek to catch this soul queen, but it will be well worth it to hear her (hopefully) sing "Home," the big ballad from "The Wiz" that put her on the map in 1975 when she starred as Dorothy in that musical's original Broadway production.

A successful recording career followed her Broadway success, with Mills charting a string of pop and soul hits in the late '70s

and early '80s that included "Sweet Sensation," "Never Knew Love Like This Before," "I Feel Good All Over," and "Put Your Body In It."

Expect Mills to sing R&B, gospel, Broadway, and anything else she feels like singing when she stops in to Cache Creek Casino Resort on Saturday, August 23, for one performance only.

Visit [www.cachecreek.com](http://www.cachecreek.com) for more information.

## Darlene Love

I recently saw Darlene Love give a mini-concert as part of the final season of the Palm Springs Follies, and I can attest that those golden pipes she used to sing on many of Phil Spector's biggest hits are still intact.

Love, who was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2011, has recorded such iconic songs as "He's a Rebel," "Soldier Boy," and "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)" over a remarkable career whose ups and down were chronicled as part of the recent Oscar-winning documentary, "20 Feet From Stardom."

The supremely soulful singer is more popular than ever after her impromptu vocal

Darlene Love



performance from "His Eye Is On The Sparrow" brought the house down on this year's Oscars telecast in one of those career-defining moments that helps make up for decades of anonymity.

Within the industry, Love retained her peers' respect through all the ups and downs. She will bring her newfound notoriety (and that amazing voice) to the Harris Center in Folsom for one night only, on Saturday, August 9.

For more information, go to [www.HarrisCenter.net](http://www.HarrisCenter.net).

## Roberta Flack

I can't remember the last time Roberta Flack came to town, so her upcoming appearance at the Woodlake Hotel's Grove

Amphitheater is even more exciting.

This not-to-be-missed musical event will showcase Ms. Flack's unparalleled career as a singer-songwriter, spanning the last five decades and producing such timeless pop classics as "Killing Me Softly," "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face," "Feel Like Makin' Love," "The Closer I Get To You," and many more.

Classically trained on the piano from an early age, Ms. Flack received a music scholarship at age 15 to attend Howard University.

Discovered by the jazz musician Les McCann while singing at a Washington, DC nightclub, she was promptly signed to Atlantic Records.

Many Grammys and hit records later, she continues to record new music and tour the world, including a stop in Sacramento on Sunday evening, August 17.

Please visit [www.sblentertainment.com](http://www.sblentertainment.com) for details.



Roberta Flack

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# Traveling

## Historic Ojai Valley Inn Is a Refreshing Oasis

by Adrian Sanchez

While I sit by the Herb Garden's pool (adults-only) I'm getting the bug about writing about this place and that says a lot about how much excitement I have about sharing this resort with you.

This is the third stop in the trip my partner Scuba and I took in California. Going south to LA., Ojai seemed like the destination we've always wanted, at least since watching *Brothers and Sisters* years ago and hearing about L.A. area

that we were in a huge compound and not just another hotel property. When our hostess handed us a map to help us navigate the property, I was in shock. It was like a Disney map with all different amenities on it: Adults-only pool, Spa Village,

Grill better.

As a gay couple it was a little surprising not finding any other gay couples or families, so I give it a C- for diversity. It was spring break and there were so many families! The good thing is that the hotel was smart enough to put us in Casa Loma where there were less kids and the pool was just across the street.

We did venture out to town and explored the main street shops and restaurants, it's very quaint, feels like you're in the middle of a Wild West movie with hot weather, the big



travelers coming to this charming place, not to mention that the *Bionic Woman* series back in the 70s was filmed here too.

I haven't experienced a hotel-emotion like this one in a while, as soon as we saw the sign welcoming us to the Ojai Valley Inn and Spa ([www.ojairesort.com](http://www.ojairesort.com)) we knew we had made an incredible decision by staying here.

Once we walked into the very Spanish-influenced lobby, with terracotta floors and double height ceilings we were in love with the place and it was easy to see why it was a U.S. Historic Hotel.

Rustic wooden tables and engravings all over the walls kind of reminded me of historic churches back in Mexico, dating back to the 1800s. Lavish wool rugs, intricate hand carved chandeliers, Spanish-tiled water fountain and gold accents were everywhere adding to the charm.

