

outWord

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**Photo Contest
Grand Prize
Winner!**



Lucky -
Jon Benorden

**THE
PET
ISSUE!**



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ATTENTION ARTISTS:

ART COMPETITION

At the Sacramento PRIDE 2017 event, AARP hosted a “listening post” featuring the question: *“What should AARP know about the challenges facing LGBT caregivers?”* (Caregivers are those who provide care for a family member or friend, including assistance with daily living activities such as bathing, feeding, and getting dressed.) More than 100 responses were posted, containing a wide range of answers, including fear, discrimination, lack of information about services, and long-term care facilities that are LGBTQ-friendly.

In order to highlight the concerns and challenges faced by LGBTQ elders and their caregivers, AARP is asking local artists to create a visual artwork (e.g. painting, sculpture, etc.) that illustrates one or more of the responses we received. Artworks will be evaluated by a panel of judges that will choose a winner, who will receive a *\$5,000 prize* and whose work will be widely publicized by AARP.

To view listening post answers, contest rules, and details about how to submit your artwork, go to www.aarp.org/ca. Listening post answers are also available to view at the Sacramento LGBT Community Center at 1927 L Street in Midtown Sacramento.

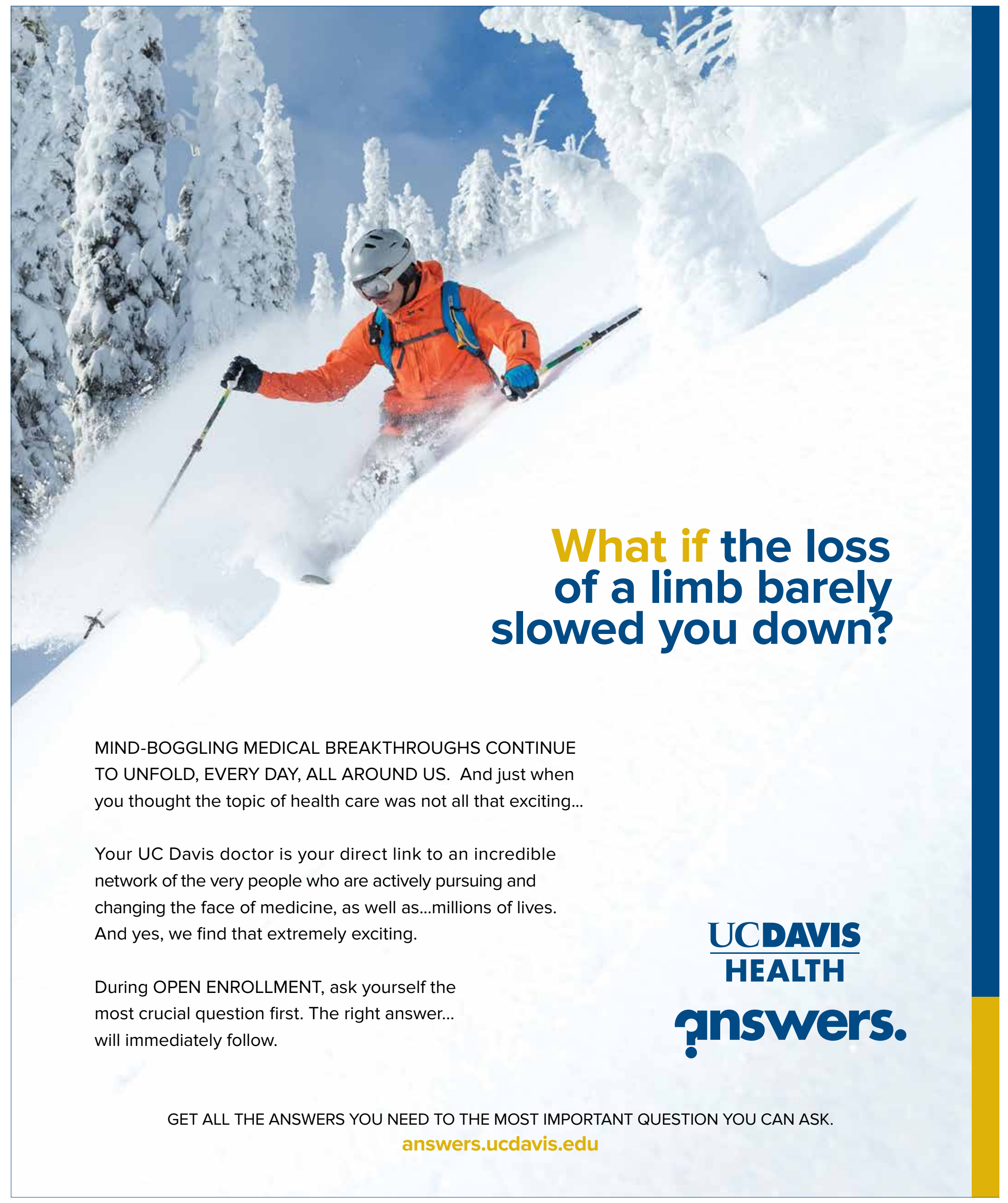
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Seven EQCA Sponsored Bills Signed Into Law by Governor

California Governor Jerry Brown has signed seven Equality California-sponsored bills, ending the 2017 legislative session and bringing the total number of resolutions and bills successfully sponsored by Equality California over the organization's history to 127.

In addition, lawmakers this session approved two resolutions sponsored by Equality California.

"With these signatures, Jerry Brown has cemented his legacy as the most LGBTQ-friendly governor in California history," said Rick Zbur, executive director of Equality California. "Our bills this session protect vulnerable LGBTQ seniors, people living with HIV and AIDS, transgender and gender nonconforming Californians and

aim to correct the wrongs associated with laws that criminalized same-sex behavior in the past. We're grateful that Gov. Brown has once again proven himself to be a steadfast ally of our community with his support of these bills so vital to LGBTQ health and wellbeing."

