

outword

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Syphilis is



Serious

24 Ocular Syphilis Cases Reported on West Coast

Syphilis can cause vision problems if left untreated – and even lead to permanent blindness.

LA County Department of Health officials must DO MORE to develop a strategic campaign to address the rise in syphilis cases and DO BETTER to educate health care providers and the public on this sexually transmitted disease. To locate a treatment center near you visit:

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NorCal AIDS Cycle Raised \$330,000 in 2014

Dear Outword,

On behalf of the Nor Cal AIDS Cycle Board of Directors, Riders and Crew, I want to thank you for all the support *Outword* has given to NCAC towards this year's ride and crab feed!

Having you helping us get the word out about NCAC made a huge difference in our ability to put on another successful and well supported ride! We deeply appreciate you and all you do for our community. With your help, we can continue to make a difference for the HIV Organizations that our funds support and the many people in our community that they provide services for.

I'm thrilled to share with you that NCAC's final fundraising tally for 2014 came in just over \$330,000! Of that, \$22,000 was raised at our annual Crab Feed in February!

Going forward, we are very excited to be working with CCSD, an event management company that specializes in events like ours. With any organization, it's all too easy to become complacent. After much discussion, we decided it was time to shift gears a bit.

Our goals for the coming campaign is broaden our presence in the community, focusing on bringing in new cyclists and donations and to create a new cycling route. We believe these will make next year's NCAC ride even more successful!

One huge highlight of our year is the night we hand out all the money we raised to the local AIDS organizations! We would love for you and guests to join us Thursday, August 20th at 6pm at Mulvaney's located 1215 19th St. Refreshments and Food will be available for purchase. No need to RSVP - just come on down and join us!

Nor Cal AIDS Cycle's Mission is to support the organizations throughout Northern California, with an emphasis on the Greater Sacramento Valley, that are working to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic and care for those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in our region. Again, all of us at NCAC are truly blessed to have such an amazing organization, such as yours, supporting us!

Sincerely,

Jim Jacobs
NCAC Fundraising Committee Chair
ncacfundraising@gmail.com

Faith Leaders Call on Congress to Oppose The First Amendment Defense Act

More than 3,000 faith leaders and clergy have sent a letter to members of Congress urging their opposition to the First Amendment Defense Act (H.R. 2802), arguing that the legislation undermines true religious liberty and opens the door to unprecedented taxpayer-funded discrimination against LGBT people, single mothers and unmarried couples.

In the letter, the clergy and faith leaders outline how the First Amendment Defense Act could lead to widespread discrimination. For example, were this bill to become law, it would:

Allow discrimination against LGBT individuals or anyone who has a sexual relationship outside of marriage by organizations like homeless shelters and drug treatment programs that receive government funding;

Allow hospitals and hospices to deny LGBT and unmarried couples spousal visitation rights;

Allow government officials to refuse to dispense benefits or services like Veteran or Social Security benefits to the surviving member of a same-sex couple.

The letter coordinated by Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice and Auburn Seminary, was delivered July 21 to Representatives Jason Chaffetz and Elijah Cummings, the Chair and Ranking Member of the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which is currently considering the bill. The letter was also shared with every member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

"As clergy and faith leaders, we must declare unequivocally that we will not allow hateful laws to be passed in the name of religion or religious liberty," said Rabbi Jason Kimelman-Block, Rabbi-in-Residence at Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice and a signatory of the letter.

Equality Act Introduced in Congress

U.S. Senators Jeff Merkley, Tammy Baldwin, and Cory Booker and U.S. Representative David Cicilline on July 23, introduced the Equality Act, a comprehensive federal bill that will prohibit discrimination against women and LGBT Americans.

The Equality Act would expand the existing Civil Rights Act passed more than 50 years ago to include sexual orientation and gender identity as explicitly protected classes and adds gender to prohibitions against discrimination in public accommodations and with federal funding - seen as much-needed protections that will guarantee women and LGBT people are treated equally in a number of important areas.

The bill's introduction comes on the heels of several momentous victories for LGBT equality, most notably the Supreme Court ruling that the Constitution prohibits states from denying same-sex couples the freedom to marry.

"Today is a historic day that has been decades

in the making," said James Esseks, Director of the LGBT Project of the American Civil Liberties Union. "The Equality Act would transform the lives of countless women and LGBT people. Our country's most basic promise of equal treatment under the law will never be real if you fear losing your job, being kicked out of your home, denied access to healthcare or turned away from a business because of who you are. Both the lack of clear and explicit federal protections for LGBT people and the lack of protections for women in core areas of American life are unacceptable. We urge Congress to take up this landmark bill and make our country a more just nation for all."

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Report Shows LGBT Inequality in the Courts

Despite recent success at the Supreme Court, numerous challenges to LGBT equality remain. Among the remaining frontiers for full LGBT equality is equal representation in the state and federal judiciary.

It is both ironic and sad that the very judicial institutions that we rely upon for our equality are themselves so unequal and un-inclusive of LGBT Americans.

The California LGBT Bar Coalition conducted a groundbreaking survey and found that LGBT representation on the bench is far from equal. Among the key findings in this first in the nation survey:

- There has never been an openly LGBT Justice of the California Supreme Court.
- Currently, 45 of California's 58 counties do not have any LGBT judges. In other words, the LGBT community is not represented in the judiciary in 78 percent of the counties in California.