After checking-in we walked into our hacienda-inspired room, with terracotta titles and adorned carpet. Finished in muted tones and furnished with a big king size bed, colonial accents and lamps, a gas fireplace in the corner and Spanish-tiled bathroom, the luxury of the room was further accented by a beautiful balcony facing the pool and countryside.

It took us a while to figure out



Gym with free classes, golf course, driving range, Jim's pub, Verde Cafe restaurant (healthy option), tennis courts, bike rentals and more.

Our reservation had complete access to the Ojai Spa facilities, so every morning we went to the fully-equipped gym and then headed to the men's locker rooms to relax with steam room, sauna, three Jacuzzis (one even outdoors), showers and more. If only I could get ready every day like this life would be different. The Spa impeccable with high end accessories and decor.

They have several restaurants in the property, Jim's pub for a more casual and relaxed atmosphere and food and Oak Grill with a little more elaborate menu. Both of them were good but I liked Oak

mountains surrounding the valley and the Spanish-influenced constructions dating back to the late 1800s and early 1900s.

All and all it was a fantastic experience, the best U.S. hotel I've visited in a while. The friendly staff who were also professionally prepared to cater to the traveler's needs make it unique.

We are definitely going back to visit again later this year, and at the end of the trip I kept telling myself and my partner: "I just can't find a reason to leave this place."

Adrian Sanchez is a passionate Travel blogger that spends most of his trips in Northern California, U.S., Mexico and Europe. For more about him visit his blog [triponmes.blogspot.com](http://triponmes.blogspot.com). He can be reached at [adsanchez77@gmail.com](mailto:adsanchez77@gmail.com).

# Tips to Make Your Summer Brunch the Talk of the Town

**M**ake a weekend afternoon brunch a new tradition each summer by turning it into a sophisticated, yet fun affair. Invite your close friends, and encourage them to bring a guest – the casualness of the event makes it a perfect time to build new friendships.

The team at Henri's Reserve, an e-boutique that offers exclusive family estate French Champagnes, shares five tips to help you steer away from the same-old-same-old and make your brunch a cut above the rest.

**1. Abolish your own stress** – Planning a festive get together can be stressful as you try to get all of the details just right. However, you want to make sure your guests are at ease, so don't let the stress get to you on the day of the event. You can avoid tension by preparing for your event in advance so you can spend your time seeing to your guests' needs and listening to their stories of last night.

## 2. Treat guests like royalty

– Serve elegant Champagne or add an unexpected element, perhaps something entertaining. The proverbial sparkling cocktail for mornings is the mimosa, a simple mix of Champagne and orange juice. Dial up your party and treat guests to a Champagne tasting. Open a new world to them: the seductive world of boutique, Family Estate Champagnes. While tasting Blanc de Blancs, Rosé, Blanc de Noirs, and more, they will truly feel like royalty. Don't serve the same-old-same-old Champagnes;



show you are in the know. Serve them the same Champagnes they would find in fine restaurants. Be their Master Sommelier.

**3. Keep the menu light** – Late morning meals should be light and airy. Your guests who were up the previous evening won't be prepared for a heavy meal. Rather than baked breads, serve Danishes and scones. Fruit is an exceptional complement to any meal. It's gentle, tasty, hydrating, and the colors break up an otherwise monochromatic plate. Take care to pair your fruit carefully with your chosen Champagne. Pair Blanc de Noirs with egg dishes, smoked salmon, and roasted dishes. Combine Rosés with soft cheese, BBQ, lobster. Enjoy Bruts with hard cheeses, ham, and chicken.

**4. Add some fun** – The quintessential brunch is a relaxing affair, but prepare some light entertainment just in case you need ice breakers or added fun. Games of charades, horseshoes, Bocce Ball, or croquet are all low-key activities perfect for brunch. You can set up your dining area outside so that the games can be played while the crowd watches. Another way to add

some fun is to offer a Champagne tasting and educate your guests on all the different types of Champagne.

**5. Enjoy your company** – Remember the purpose of brunch is to have a relaxing, fun gathering of friends and to even meet new faces. Delegate tasks so you are present with your guests. Guests like to be involved so don't think twice about asking for help.