The Equality California-sponsored bills passed by the California Legislature this session are as follows:

SB 239: Modernizing Discriminatory

HIV Criminalization Laws (Wiener and Gloria); SB 179: Gender Recognition Act of 2017 (Atkins and Wiener); SB 219: Seniors Long Term Care Bill of Rights (Wiener); SB 384: Tiered System for California Sex Offender Registry (Wiener); SB 310: Name and Dignity Act (Atkins); AB 677: Reducing LGBT Disparities in Education and Employment (Chiu); and AB 1556: Fair Employment and Housing Act Clarification (Stone)

In addition to the bills signed by the Governor, the Legislature has passed two Equality California-sponsored resolutions: AJR 16: Violence in Chechnya (Low); and AJR 22: Transgender Service Members (Low)

For more information on these bills and resolutions, visit www.eqca.org.

LGBT Military Groups Join Forces to Increase Advocacy

OutServe-SLDN, the nation's leading legal and advocacy organization for LGBT servicemembers, veterans, and their families, and the Military Partners and Families Coalition (MPFC), an advocacy and outreach organization for LGBT military families, have announced that they are joining forces.

The existing operations of MPFC will be incorporated into OutServe-SLDN, creating the nation's largest organization focused on the support of the LGBT military community including service members, veterans and military families.

Matt Thorn, Executive Director of OutServe-SLDN, has said of the merger, "We are thrilled to welcome the Military Partners and Families Coalition into OutServe-SLDN. Over the years they've been an invaluable partner to our work, and we're thrilled that they're now part of our family."

Ariana Bostian-Kentes, President and co-founder of MPFC, added, "Working alongside OutServe-SLDN as a coalition partner has been vital to the successes we've celebrated as a military family community. We aim to build on that success through this merger by adding to the breadth of resources available to those who serve and support our military and by prioritizing the interests of all families who serve our country."

Current programs of the MPFC will continue uninterrupted as part of OutServe-

SLDN. These programs include Faces of Our Families, a monthly profile of LGBT military families; Ally Spotlight, a regular profile of non-LGBT spouses who have shown leadership in advancing equality for all military families; Health Advocacy Program, a focus on the delivery of health care to LGBT service members and their families; Battle Buddy Program, a support network for partners and families of deployed service members; the Online Education Program, a series of virtual training sessions on issues of pertinence to LGBT military families; and the Cultural Competency Program, direct training to inform existing military culture about LGBT families.

Let the community know what's on your mind.

Please send letters to:

**letters@outwordmagazine.com or 372 Florin Road, #133
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Not all letters may be published. Some may be edited for length and/or content.

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Light in the Grove to Honor CA State Senator Mark Leno

Held on the eve of World AIDS Day, *Light in the Grove* lets guests experience a moving candlelight reflection in the Circle of Friends, the heart of the Memorial, then walk through the spectacularly-lit Redwood Grove to a beautiful banquet.



The 2011 *Light in the Grove* featured a cellist in the redwood grove

Inside, guests enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and a buffet dinner with special musical and artistic performances.

The theme of this year's World AIDS Day events is "Bending the Arc Toward Justice," capturing the spirit of hope, determination, and resistance that has been at the foundation of the National AIDS Memorial and our community's response to AIDS since the beginning.

"This year we are proud to honor Senator Mark Leno at *Light in the Grove* with the 'Lifetime of Commitment' award," said *Light in the Grove* Chair Mike Shriver. "Mark is a longtime friend of the Memorial and tireless champion for civil rights, the LGBT community and HIV/AIDS organizations."

Light in the Grove is an occasion to remember, reunite, celebrate, and recommit, and a way renew your commitment to the fight against AIDS and the battle for social justice.

Monies raised from *Light in the Grove* help fund the care and upkeep of the Memorial; the Pedro Zamora Young Leaders Scholarship Program, which provides financial support to young people for college who demonstrate a passion and commitment to social justice and helping end AIDS; and the Surviving Voices AIDS Oral History Initiative, which collects personal and community stories about AIDS from national and international perspectives through professionally produced video and audio, helping guarantee that these stories forever be remembered.

"Your generous support will help maintain our breathtaking National Memorial and ensure that the story of AIDS – and the critical lessons it teaches us – not be forgotten and be available to all future generations," said Shriver.

For more information, visit www.aidsmemorial.org/events/2017-light-in-the-grove/

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From Silly To Scary, There's Plenty To Do This Halloween



From Trunk or Treat at the Auto Museum to Sips and Spirits: The Train Ride for Adults, Sacramento's going all out this Halloween with fun and scary activities for Trick or Treaters of all ages. Go to www.OutwordMagazine.com for a full rundown.

Remembering Jean Hansen: The Passing of an Icon

by Kathleen Montgomery

It was with great sorrow that the members of the Sacramento Chapter of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) learned of the death of Jean Hansen, chapter co-founder.

At the age of 90, Jean passed away peacefully in Sacramento during the early morning hours of October 2, 2017, as family members kept vigil. In her final days and hours, Jean was surrounded and strengthened by the love and prayers of her family as well as those of many friends and countless others whose lives she touched.

Always a leader and a deeply committed woman of faith, Jean served on the Mission Committee of the governing board of the Sacramento area Presbyterian churches in 1982. She encouraged the group to respond to a request for "seed money" to start a local chapter of PFLAG – a relatively new national organization promoting the health and well-being of LGBTQI people, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Due in large part to Jean's heartfelt endorsement, the fledgling group received a check for \$200. Quite a lot of money 35 years ago!

Jean resolved that she needed to do more than "write a check." And so it was that she became a co-founder, along with Merrill and Muriel Follensbee, of the Sacramento Chapter of PFLAG.

While PFLAG was welcomed by many, there were others who did not approve of its presence and still others who were openly hostile. At one point, Jean was contacted by the police who suggested she cancel the next meeting – a bomb threat had been received.

Jean and the others determined they could not bow to intimidation. The meeting was held as scheduled. What else would you expect from a woman who, twenty years earlier, traveled to Washington DC to take part in the historic, 1963 March on Washington?

Jean's service to PFLAG and the local gay community was steadfast loving. She personally staffed the chapter's "telephone love line" for over 25 years – fielding her share of obscene callers but many more curious, concerned or distraught parents, families and friends.