- Out of 438 Los Angeles County trial court judges only nine of those judges self-identified as LGBT.

The survey analyzes the latest data on LGBT judges at every level of the court, identifies deficiencies in the data collected under California's SB 182, and offers comprehensive and concrete recommendations on how best to increase LGBT inclusion on the bench.

The California LGBT Bar Coalition ("CLBC") is a group comprised of the Judicial Endorsements chairpersons from each of California's regional LGBT bar associations, including SacLegal. The CLBC's mission is to monitor, analyze and promote LGBT representation on the bench.

Award-Winning *THE NEW BLACK* Now Available on Netflix



THE NEW BLACK is a documentary that tells the story of how the African-American community is grappling with the gay rights issue in light of the gay marriage movement and the fight over civil rights., and features activists, families and clergy on both sides of the campaign to legalize gay marriage and examines homophobia in the black community's institutional pillar —the black church. Available on Netflix and VOD outlets.

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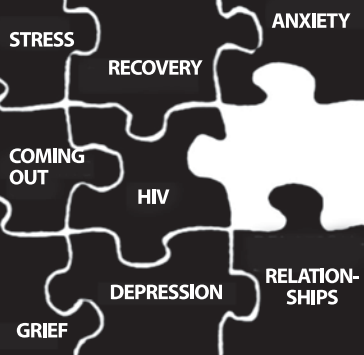
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Chico Is Busting Out with Pride

Chico is getting ready to host a spectacular weekend of events to celebrate LGBT Pride that will include a Variety/Drag show, a Teen Dance, a Pride Festival, a dance party, a free brunch and a comedy show and that's a lot of fun packed into a Pride Weekend!

It all begins on Friday, August 21st at 8 p.m. with a Pride Variety Show, a night of entertainment and celebration with special guest entertainer Mahlae Balenciaga at the Chico Women's Club. The show is open to ages 18+, but there will be a bar so those of age will be welcome to drink responsibly while enjoying this once in a lifetime show. There is a suggested \$10 advance/\$15 at the door donation and all funds go to support the Chico Stonewall Alliance.

Also on Friday night there will be a Teen Dance for teens ages 13-18. This year's dance will be a 90's-themed birthday party to celebrate Stonewall Alliance Center's 25th anniversary. There will be drag appearances, a DJ, mocktail bar, food and snacks, a laser light show, activities, and MORE in a safe space for teens to connect, dance, and express themselves proudly. The dance will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church from 6 - 9 p.m. and is come as you are, and all gender and sexual identities are welcome.

The main Pride Festival is on Saturday, August 22nd, at the Downtown Chico City

Saturday will also feature a Bud Light Beer Garden at the Chico Women's Club, 592 E 3rd St., with live entertainment, good beer, and great company. There is a \$5 suggested donation.

Saturday gets even better with the 18+



Shann Carr

PRIDE Dance from 8 p.m. to midnight, also at the Chico Women's Club. Once you get inside there will be nothing but music with a live DJ, lights, and amazing people to surround yourself with! No-host bar and a suggested donation of \$5 at the door.

To help with recovery from all the Saturday night fun, on Sunday, August 23rd from 9 a.m. to noon, there will be a FREE Brunch at the Oak Grove in Lower Bidwell Park, located at 965 Fir St., with fabulous food provided by Leon Bistro and Six Degrees and Great State Coffee are providing enough coffee to fulfill all your caffeine desires

Later Sunday night is the PRIDE Comedy Hour with hilarious comedian Shann Carr at the Chico Women's Club. Shann has traveled the world entertaining on nearly 100 women's and men's cruises as well as conventions and events everywhere, making sure that everyone gets their laugh on! Her humor is irresistible, with a great storytelling style that takes you on a light-hearted and wonderful ride. The show is for 21+ and will begin at 5 p.m. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

For more information and to purchase tickets online, visit stonewallchicopride.com.



Mahlae Balenciaga

Plaza from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival includes live bands and performances, speakers, vendors, food, dancing and music. This event is family friendly and there is no age limit on who can come and there is a suggested \$5 donation.

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Golden Rule Services Celebrates 15 Years

Walking ten miles to school uphill and in a foot of snow may be an over-the-top depiction of humble beginnings, but it isn't far off from the origin story of Golden Rule Services, Inc. (GRS).

Founded in a garage, in the middle of winter, on a far-less-than-shoestring budget, GRS was the brainchild of Clarmundo Sullivan who, 15 years later, still serves as the program's Executive Director.

Sullivan had identified a gap in culturally competent programs and resources provided to the People of Color communities in Sacramento County, as well as disproportionate health, education, employment and criminal justice disparities experienced within those communities.

founding principles: identifying gaps in much needed services and taking the lead to fill them.

The nonprofit's HIV/STD education and prevention programs are often the first of their kind, particularly in Northern California. These groups include the Men's Soul Food Project (a peer-led HIV risk reduction intervention targeting HIV-negative African American men MSM.), Entre Hombres (a group-level HIV risk reduction intervention among Latino/

the Sacramento region, Sullivan is adamant that the organizations focus remains on the communities and people they serve. That includes being the first to offer rapid HIV/STD testing, bringing testing to local bars, and an aggressive online educational outreach.