*To learn more about Henri's Reserve Family Estate Champagnes, visit online at [www.henrisreserve.com](http://www.henrisreserve.com).*

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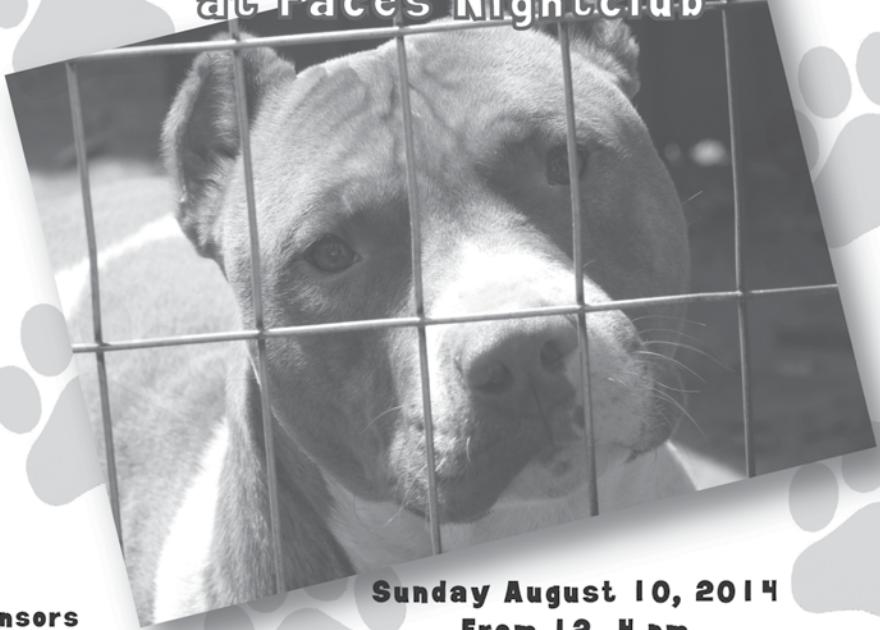
## America's #1 Tupperware Salesperson Shares Her Secrets



**K**evin Farrell is a real-life, present-day "Tootsie!" His story is a charming (and often hilarious) recount of how an actor makes buckets of money selling Tupperware – in heels. His Tupperpersonna Dee W. Ieye is brash and honest to a fault. Confessions of a Drag Queen Tupperware Lady is his new book that is funny, touching and outrageous, and highlights the irritating moments of parties, hostesses and customers and inspiring stories of a businessman, a son, a brother and an actor. Available at [www.deewieye.com](http://www.deewieye.com).

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# Sia Releases 1000 Forms of Fear

by Chris Narloch

It's only July, but it will be hard to imagine a list of the top ten CDs of 2014 that does not include the strange new album from Sia, the eccentric Aussie singer/songwriter who has recently been promoting *1000 Forms of Fear* on television shows by singing with her back to the audience.

Although she is more well-known for her work with other artists – Sia cowrote "Diamonds" for Rihanna, and she sings on Flo Rida's "Wild Ones" and David Guetta's "Titanium" – her new disc is the artist's sixth solo studio effort.

It's high time she received recognition for her own music because Sia is an original. On the new disc, she writes dark, disturbing lyrics that address subjects such as alcoholism, drug addiction and violent relationships without sounding morose or depressing the listener, because the music is rarely downbeat.

The CD's spectacular first single, "Chandelier," is a case in point. My favorite song released so far this year, it has a chorus so catchy and so triumphantly sung that you have to listen closely to get that Sia is actually singing about an alcoholic bender.

Sia is "holding on for dear life" and drinking herself into oblivion on that track, and the gutsy, confessional lyric is matched by a fantastic vocal in which the singer stretches out the word "chandelier" and gives its last syllable an operatic flourish.

Sia repeats the formula successfully elsewhere on the new disc, with a number of similarly raw and raspy songs that are merely terrific, rather than classic like "Chandelier." (It's a tough act to follow when you start off a record with a song that strong.)

Still, the entire CD is worth owning – don't just download the single – for truly intense



SIA - 1000 FORMS OF FEAR

compositions such as "Fire Meet Gasoline," "Straight For The Knife," "Hostage," and "Free The Animal," which begins with Sia singing, "I love you so, wanna throw you from the roof."

Yet even on that track, the production by Greg Kurstin is so addictive and danceable that you hardly notice that Sia is singing about wanting to "slice and dice" a lover.

The mostly upbeat production was a wise move considering how dark and noncommercial the CD's lyrics are, and one hopes that Sia, who is a recovering alcoholic and has suffered from anxiety and stage fright, has exorcised some demons on the record.