She was faithful in her attendance at meetings, Pride events, rallies, speaking engagements and community forums. Jean worked quietly and tirelessly to meet what she believed to be her most important responsibility – ensuring that when people needed PFLAG, PFLAG was waiting. In recent years, Jean was respected, appreciated and admired as the chapter's "elder stateswoman" and PFLAG continued to be an important part of her life.

Jean Hansen helped countless people on their journeys to understand, accept and affirm their family members and themselves as well. She was fond of saying that she couldn't help but consider all LGBTQI people to be "her kids." And so, while she gave birth to four children, each of whom she was extremely proud and loved dearly, the number of "kids" holding a place in her heart was astronomical. Jean Hansen's heart was most assuredly big enough for all of them.

A celebration of Jean Hansen's life will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church located at 1300 N Street in Sacramento on Sunday, October 29th at 2:00 p.m.

The family respectfully suggests that those wishing to make donations in Jean's memory consider the Front Street Animal Shelter, 2127 Front Street, Sacramento, CA 95818 or Sacramento PFLAG, PO Box 661855, Sacramento, CA 95866.

Kathleen Montgomery is a Past President, PFLAG Sacramento.



October's Observance Is More Important Than Ever

by Julie Nauman, CalVCB and Beth Hassett, WEAVE

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and a time to have an important conversation about the resources available to victims of violence.

We know that domestic violence, also known as Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), is a challenge for our community every day of the year. IPV affects people of every race, socioeconomic level and age.

A past research report from the Center for Disease Control cited that members of the LGBT community are at least as likely – if not more – to suffer sexual assault, intimate partner violence and stalking.

For this year's observance, WEAVE and the California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB) are partnering to raise awareness about the resources available to survivors in our community.

The hope is that this collaborative approach will help victims find resources sooner, which can ultimately save lives and keep families together.

WEAVE, a victim advocacy organization, strives to ensure its services, such as counseling, safety planning and shelter, are inclusive for those seeking help. Gender identity and sexual orientation are not screening criteria for any program and IPV survivors are welcome in any WEAVE program, including residential.

Along with this, every survivor can identify the services that best meet their

needs, including the location and/or program that best aligns with their short-term safety goals.

WEAVE also works to maintain strong partnerships with LGBTQ serving and ally organizations. This includes partnering with the Sacramento LGBT Community Center and the Gender Health Center to offer co-located services, referrals and more.

Many survivors of IPV cannot leave their situation because their abuser controls the financial resources or they may not have enough money to leave and feel safe. What many do not know is that any survivor of any violent crime may be eligible for compensation through CalVCB.

CalVCB, a state organization, pays for crime-related expenses such as medical and mental health treatment, relocation, income and support loss, funeral and burial costs, home security systems and much more. Crimes covered include homicide, stalking, domestic violence and human trafficking. CalVCB also collaborates with Victim Witness Centers and victim advocacy organizations such as WEAVE that support victims as they go through the justice system.

Last fiscal year, CalVCB provided \$2

million statewide to help domestic violence victims with life-saving expenses such as home security alarms, motion detectors, video cameras, first month's rent, security deposits and moving vans.

By working together, WEAVE and CalVCB can improve responsiveness to LGBTQ survivors of violence, so victims can receive the care and support they need to heal.


No matter who you are or how you identify – lesbian, gay, questioning, transgender or otherwise – everyone deserves to be treated with respect and to feel safe.

If you would like to learn more about WEAVE services, go to www.weaveinc.org or if you would like to learn more about CalVCB's program, go to www.victims.ca.gov.

Sacramento Frontrunners Celebrate 25th Anniversary



Over 60 members and former members of Frontrunners Sacramento came together for a dinner celebration on Sept. 30 at Piatti at the Pavilion. Steve Hansen, District 4 Sacramento City Councilmember, presented the group with a resolution recognizing Frontrunners for their contribution to the LGBT Community of Sacramento, signed by all the members of the Sacramento City Council and the mayor. For more information, visit frsac.org



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Briefly Put

Elton John AIDS Foundation Announces Bold New Funding Initiatives To Combat HIV Epidemics in the U.S.

The Elton John AIDS Foundation (EJAF) has announced new funding initiatives to increase advocacy and service delivery for people living with and at-risk for HIV and hepatitis C.

In the U.S., EJAF will be launching a new funding initiative to address HIV in Black gay men and transgender individuals, building on their years of experience and support in fighting AIDS in these communities. In Eastern Europe, EJAF will launch the Key Populations Fund for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA KP Fund), focused on prevention and treatment of HIV and hepatitis C for individuals most vulnerable to the HIV epidemic in the region: people who use drugs, sex workers, and gay and bisexual men in the region.

"Our new funding initiative in the U.S. has the potential to substantially change the course of the HIV epidemic among Black gay men and transgender individuals by supporting the leadership and organizations within those communities," said Scott Campbell, Executive Director of EJAF-US.

Bipartisan Bill Aims to Halt Ban on Transgender Military Service Members

Democratic and Republican members of Congress introduced a new bill in Congress (H.R. 4041) on October 13 that seeks an immediate halt to the Trump administration's ban on transgender people serving in the military.

The bill was introduced by Reps. Speier (D-Calif.), Dent (R-Pa.), Davis (D-Calif.), Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla.), Smith (D-Wash.), and Sinema (D-Ariz.).

"We have seen one sweeping anti-LGBT action after another from this administration. The commitment of the Trump administration to discrimination is now crystal clear. Members of Congress who support equality under the law for LGBT people must use every tool at their disposal to fight back," said Ian Thompson, legislative representative with the American Civil Liberties Union.

Scholarships Available For LGBTQ Students

LGBTQ students enrolling in undergraduate or graduate programs for the 2018-2019 academic year are encouraged to apply online for a Point Foundation Scholarship. Point Foundation is the nation's largest scholarship-granting organization for LGBTQ students of merit and currently is providing financial assistance and programmatic support to 98 students.