"Getting actively involved within the communities you serve is vital," says Sullivan, point to the fact that this year GRS staff and volunteers raised over \$12,000 for the 2015 NorCal AIDS Cycle. The GRS team included seven crewmembers and three cyclists.

With a rise of both STD and HIV transmissions, GRS continues to be on the frontline of the battle in the Sacramento region. In order to ensure their services reach those most in need the organization relies on donations, both in-kind and financial, and volunteers.

As GRS enters the new year, it is also looking for forward-thinking individuals with professional backgrounds to join their Board of Directors. Especially those with backgrounds in, or currently working in the fields of, law enforcement, education, employment development, social work, public health, banking and finance and politics.

To find out how you can become involved, please visit goldenruleservicesacramento.org or call 916-427-4653.



Pictured are GRS staff members Clarmundo Sullivan and Mozella, front row, and Porter Cedric Hurts, Santos Rosales, Deshawn Sebir and Apryl Raine, back row.

While GRS's initial focus was criminal justice disparities, the fledgling agency quickly expanded to include health disparities by piloting an African American adult HIV education and prevention project.

GRS has evolved into one of the most-respected and award-winning HIV prevention service providers in Sacramento County and now provides a variety of free HIV, STD, and Hepatitis C education, prevention and testing services.

However, The driving force behind the work Sullivan and his staff do for the Sacramento community remains true to its

Hispanic MSM) and The Magdalena Project (a group level STD/HIV/HCV risk reduction intervention among transgender people).

"We were the first to develop these programs both by and for the communities they serve," says Sullivan. "We are also beginning intervention programs for the Asian-Pacific Islander community, and for high-risk sex workers."

While GRS and its staff can boast countless awards and accolades, including being cited as leading the charge to successfully prevent a syphilis epidemic in

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Pride Awards Will Recognize Sacramento's Finest

The Sacramento LGBT Community Center is presenting the Pride Awards to celebrate the successes and acts of leadership and everyday heroism that make a difference the LGBT community.

The awards will be presented at on Tuesday, August 18 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Warehouse Artist Lofts, located at 1108 R St.

The Pride Awards will recognize the nominees' compassion, innovation, generosity, and community service that help create a safer, more welcoming, collaborative, socially just, culturally rich and stigma free community.

The evening reception will include the Pride Awards presentation, hosted appetizers, beer and wine, and entertainment featuring Supervisor Phil Serna's band "UnSupervised."

Proceeds from this event help the Sacramento LGBT Community Center change lives every day by creating events, programs, and pathways to services that help

LGBT people feel welcome, needed and safe.

The Center is committed to serving LGBT youth and families, building a healthier community, and empowering authentic lives. Its programs include the Q-Spot Youth Drop-In Center, seventeen peer support groups, LGBT education and outreach, HIV & health programs, culturally responsive community resource referrals, ongoing advocacy work, and community engagement activities that inspire creative expression and strengthen our diverse community.

Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate the nominee's achievements. Tickets are \$65 and are available online at www.sacramentoprideawards.com or at the door.

FACES Nightclub Celebrates 30 Years and the Party Is Only Getting Better

In 1985, Terry Sidie was looking to create something Sacramento had never seen before. The owner of Bojangles nightclub on Folsom Blvd., he had catered to 18-and-over gay boys for over a decade, but he felt Sacramento wanted more, that Sacramento was ready for more, and Midtown was the place to do it, so 20th & K Streets became the home of a Sacramento icon!



Pride Fair, and Terry personally co-founded the Sacramento LGBT Community Center (with Jerry Sloan & Marghe Covino) in 1986.

FACES pioneered making an environment where everyone could feel welcome, regardless of sex, orientation, age or musical tastes – and has hosted headline acts such as the original Village People, Helen Reddy, CeCe Peniston, Martha Wash, Thelma Houston, Deborah Gibson, Tiffany, Christina Milian, Luciana, Ty Herndon and many more.

FACES continues to push to make "Lavender Heights" the LGBT-focused Sacramento entertainment district (watch for those rainbow crosswalks) where people can have fun and be safe. Now a 17,500 square-foot facility with 14 bars, three dance floors, five patios and a swimming pool, FACES has become the go-to spot for nightlife of any kind in the Sacramento area.

And it will only get better – new lighting and sound, continuous upgrades to the building, fabulous contests (who else do you know that gives away three cars?) Future plans include a major remodel of the front and video bars, new flooring throughout the building, upgrades to the middle bar and a new patio bar.

Many of the original staff of FACES have moved on over the years to bright futures, some have unfortunately passed and two remain at Faces to this day. Richard Boriolo

Of course you can't mark 30 years in business without a celebration, and Terry knows how to do that, so on August 15, he is throwing a 30 year bash that promises to be the party of the year – and to sweeten the pot you could even win a new car!

Over the years, the club Sidie created has cemented its place as the "bulls-eye" in the heart of Sacramento's Lavender Heights. With Country dancing, Goth/Industrial, Piano Bar, Live Bands, Karaoke, Strippers (male and female), Headline DJs – and the list goes on and on – FACES has offered something for pretty much everyone.