I also hope she continues to create music as bold and brilliant as that on *1000 Forms of Fear*.

## Here Come the Bears



With over nine million views of Season 1 & 2, *Where The Bears Are* Season 3 is ready to hit the webwaves with more of the award winning show's comedy, mystery and sexy bear antics. Season 3 finds our Bears trying to solve a string of murders involving young porn studio models in a romp through L.A.'s trendy neighborhood of Silver Lake, and eventually reaches its climax in the first-class cabin of a jumbo jet! The first of the 22 new episodes will be online August 11, at [WhereTheBearsAre.tv](http://WhereTheBearsAre.tv).

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# Katie Rubin, Franc D'Ambrosio & *Nunsense A-Men!*

by Chris Narloch

**W**hether you're a fan of one-woman shows, *Phantom of the Opera*, men in drag, or a play-within-a-play, you'll find something to love this August on Sacramento stages.

## Katie Rubin

Ms. Rubin, who has 'split my side' on numerous occasions with her very funny one-woman shows, returns to Sacramento this summer.

Audience favorite and nationally touring solo artist and comedienne Katie Rubin brings her fourth and most recent show to Sacramento's Capital Stage this August.

*Why I Died, a Comedy!* explores the questions and challenges raised by the soul-sucking aspects of being a person among other people. You can handle the truth.

If it's true that our attachment to worldly concerns and ambitions is the cause of our suffering, then dissolving those ambitions should bring complete and perfect peace to our hearts, right? Maybe...

Katie Rubin's *Why I Died, a Comedy!* will be performed twice, on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 8-9.

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

## Franc D'Ambrosio

FOTP (Fans of the Phantom) will surely hear the "music of the night" calling them to this rare Sacramento appearance by the man who was known for many years as "the

longest running Phantom."

Broadway favorite Franc D'Ambrosio will perform his popular show *The Phantom*



Franc D'Ambrosio

*Unmasked* as a fundraiser for Sacramento's Clara's House, on Wednesday, August 13, at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

Franc D'Ambrosio is an American singer

and actor, best known for his role in the stage version of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*. He also played the adult Anthony Vito Corleone in *The Godfather Part III*.

Clara's House provides compassionate, comprehensive healthcare to those without health insurance, at their primary care clinic on K Street, across from Sutter's Fort.

To purchase tickets for the fundraiser, you can visit [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

## Nunsense A-Men!

You may have seen *Nunsense*, but have you seen *Nunsense A-Men?*

*Nunsense* is a musical comedy with a book, music, and lyrics by Dan Goggin. *Nunsense A-Men!* is the original show with all the characters portrayed by men in drag.

Originating as a line of greeting cards, Goggin expanded the concept into a cabaret that ran for three weeks, and eventually into a full-length musical that has since spawned six sequels and three spin-offs.

Five of the 19 surviving Little Sisters of Hoboken discover that their cook, Sister Julia, Child of God, accidentally killed the other fifty-two residents of the convent with her tainted vichyssoise while they were off playing bingo.

Upon discovering the disaster, Mother Superior had a vision in which she was told to start a greeting card company to raise funds for the burials.

The cross-dressing fun includes solo star turns by the nuns, madcap dance routines, and an audience quiz.

*Nunsense A-Men!* plays through August 17, courtesy of Runaway Stage Productions, and with a live orchestra, at the West Sacramento Community Center Black Box Theatre.

Visit [www.runawaystage.com](http://www.runawaystage.com) for more information.

## It's Only a Play

For the second show of their 2014 season, Closet Door Theatre Company is presenting Terrence McNally's hit Broadway comedy *It's Only a Play*.

A recent Broadway revival of the play starred Matthew Broderick and Nathan Lane and an all-star cast, including F. Murray Abraham, Stockard Channing, Rupert Grint, Megan Mullally and Michael Stock.

And although that cast won't be coming to Sacramento, Closet Door has been doing a great job in casting their shows with local talent, and this should be a good production.

McNally's alternately raucous, ridiculous and tender script proves that sometimes the biggest laughs happen offstage, and will give the cast plenty to work with.