Applications open online at www.pointfoundation.org/apply on November 1, 2017, and students may submit the application until 11:59 p.m. PST January 29, 2018. A short application information video is available online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2ZQbwe-WGE&feature=youtu.be

Joe Biden Endorses Historic Trans Candidate Danica Roem

Former Vice President Joe Biden has endorsed Danica Roem in her run for the Virginia House of Delegates, a new milestone in her historic effort to oust anti-LGBTQ incumbent "Bigot Bob" Marshall.

Danica's race has garnered national attention for its symbolism – a trans woman running against the self-described "chief homophobe" of the Virginia state legislature – but would also be an important moment in the movement for trans equality. Danica would be the only out trans state legislator in the nation if elected on November 7.

UN Rights Office 'Deeply Concerned' Over Arrests of LGBT People in Azerbaijan, Egypt and Indonesia

The United Nations human rights office on Friday expressed deep concern about a wave of arrests in Azerbaijan, Egypt and Indonesia of more than 180 people perceived to be LGBT, many of whom have reportedly been mistreated by law enforcement officials.

"Arresting or detaining people based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity is by definition arbitrary and violates international law," including rights to privacy, non-discrimination and equality before the law, said Rupert Colville, spokesperson for the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), at a press briefing in Geneva.

In all three countries, authorities have alleged that those arrested were involved in sex work – although in almost all cases the accused have denied such allegations or indicated that they were coerced into confessing involvement, he added.

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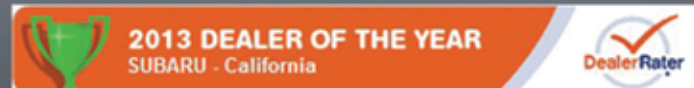
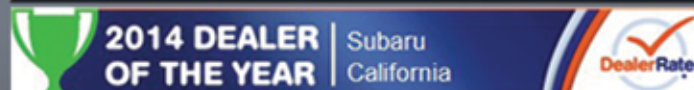
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Governor Signs Bills Protecting Pets

by Susan Riggs

This year, California lawmakers lived up to their humane reputation by passing three critical measures to protect consumers from deceptive pet sales models and increase pet-friendly housing options across the state.

Gov. Jerry Brown signed these measures into law, including a landmark law that makes California the first state to enact a statewide ban on the sale of puppy mill dogs in pet stores.

Most pet store puppies come from puppy mills, where the main objective is to turn a profit, so it's in the store's best interest to make the puppies as marketable as possible – sometimes misleading consumers about the puppies' health or where they came from.

The vast majority of these pets come from commercial breeding operations, generally known as "puppy mills," where they are often kept in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions without adequate veterinary care, food, water, or socialization. Dogs bred in these conditions tend to produce puppies that suffer severe health problems, including contagious and deadly diseases and congenital defects, as well as behavioral problems.

Instead of allowing the sales of these poorly bred "puppy mill" animals, Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell introduced legislation (A.B. 485) that eliminates the sale of cruelly-bred dogs, cats, and rabbits in pet stores and encourage partnerships with local shelters and rescue organizations to promote adoptions of homeless pets.

A.B. 485 cuts off the puppy mill supply chain into California pet stores, but there are other deceptive practices employed by pet sellers who prey on consumers who find it hard to resist an adorable puppy in need of a home.

A disturbing new trend known as "pet leasing" has emerged in recent years. This type of financing, commonly referred to as "rent to own," raises many ethical questions and is used to entice buyers that would otherwise balk at the high cost of purchasing a pet store pet.

Lenders agree to a monthly payment that appears to make purchasing that new \$1,000 puppy more accessible. However, in reality, consumers end up paying two to three times

the retail price of the pet once interest and fees are included.

Even worse, the financing schemes do not transfer the ownership of the pet being purchased until all payments have been made, which means that cute little puppy could be repossessed if a payment is missed. Furthermore, it raises serious questions about who is permitted to make medical decisions if the consumer doesn't fully own their pet.

Thankfully, Assemblymember Anna Caballero introduced legislation (A.B. 1491) to prohibit financing transactions that do not immediately transfer full ownership of a pet to a buyer, and protect consumers from these unscrupulous lending practices.

These financing schemes are particularly damaging as the high cost of housing in California is increasingly putting families in a position where they must choose between keeping their household pet or keeping a roof over their head. With evictions on the rise and the number of pet-friendly housing options in decline, housing is regularly cited as a reason that families relinquish their pet to a shelter, which is devastating for them and also burdens already overcrowded shelters.

To help keep pets in loving homes, A.B. 1137 requires that all housing financed by the California Department of Housing and Community Development be pet-friendly, opening up thousands of new units to pets and preventing families from making the difficult decision to give up their pet.

These three new laws will help keep thousands of animals out of shelters and in loving homes. We thank state lawmakers and Gov. Brown for building on California's humane reputation to reduce animal suffering and protect vulnerable consumers.

As senior state legislative director for the ASPCA's Government Relations department, Susan Riggs directs legislative initiatives in California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington. Susan resides in downtown Sacramento with her rescued pitbull, Bella.

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Logan and Quinn Just Get Each Other – Fearlessly!

by Teresa Howell

I was wrapping up my day, making dinner and getting settled in, when my phone alerted me that a friend had tagged me in a post on Facebook. It was a video from a then unknown to me animal shelter in Sacramento.



As the video played of a sweet and playful pit bull named Logan, my eyes began to water and my heart raced. Logan had just had one of his front legs amputated, yet he was bouncing around, playing fetch and happily greeting children as they walked by.

I let the clip play over and over as my mind flooded with thoughts of my son. I knew immediately that we had to go get him.

My son Quinn, who was 12 years old at the time, had been asking for a dog for nearly two years. But not just any dog. A dog with three legs. You see, my son is an amputee as well.

When he was 10, he lost his right hip and leg to Osteosarcoma (bone cancer). It was the day of his big surgery that he told me he wanted a three legged dog. At the time, I thought he was just being silly. Oh no. He was very serious, and he never let me forget!