FACES founded the Rainbow Festival

FACES
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Come to Napa for the Wine, Stay for the Entertainment

by Diana Kienle

When folks think about visiting the Napa Valley, visions of great wine, informative tours, fun wine tastings and great food immediately spring to mind. Of course, all that is valid, but it's good to remember that there's also a lot of great entertainment in Napa Valley.

The Napa Valley is one of the most visited sites in California, and those thoughts should come to mind. The setting is gorgeous with a vast array of grapevines dotting the landscape. Mountains surround the valley, which is only 30 miles long and five miles across at the widest point. The beauty is incredible, and so is the entertainment!

We were recently reminded of the great entertainment opportunities in the valley when we attended a Melissa Etheridge concert at the Robert Mondavi Winery, as part of the winery's summer concert series during July. This past year, the concert series also included performances by such notables as the Wallflowers, Phillip Phillips, Lyle Lovett and Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue.

On the night we attended, we enjoyed a dinner in the vineyard followed by Melissa's concert in an open-air theater accompanied by quality wine! The weather was perfect, the dinner was excellent, and the crowd was relaxed and very friendly – sharing an appreciation for both the wine and the entertainer. It was a great opportunity to meet new people and enjoy the rocking sound of Melissa, who delivered on all of her hits and sang for two hours. It was an outstanding event!

This is just one of the wonderful entertainment experiences in the valley. Great music and performances abound in the area. BottleRock Napa Valley is another example – now a recurring, three-day, multi-performer event.

Also, Etheridge is returning to the Valley on September 19th to perform at Staglin Winery's annual Music Festival for Brain Health, which is a very important fundraiser



Melissa Etheridge in concert at the Robert Mondavi Winery in Napa. Photo by Cathy Schwamberger.

for brain disorders. The tickets aren't inexpensive; but the event is a wonderful opportunity to try lots of great wine, listen to wonderful music, and support a very good cause with a charitable contribution. For more information, check out www.music-festival.org.

Here are some other venues to explore the next time you plan a trip: Uptown Theater in Napa, Napa Valley Conservatory Theater, Napa Valley Opera House, and Napa Valley Performing Arts Center at Lincoln Theater. These are just a few of the cultural and music venues that afford you entertainment when you are visiting.

There is much to keep you entertained in this beautiful valley.

Diana Kienle is a freelance writer and blogs about wine at www.dianaswineblog.com. She can be reached at diana@dianaswineblog.com.

Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams Launch Provocative New Ads



Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams, often referred to as the Masters of Modern home furnishings, is starting a new ad campaign that is sexy and captivating and allows the viewer to create their own perspective on the nature of the relationships of the models, and will market the campaign widely to the LGBT community. Take a look at www.mgbwhome.com.

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TBD Returns to WeSac Bridge District for Three Nights

TBD Fest, the three day music festival taking place in West Sacramento, is back for its second year, September 18th through the 20th, and will feature such marquee acts as Pretty Lights, Tears for Fears, Cut Copy, Tyler The Creator, Tycho, Purity Ring, Twin Shadow, Ratatat and more.



Cut Copy will be one of the bands at TBD 2015

The festival garnered a lot of attention in 2014 with acts like Justice, Blondie, Moby and Empire of the Sun.

Festival organizers Michael Hargis and Clay Nutting set out to create a festival that could deliver a line-up that would rival some of the best festivals in the country while delivering an experience that only a boutique festival can offer.

"Our goal is not to be the biggest, our goal is to curate the best festival experience possible. Our line-up is personally crafted with iconic and emerging artists that we are really excited about, and you get to see them in an intimate setting," Nutting told Outword.

While headlining acts may grab the attention of fans throughout Northern California and beyond, the festival's ability to highlight the region's creative community through the festival experience makes the event stand out.

"Sacramento is the gateway to Northern California," said Nutting. "The beer, wine, food, and creativity in this region is really unique and

Tyler, The Creator; Ratatat; Madeon; Death Grips; Purity Ring; Twin Shadow; Tycho; The Growlers; A-Trak; Dr Dog; Mobb Deep; Holy Ghost!; Black Lips; Ty Dolla Sign; Ladyhawke; A Place To Bury Strangers; Mothxr; K Flay; Cathedrals; Nothing; The Coathangers; Magic Man; Chad Valley; ASTR; Joywave; Wave Racer; Panama; Touch Sensitive; Yung Lean; Giraffage; Verite; Dreamers; Shy Girls; Papa; Avis Dancer; James Supercave; O;



The Growlers will be one of the bands at TBD 2015

we get to show that off through our festival with experiences like a chef driven, food truck cooking battle."

The event will also feature yoga, fashion, art, design, and amusement rides, making the festival perfect for everyone from the seasoned festival-goer to a family looking for a fun weekend activity.

Scheduled to appear are: Pretty Lights; Tears For Fears; Cut Copy;

Astronauts ETC; Louis The Child; Gazelle Twin; Zimmer; Post Malone; Hunt for the Breeze; Robokid; Shawn Wasabi; Yung Wall Street; Jody Winsternoff; Martin Roth; Vincenzo; Beckwith; Jokim; Luca Lush; Blackbird Blackbird; Groundislava; Autograf; D331; Gap Dream; Wax Witches; The Flavr Blue; Gillian Moss; and more.

For detailed information visit www.tbdfest.com.