*It's Only a Play* opens July 25 and plays through August 16 at the Wm. J. Geary Theater, located at 2130 L St. in Midtown. For tickets and more information visit [www.closetdoortheatre.org](http://www.closetdoortheatre.org)

## Outward Salutes Sacramento's Rainbow Chamber of Commerce

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## Join Us For Our August Mixer and Elections

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Free for Rainbow Chamber members, non-members \$10  
Please RSVP at [www.rainbowchamber.com](http://www.rainbowchamber.com)

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IT'S A NEW STAY.



# Sacramento Art Flourishes in the Outdoors

by Chris Narloch

Even on those 100+ summer days, Sacramento often cools off in the evenings to allow folks to get outdoors and enjoy themselves.



Bill Robinson, Lena Horne and Cab Calloway in a promotional still for *Stormy Weather*.

Here are a couple outdoor entertainment options that include a classic film and rousing theater under the stars.

## Sacramento Shakespeare Festival

"The play's the thing..." every summer when the Sacramento Shakespeare Festival returns to their open-air venue in William Land Park.

This summer's duo of plays includes Shakespeare's comedy *Much Ado About Nothing* and a stage version of the rousing Alexandre Dumas novel, *The Three Musketeers*.

Visit [www.sacramentoshakespeare.net](http://www.sacramentoshakespeare.net) for more information.

## Crocker Courtyard Classic Film Series

The Crocker is the place to be on Thursday, August 7, when that Sacramento museum brings the classic film *Stormy Weather* to their courtyard for an outdoor screening that coincides with a current exhibition on African-American art.

*Stormy Weather*, from 1943, is 78 minutes of movie musical bliss starring many of the greatest African-American artists who ever lived, including Lena Horne, Cab Calloway, Fats Waller, Bill Robinson, Katherine Dunham and Dooley Wilson.

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

## Strong

*continued from page 5*

policies for the fledgling clinic and helped organize resources around the needs of the mostly young men who were facing both the realities of their illness and the seeming indifference of the broader community.

We recalled that it was later that year that she called me and asked me to come for a tour of the clinic and lunch to follow. It was during lunch at Biba's that she and the Board President asked me to become the first community based member of the Board and I accepted; mostly because of the deep commitment I felt from Sue Strong and the passion and professionalism she brought to the table.

Sue was a tall and imposing figure with a soft voice and a beautiful smile. She had just the right blend of self-confidence and humility and was very much the servant leader. While she demonstrated the tenderest compassion for our clients, it was mixed with a steely resolve to conquer the bureaucratic obstacles that arose on a daily basis.

As we outgrew that tiny space on Capitol, we began to identify other sites in the community that we could afford and that

would be more strategically located to meet the needs of our patients. When we toured the former Wells Fargo Bank Building at 21st and O we knew we had found our new home and Sue Strong led the effort to turn it into a one stop shop for persons living with HIV/AIDS. With her at the helm, we installed a pharmacy, dental treatment, social and psychological services, a research facility for UC Davis, and programs for substance abuse and addiction.

When we were fully operational in the new facility with a strong and expanded Board and staff, Sue announced that she would be leaving to move on to a next chapter of her life; a chapter that for awhile included sailing the South Pacific with her husband Jim and sending post cards from exotic places.

I will never forget Sue Strong. She was a consummate professional, a warrior, a visionary and a gentle and loving soul.

May she rest in peace and long be remembered for her selfless service to our community.

Denny Mangers, *Former Chair of the Board of CARES*

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# Wouldn't it be nice to just go jump in a pool?



**With these higher temperatures outside for days at a time, we all need to know how to stay cool.**

**BE CAUTIOUS OF HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS:** People who are at highest risk are the elderly, the very young, and people with chronic diseases or mental illness. Even young and healthy people can get sick from the heat if they participate in strenuous physical activities during hot weather.

Air-conditioning is the number one way to protect yourself against heat-related illness and death. If a home is not air-conditioned, people can go to places like a mall or a library where there is A/C.

Take these steps to prevent heat-related illnesses, injuries, and deaths during hot weather:\*

- Stay in an air-conditioned indoor location as much as possible.
- Drink plenty of fluids even if you don't feel thirsty.
- Schedule outdoor activities carefully.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing and sunscreen.
- Pace yourself.
- Take cool showers or baths to cool down.
- Check on a friend or neighbor and have someone do the same for you.
- Do not leave children or pets in cars.
- Check the local news for health and safety updates.



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Be you. Be healthy. Be well.

**P.S. Don't forget to give your pets plenty of fresh cold water too!!**

1500 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95811  
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\* Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/ExtremeHeat/>