So here I was, almost two years after his special request, trying to figure out how to bring Logan home. The next day, I picked Quinn up from school early and we drove

straight to Front Street Animal Shelter to meet Logan.

That dog has so much love to give! He was so perfect for Quinn. Lots of tears were shed that afternoon. Happy tears, of course!

I think back to that day, and I think in the moment, I was trying to give my son something to brighten his days, something that he so very much deserved after everything he had been through. Yet, I never could possibly have imagined how having Logan would completely transform him.

Going through cancer treatment as a child is an extremely isolating experience and now Quinn is NEVER alone. Not only does he always have Logan by his side, but he feels as if he has someone that actually knows what he's experienced and continues to face. As he says, "Logan just gets me".

Now Quinn is more confident and more positive. And with the help of Logan, after having battled cancer twice and enduring things that no child should, he can get back to the business of being a kid, fearlessly!

10 Best States to Raise a Pet



Ben Franklin was a man of many titles, but perhaps most importantly, animal lover, and it's safe to say he would be curious as to which of the states in the country he helped create have the healthiest pets. Thankfully, the analysts at Care.com Think Tank decided to investigate. Here are The States With The Healthiest Pets: 1. Montana; 2. Nebraska; 3. Colorado; 4. New Mexico; 5. Idaho; 6. New Hampshire; 7. South Dakota; 8. Wyoming; 9. Kansas; 10. North Dakota. But for a funner version of that list, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=fnBuFJzZZ4

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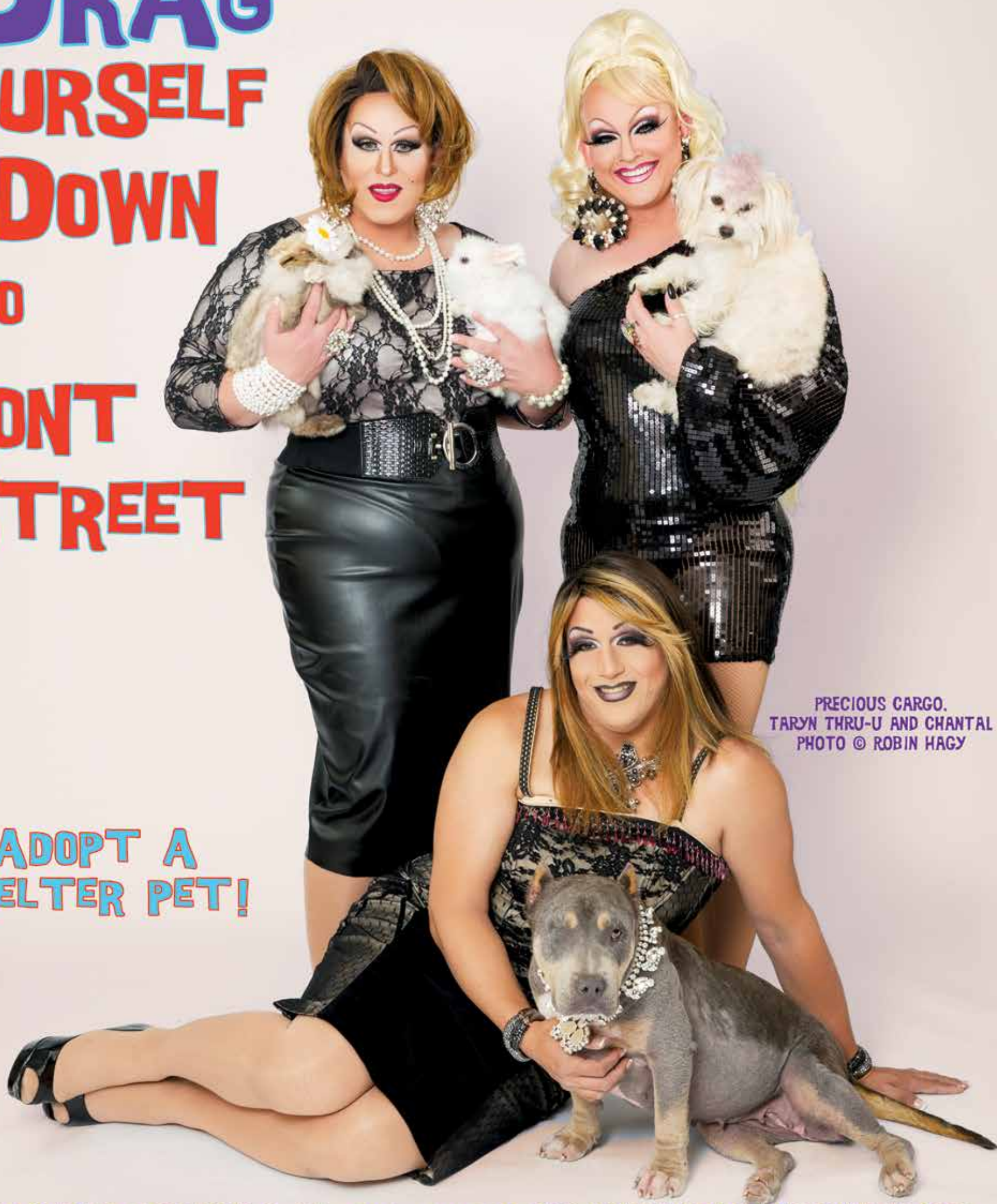
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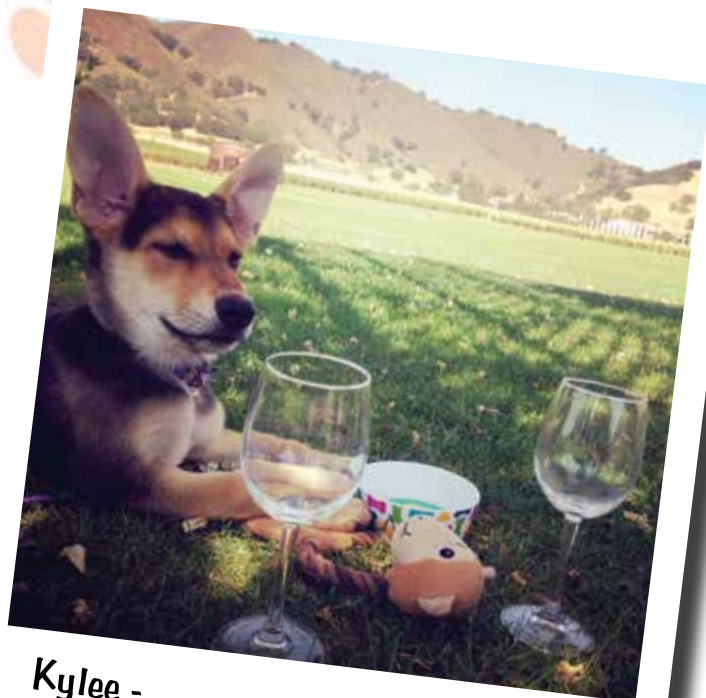
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Let's Hear it for the Pets!