Minnie Driver Coming to Feinstein's at the Nikko

Actress, singer and songwriter, Minnie Driver, is coming to Feinstein's at the Nikko for three performances only - Friday, September 11 through Sunday, September 13, performing songs off her three studio albums, *Everything I've Got in My Pocket*, *Seastories*, and *Ask Me to Dance*. Visit www.ticketweb.com.



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Tiger Orange: Two Gay Brothers on Two Distinct Journeys

by Colt McGraw

The film *Tiger Orange* premiered at the Sacramento International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival in 2014, and the showing was accompanied by director Wade Gasque and actor Mark Strano. The film took home the award for Audience Favorite and is now available on DVD, which gave me the opportunity to do an interview with its director.

In my conversation with Gasque, we chatted about the making of the film. My goal was to understand the development of this project and the relationship between a director and a completed film.

“Mark, my partner who plays Chet, came up with the initial idea; a drama about two gay brothers.” Gasque said, “Mark’s father passed away when he was in high school and he had never come out to him. This story was kind of used to fantasize about what it would have been like if he had.”

The film takes the opportunity to explore the outcomes of two opposing decisions. Mark’s character reflects his real life experience while co-star Frankie Valenti’s character dares to be “out, loud and proud,” with each brother facing judgement from their sole caretaker and parent, their father.

Many will recognize Frankie Valenti from his adult films, where he is most famously known as Johnny Hazzard. “I

knew after our first sit down that Frankie was going to be able to do this, he was so focused”, said Gasque. “He was green in some regards; I was asking him to do something he had never done before. He was used to posing and being charming but I needed him to be vulnerable and even ugly.”



Director Wade Gasque lines up a shot for his feature film, now available on DVD, *Tiger Orange*.

Curiosity pressed me to ask, what this project meant to Gasque. “It was my first feature, it allowed me to get my feet wet and to work with friends. If you have a parent or a sibling who has baggage, and who doesn’t, you’ll relate to the story.”

In regards to Frankie, “I wanted people to walk away from the film going ‘wow, that was a surprise’ as opposed to them thinking, ‘it’s just another porn star trying to act.’”

Gasque weaves childhood scenes through the story that organically relate to each characters journey including the fathers, played by Vince Duvall. While the relationships differ between brothers and parent, it’s impossible to disconnect from the complexities of the family dynamic.

The character Chet, played by both child and adult actors, tenderly portrays an emotional desperation for a father’s acceptance, while character Todd is driven by a free spirited desire to indulge in the every element of the gay lifestyle.

Though the differences between the brothers is great, they are connected by a childhood and are forced to find peace with their father after he passes.

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Black Men Make Beautiful Music

Derulo, D'Angelo & Miguel reviewed

by Chris Narloch

Soul music is experiencing a peak period at the moment with gifted artists like Jill Scott and The Weeknd topping the charts. This issue I review three recent releases by African-American men who are at the top of the R&B game: Jason Derulo, Miguel, and D'Angelo.

Jason Derulo – *Everything Is 4*

It was difficult to avoid the first single from Jason Derulo's new CD over the last few months. Every time I turned on the radio this summer, "Want To Want Me" seemed to be starting off or finishing up on at least one station, if not several.

"Want To Want Me" charts the course of a late night booty call: from waking up with the sheets soaking wet and the cab ride over, to the high note that sounds like a climax.

Featuring pristine dance-pop production, "Want To Want Me" is sung with such exhilaration by Derulo that he must have been fantasizing about somebody special when he recorded the song.

The other ten tracks on "Everything Is 4" are almost as sexy, and highlights include "Cheyenne," "Pull-Up," and "Trade Hearts," a duet with Julia Michaels that shows off Derulo's falsetto to fantastic effect.

The other three musical hook-ups -- with K. Michelle, Meghan Trainor, and Jennifer Lopez -- are not as successful as "Trade Hearts," but nothing on the disc is unlistenable.

D'Angelo and the Vanguard – *Black Messiah*

This artsy soul superstar disappeared for almost fifteen years and then released this curious record at the end of 2014. I didn't

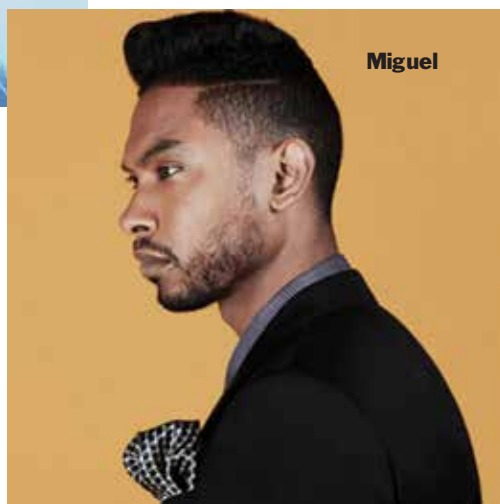
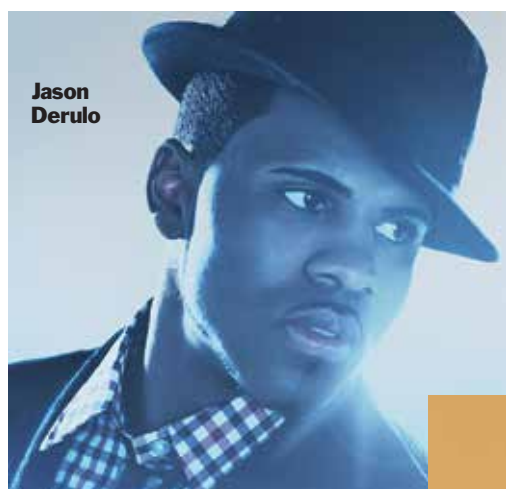
like it the first time I played it, but repeat listens over the last six months have convinced me that "Black Messiah" actually is the masterpiece that many critics have claimed.