Each October we get to put together one of our favorite issues, the Pet Issue, where we ask our readers to send us pictures of their pets to share with you – hey, they're family! This year we made it a friendly contest for simply the cutest picture. So here are this year's cuties, we hope they bring a smile to your face!

The Four Runner-ups!

THE
PET
ISSUE!



Kylee -
Kevin Giovanetti



Dottie and Cassie Cindy -
Baudoin and Nancy McKernan



Buddy -
Andrea Jackson



Whites -
Johnny Terry

Pet Pics
continued on pages 16 and 17

**THE
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**Honorable
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**Turbo -
Johnny Terry**



**Tip and Lyle -
Stephanie Slagel**



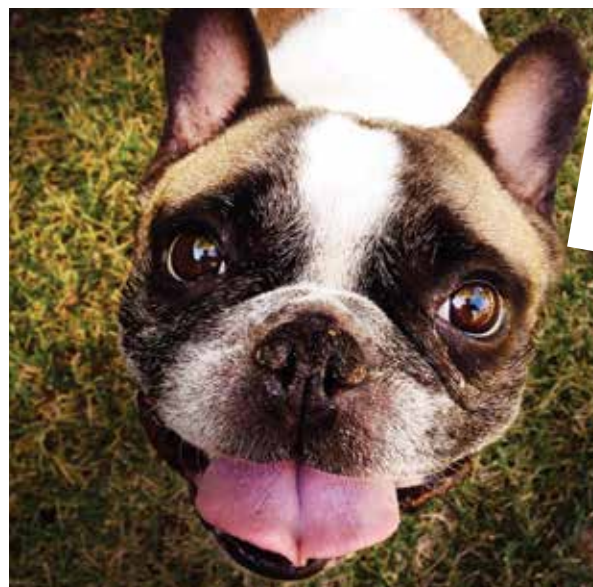
**Molly -
Janet Smith**



**Maya -
Cindy Baudoin and Nancy McKernan**



**Luna and Stella -
Jennifer Kennedy**



**Alfred -
Janet Smith**



Picard -
Kevin West



Zoe -
Janet Smith



Eldon and Jakey -
Janet Smith



Little Buddha AKA Buddharachi -
Joyce Mitchell



Tess -
Cindy Baudoin and Nancy McKernan



Ikaika and Pono -
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RedRover Celebrates 30 Years of Helping Animals

RedRover, a national nonprofit animal welfare organization based in Sacramento, California, is celebrating their 30th year of caring for animals in crisis.

RedRover focuses on bringing animals out of crisis and into care while strengthening the human-animal bond. Their three programs provide emergency sheltering, disaster relief services, financial assistance and humane education.

One of these programs, RedRover Responders, is made up of more than 3,900 trained volunteers from across the United States and Canada. Distinguished by their red shirts, RedRover Responders volunteers are specially trained to care for and shelter large numbers of animals displaced by natural disasters and those rescued from mass cruelty such as criminal seizures, hoarding, and puppy mill cases. These volunteers provide the workforce which enables communities to address their animal needs following a crisis.

Since 1987, RedRover Responders have worked in cooperation with law enforcement, local agencies and animal organizations to shelter and care for animals on 187 deployments throughout the United States and Canada. Some notable deployments include: Hurricane Katrina, Superstorm Sandy, 9/11, the Northridge Earthquake, Northern California Floods, Oroville Dam Crisis, Butte County Wall Fire, Hurricane Andrew and many more.

In the past six weeks alone, RedRover Responders were deployed to Texas, Florida and New Jersey, to help with displaced animals from Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, respectively.

Nearly three dozen trained RedRover Responders answered the call to help during these crises, travelling from Texas, Florida, Maine, Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Tennessee, North Carolina, District of Columbia, New York and Connecticut.

RedRover sent 15 RedRover Responders volunteers to spend six days in Madison, New Jersey helping The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center care for 392 animals airlifted out of Puerto Rico due to Hurricane Maria and its aftermath.

St. Hubert's acted as a waystation, where the animals were triaged, vaccinated, treated and cared for before being transferred to sister adoption facilities across the Northeast. During these deployments, RedRover Responders provide everything from routine feeding and walking to comforting the animals during this traumatic transitional time.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, six volunteers spent five days helping Collier County Domestic Animal Services and The HSUS provide daily care and comfort for 196 dogs, cats and horses displaced by Hurricane Irma at the temporary emergency shelter in Naples, Florida.

And while deployed to Dallas, Texas, for seven days, 13 Responders helped the SPCA of Texas care for 147 dogs, cats and birds at an emergency shelter, set up near a mega human shelter so that evacuees could visit their pets more easily.

RedRover holds RedRover Responders volunteer workshops nearly a dozen times a year all across the United States and Canada. There is a \$45 registration fee for this half-day workshop; upon completion attendees will receive a RedRover Responders t-shirt, volunteer handbook and a certificate that signifies the trainee is qualified to be called on for deployments.

For more information on how to join the volunteer corps, please visit www.RedRover.org/Responders/

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12 Things Your Dog Hates About You



Do you want to understand your dog better? Did you know that most the dogs don't like it when you pat their heads? Check out these 12 annoying habits that your beloved pets don't like at all at from Bright Side at www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwUrEHEUalw.