D'Angelo doesn't write radio-

Mexican singer/songwriter named Miguel. "Wildheart" is his third disc, and it's his best yet, just make sure to buy this deluxe edition which has several bonus tracks that are even better than some of the songs on the shorter version.

A case in point is track 15 (of 16), "Simple Things," a psychedelic ode to sex and love and smoking pot that is my personal favorite cut on the record. Other standout songs include "waves," "Hollywood Dreams," "leaves," and "face the sun" with Lenny Kravitz.

The first single, "Coffee," is a



friendly pop singles like "Want To Want Me." The music on "Black Messiah" is far more experimental-sounding than that, and the CD won't be everyone's cup of tea.

But if you give the record your undivided attention, you'll realize that freaky tracks such as "Prayer," "Sugah Daddy," and "The Door" are killer soul jams that sound like they were created spontaneously out of thin air and recorded on the spot.

Miguel – *Wildheart Deluxe Edition*

My favorite current CD is this soulful stunner by a half black, half

more traditional soul song that is also very hot. Miguel likes to sing about physical pleasure, and after only three records I would put him in the company of great soul singers such as Prince, Marvin Gaye, and Donna Summer, who aren't (or weren't) afraid to sing about sex.

George Takei Trusts the Force in *It Takes Two* Web Series

George Takei and husband Brad consider the implications of a mind meld between *Star Wars* and *Star Trek* in *IT TAKEIS TWO: Episode 6: The Star Alliance*. You can watch it online, and previous episodes, at www.youtube.com/channel/UCcF1LhTdHqA7pGOCcUTB_Q?



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Audra McDonald Graces the Stage at Gallo Center

Fresno's Audra McDonald is unparalleled in the breadth and versatility of her artistry, as both a singer and an actress. With a record six Tony Awards, two Grammy Awards, and a long list of other accolades to her name, she is among today's most highly regarded performers.

Blessed with a luminous soprano and an incomparable gift for dramatic truth telling, she is equally at home on Broadway and opera stages and is also renowned for her numerous roles on film and television.

In addition to her theatrical work, she maintains a major career as a concert and recording artist, regularly appearing on the great stages of the world. For this concert, McDonald will be performing with a trio. Her only other appearance in California this year is at the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

An Evening With Audra McDonald will be presented at Modesto's Gallo Center for one performance only, on Saturday, September 5, at 8:00 p.m. Visit www.galloarts.org.



Audra McDonald

Take a Peek at SIGLFF Movie Program Preview Party

The Sacramento International G&L Film Festival (SIGLFF) has put together a stellar lineup of feature and short films for this year's Festival, and you can get a glimpse of the lineup at a Preview Party where the festival program will be unveiled.

The Preview Party will include complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a beer, wine or cocktail, and the first opportunity to purchase tickets before they go on sale to the public.

There is a requested donation of \$10, or you can purchase a discounted VIP Festival Pass for \$50, regularly \$55, and save yourself some extra popcorn money!

The VIP Festival Pass includes admittance to all movies of the Festival

and pre-show VIP receptions held prior to general admission that feature a chance to meet directors and film stars that may be present that evening, as well as complimentary beverages and catered food and your choice of seating in the auditorium.

The preview party will be held at Paesanos Portofino Room, 1800 Capitol Ave. from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19.

For more information, visit SIGLFF.org

Where the Bears Are Web Series Returns for Season Four



Season 4 follows the exploits of four gay bear roommates living together in Los Angeles as they attempt to solve a high profile murder case for a true crime television show while at the same time preparing for the wedding of the century for beloved couple Todd and Nelson. The season consists of 18 episodes with new episodes posted every Monday and Thursday starting Aug. 24. *Where the Bears Are Season 4* is a romp through L.A.'s trendy neighborhood of Silver Lake, and eventually reaches its climax on board a luxury yacht headed for Catalina Island. wherethebearsare.tv.

Vicious Season 2 To Be Aired on PBS/KVIE 6



Join Ian McKellen as Freddie and Derek Jacobi as Stuart as they embark on a new season of humorous mishaps, hideous break-ups and heart-warming make-ups. With Frances de la Tour as their old friend Violet and Iwan Rheon as their neighbor Ash. Sundays, August 23-September 27, KVIE 6 at 11 p.m. (Image from Season 1.)

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Marriage Equality Inspires *Love Always Wins*



Pop/rock artist Mikey Wax has a new single out “Love Always Wins,” that was written by Wax and inspired by marriage equality and the words of hope and happiness from his close gay friend upon the legalization of same-sex marriage. E! Entertainment has also placed the song in their upcoming promo commercial for Caitlyn Jenner’s new TV series “I Am Cait.” Check out the song and video at www.mikeywax.com.