Listen to Your Animal Healers

by Anastassia Spitzer

We have created complicated lives for ourselves as humans. Too often, acting out of envy, spite, malice, or hate, we plug in and tune out, build a wall between us and everyone else, and confine ourselves to four walls, fluorescent lighting and a commute in the name of a higher wage.



Fortunately, there are peaceful healers among us. The most often overlooked have names like Max, Skip, and Mittens, and don't talk like we do. They are too commonly referred to simply as "pets," but serve a much greater purpose as companions and spiritual teachers.

The unique relationship with our beloved pets is undeniable. We feed our furry family, nurture them with walks and play, take them to the park, give them scratches in that favorite spot behind their ear.

But do we allow them the honor of listening to their words, their graceful messages sent through actions? We are so clever to produce tools like cars, and weapons, but have we the wisdom to pause with joy for the warmth of the sun? Have we the intellect to be curious of something so simple as a caterpillar inching across the railing, or allow ourselves to be excited by a bird calling in the trees?

How often do we bat an eye to shouting beauties surrounding us in relation to the times we spend silencing them with our

narrow thoughts and backlit distractions? Today, let's give less power to the chaos buzzing around us and find a fun ritual to practice with our pets. Let's take a walk in someone else's shoes: the paws that will lead us back to the simple beauties.

Animals are masters of spontaneity. Some time when you're driving with your dog and she starts sniffing more intently, change direction. Follow that smell! Regardless of a neighborhood or business park, there is promise in the smells and sights. Something simply amazing exists there.

Animals are masters of exploration. Try following your cat around the house. Every here and there, there is something interesting to investigate. Perhaps while Kitty is rubbing against a houseplant, take a chance to look at the leaves closer than you did at the nursery. Nature is a producer of spectacular designs.

Animals are masters of that deepest feeling of home. We humans are experiencing a lot of pressure from the world today, which often causes less-than-the-best version of ourselves to surface. Whatever assignment was late, accidental statement was made, turn that was missed – there is someone at home that sees beyond all the complications, and loves you for the wonderful person they trust you to be.

On our lowest days, they will feel the pain with us and approach with love, care and affection. No questions asked. They are our keepers as much as we are theirs.

Today, let's take a step back to see through the eyes of our trusted companions and invite more love, laughter everyday wonders back into our lives.

Anastassia Spitzer is a Manager/Sitter with Lucky Buddy Petcare

When You Gotta Take a Trumpy-Dump



Every movement needs a statement, and this one let's Fido get in on the act. Created by Alex Morgia, a graduate of Cornell University, his greatest dream is to join the illustrious ranks of those sued by the president. Donald Trump Dog Poop Bags are sold in rolls of 15 bags. They fit standard dog bag dispensers, are biodegradable and are available from www.donaldtrumpdogpoopbags.com.



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The Napa Valley Spirit Shines Brightly

by Angela Jackson

The Napa Valley spirit is on full display with neighbors helping neighbors, volunteers making difficult times a little less difficult, and firefighters, first responders and law enforcement putting the needs of others first during the largest wildfires in California's history.



#NAPAVALLEYSPIRIT

The Spirit To Work Together To Rebuild, Rebound, Reopen.

In Napa County, the wildfires mostly affected the eastern and western hills surrounding the valley floor. Many of the hotels, wineries, restaurants and other businesses throughout the Napa Valley have remained open or are fully reopening this week to welcome visitors.

A small number of businesses remain closed. Visit Napa Valley encourages visitors to finalize their itineraries directly with their hotel, winery, restaurant, or other activity.

"We are humbled by the incredible dedication we have seen from the emergency service response teams who continue to

work to keep everyone safe," said Clay Gregory, president & CEO of Visit Napa Valley. "The outpouring of support from around the world has been heartwarming to everyone in our community, and the spirit of collaboration to rebuild and reopen is remarkable. Our thoughts remain with those impacted by these wildfires, as well as the more than 13,000 people whose jobs are supported by the Napa Valley tourism industry."

The economic impact of the wildfires in Napa County is not yet known and the October 2017 lodging revenue will not be reported for many weeks.