Ducal Ball 35 Will Be a Magical

After a year of hosting shows and fundraisers and attending CGNIE events up and down the West Coast, Grand Duke 35 Corey Hubert and Grand Duchess 35 Dimeuneek Ashley St. James, are ready to pass on their crowns to a new Ducal House at *Ducal Ball 35, Once Upon a Time Into the Woods*.

The fun starts on Friday, August 21 with *Into the Woods*, the In/Out of Town Show at 8 p.m. at Sidetrax, 2001 K St. This show is all about the talent, so get ready for some wonderful performances, and it’s only \$10!

Then on Saturday, August 22, it’s the main event. Titled *Out of the Woods*, Ducal Ball 35 promises some show stopping entertainment as the Court gathers to pay their respects for a job well done and to celebrate the final walks and performances of the Grand Duke and Dutchess, concluding with the introduction and crowning of the newly elected Ducal House 36.

Ducal Ball 35 Out of the Woods will be a night full of music, romance and fairy tales. Enjoy cocktails, wine, beer and other beverages throughout the evening on starting at 6 p.m. at Goethe Hall, located at 1701 L St. Tickets are \$30.

Then on Sunday, August 23, it’s *Home Before Dark*, a victory brunch/BBQ and a chance for the new Duke and Duchess to meet their public. Doors open for this event



CGNIE Grand Duke 35 Corey Hubert and Grand Duchess 35 Dimeuneek Ashley St. James at 11 a.m., and it’s at FACES, so don’t be surprised if someone gets a Ducal Dunking in the pool. Tickets are only \$10
Tickets are available online at CGNIE.org and at the door.

LGBT Drama *WASP* Buzzes onto DVD and VOD



WASP is the story of two lovers, James and Oliver, who open up an old family house in Provence for the summer. When James’ old friend Caroline unexpectedly joins them their relationship and sexuality are tested in a way not usually depicted in LGBT films. *WASP* will be available on DVD and VOD August 4. Watch the trailer at www.waspfilm.net



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Man Francisco Takes it All Off

by Chris Narloch

Where else but in the City by the Bay would an enterprising club come up with the crazy idea to produce a strip show that charts the history of San Francisco through male burlesque?

Some of the hot men in *Man Francisco*.



Man Francisco, currently playing once a week at Oasis, sounded so deliciously loony that, well, I just had to go and check it out.

So I grabbed a friend and headed over to the SoMA area (South of Market) of San Francisco for 90 minutes of sexy fun at a club filled with horny gay men of all ages (and a smattering of straight women).

Oasis (most recently home to Caliente) was reopened earlier this year by two of San Francisco's most illustrious (notorious?) drag personalities, Heklina and D'arcy Drollinger.

The 6,000 square foot venue is located on 11th Street at Folsom Street and includes an impressive performance space that, not surprisingly, showcases drag shows most nights.

A bar faces the stage, with a roomful of small tables and chairs in between, and the very sexy and well-built men of *Man Francisco* definitely work the room, on and off the stage.

The male strip show alternates group numbers featuring half a dozen or so dancers with solo routines in which one guy takes it off – or almost all off – and then collects tips from the customers.

There is plenty of physical contact between

patrons and the dancers, who aren't shy about touching the paying customers, and a stripper pole in the middle of the crowd is put to good use throughout the evening.

The thing that makes *Man Francisco* more fun than the average strip show is that it really feels like a show, with professional-looking costumes and production numbers that are built around different periods in S.F. history, from the Gold Rush era to the 1906 earthquake and fire, all the way up to the Dot-com craze.

My favorite number had the strippers outfitted in '60s-style skin-tight, powder blue pants and fringed vests, none of which stayed on for very long, while Jimi Hendrix poured out of the sound system.

We didn't stick around for the post-show lap dances – I think they are \$30 – but even so the hunky men of *Man Francisco* were dancing in my dreams all night after I got home.

Man Francisco plays most Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m. at Oasis in San Francisco. Doors open at 9:00, and, refreshingly for a gay club, the show actually starts on time.

For tickets, visit www.sfoasis.com.

Lust for the Elderly in *Gerontophilia*

by Chris Narloch

Bruce LaBruce, the infamous director of *Hustler White* and *L.A. Zombie*, is back with another provocative film, *Gerontophilia*, which finds 18-year-old Lake (Pier-Gabriel Lajoie) discovering that he has an unusual attraction for the elderly.

Fate lands Lake a job at an assisted-living facility where he develops an intimate relationship with an elderly resident, Mr. Peabody.

Upon discovering that the clients are being over-medicated to make them more manageable, Lake weans Mr. Peabody off his medication and helps him escape, resulting in a road trip that deepens their bond.

This delicately perverse romantic comedy is both darkly humorous and emotionally heartfelt, and Walter Borden gives a terrific performance as the senior citizen in the film.

Gerontophilia is now available on DVD at StrandReleasing.com/films/gerontophilia/.



Pier-Gabriel Lajoie and Walter Borden in a scene from *Gerontophilia*.

Bolt Bar Selects Mr. Bolt Leather 2016

Four contestants vied for the Mr. Bolt Bar Leather 2016 title, including the first ever transman, on Saturday, August 8, with the title going to Ray. In additioin to representing Sacramento and the Bolt Bar at leather and community events in Sacramento, the Bay Area and Northern California, Ray has also earned the right to represent the Bolt Bar at the International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago in May.



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Faces

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and David Mansh, both bartenders at FACES, went on to open Hamburger Patty's at 17th & J. Darnell Stephenson is now the proud owner of Urban Fitness in Midtown Sacramento and Mark Sarale now owns five Max Muscle franchise outlets all over Northern California.

Unfortunately, Harrold Bohannan (Harry-O), Bobby Sinclair, Jon Cramer, Jeff Harrison, Tony Crouse, Dennise Yorks, Janet Pacheco, Mark Simpson and Scarlett are among the friends Faces lost. But three iconic people remain to this day:

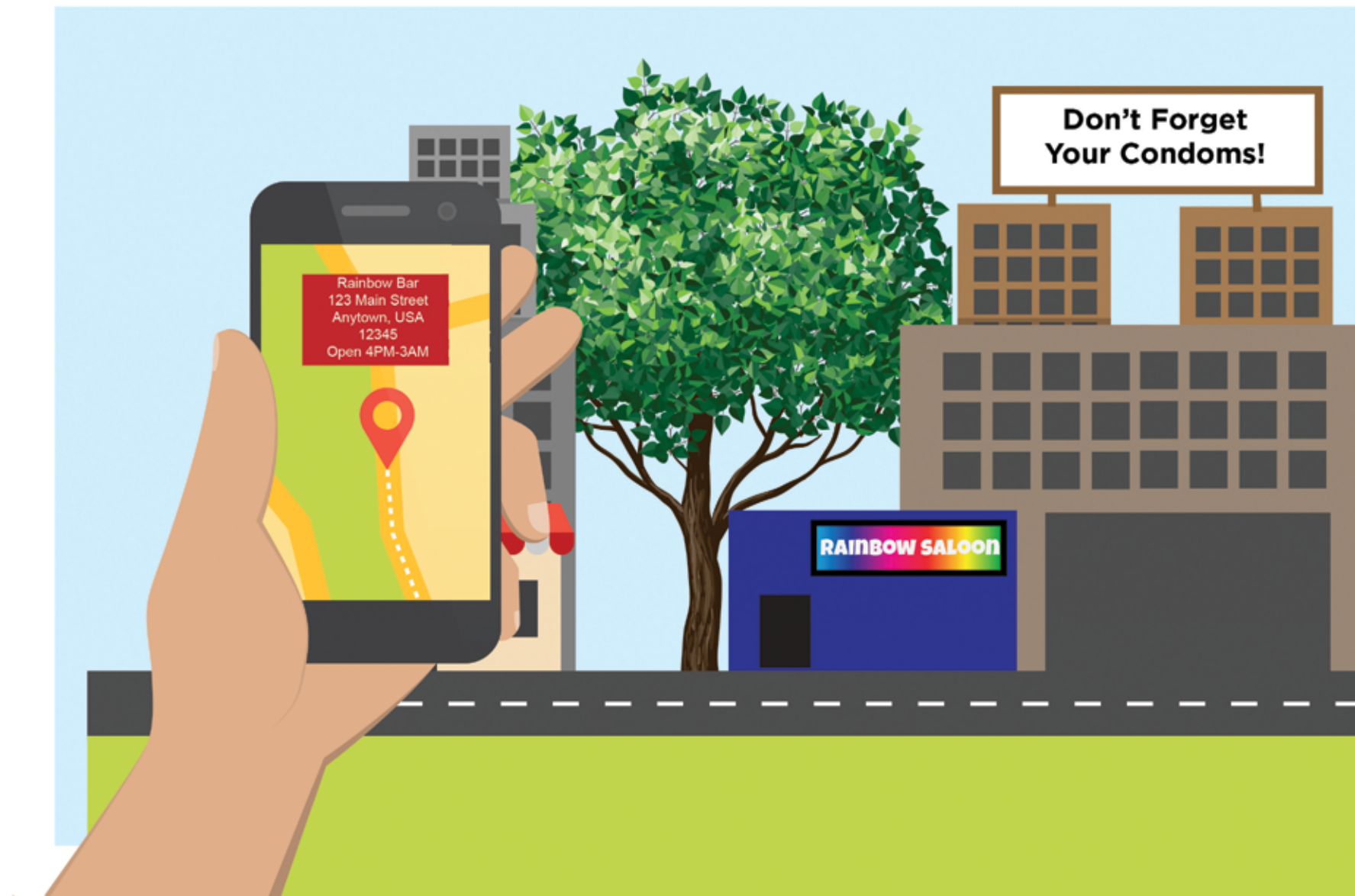
bartender Ron Heinrich continues working various shifts; Richard Boriolo is back as a manager; and the one person who everyone has met at some point in their life, Big "Thank You" Jeff, continues as FACES' door greeter.

At FACES, the motto is "We're YOUR club. It's YOUR party." 30 years later, FACES hasn't forgotten who they are or who they serve and why. "We are a GAY bar that welcomes everyone. We're grateful to YOU for being here with us, now and into the future" says Terry. "Now let's party into the next 30

years together!"

Keep up to date on all the happenings at FACES at FACES.net and www.facebook.com/FacesNightClub?fref=ts





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