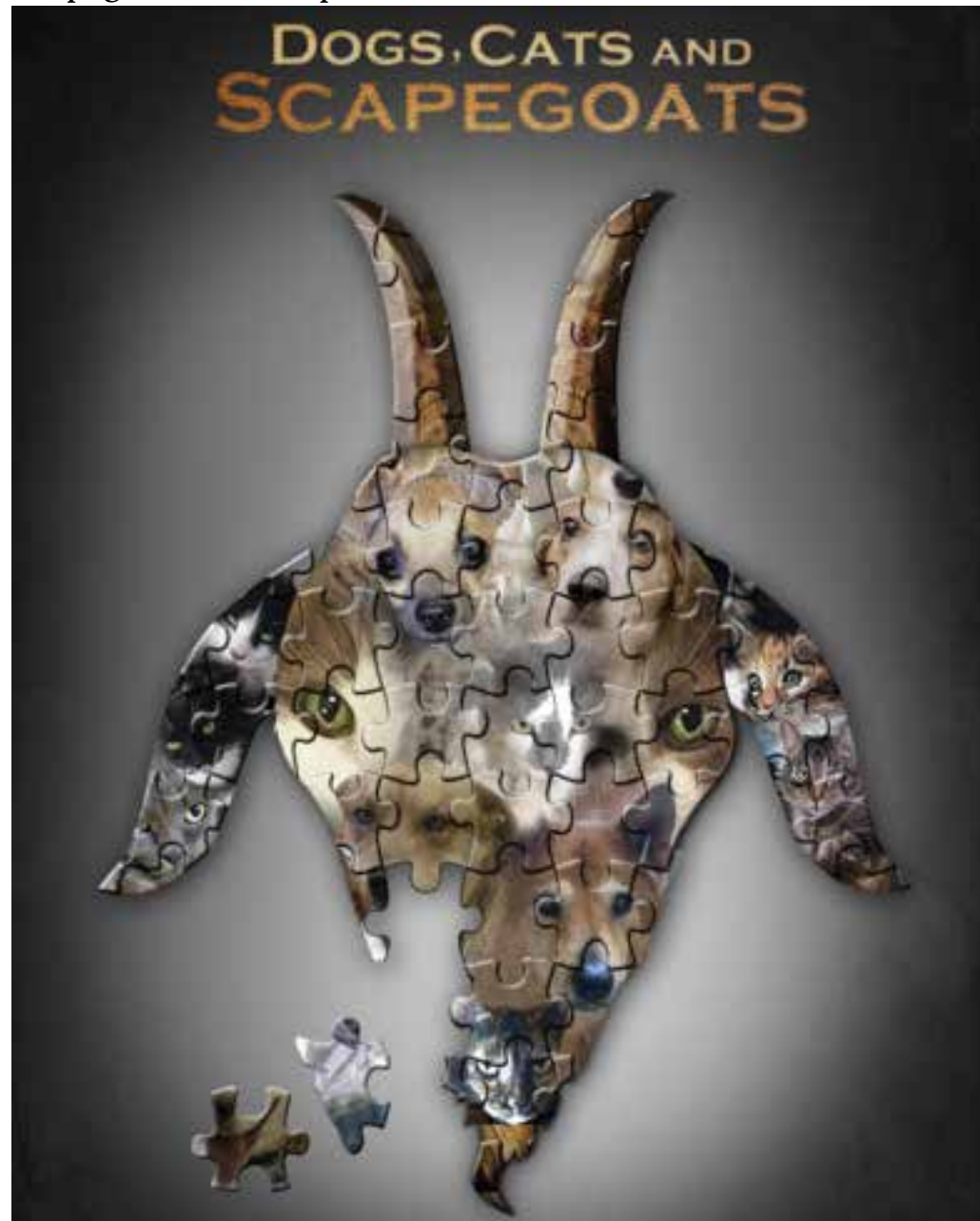
Updated visitor information may be found on VisitNapaValley.com. The Visit Napa Valley Welcome Center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Napa to assist guests with personalized itineraries, as are the welcome centers in American Canyon, Yountville, St. Helena, and Calistoga.

For an update on the Napa Valley wineries and the 2017 harvest, please visit The Napa Valley Vintners napavintners.com.

Angela Jackson is the Media Relations Director of Visit Napa Valley

Dogs, Cats and Scapegoats Shines Light on the Plight of Companion Animals

Sandgrain Films has thrown down the gauntlet in the new groundbreaking documentary *Dogs, Cats and Scapegoats*, which takes a unique approach to expose the root causes of the plight of our companion animals in the United States.



Beyond the statistics of euthanasia and adoption, society's complex and sometimes conflicted relationship with animals is explored to better understand why the cycle of breeding to relinquishment remains entrenched in American society.

The trailer and full documentary has been made available for free streaming online via the movie's website DogsCatsAndScapegoats.com and through the Facebook page www.facebook.com/DogsCatsScapegoats/

Dogs, Cats and Scapegoats has been dubbed by author Marc Bekoff, PhD as a "game changer" and an "encyclopedic coverage" of the subject matter. The documentary leaves few stones unturned during the exploration of pet keeping, putting long held beliefs under the microscope.

Breeding, adoption, abandonment, and training are dissected in order to uncover the root causes of companion animal welfare issues. The answers often take a different form than society is used to hearing, unpacking an incredibly thought provoking exploration of our relationships with our

closest companions.

The films director, Hugh Dorigo, draws from interviews with some of the most brilliant minds in animal behavior and ethics, representatives of national animal welfare organizations, and people on the front lines of animal rescue. A world of incompatible beliefs and realities is revealed to the viewer, giving them the information to decide for themselves if it is change they want and if they are willing to do what is necessary to achieve it.

The films director said: "Once we acknowledge the multifactorial causes of welfare problems with our companion animals, we open up doors of opportunity previously closed to us that enable solutions, whether they be legislative remedies or working together to change the social norms that drive many of these problems."

Sandgrain Films is a documentary production company based in Mesa, Arizona. Their previous documentary, *Beyond Closed Doors*, addressed the science, ethics and politics of farm animal welfare, and received numerous film festival awards.

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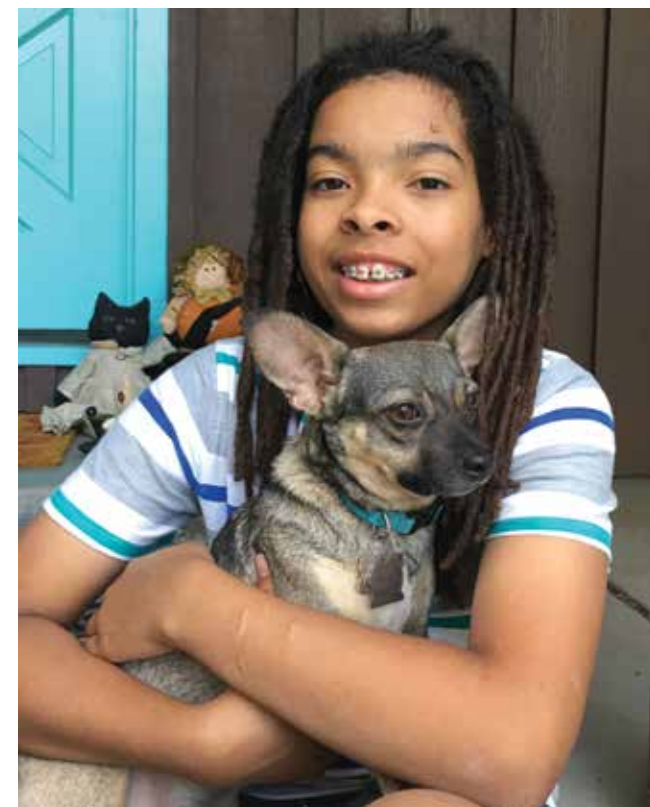
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Buddy Love - A Tail of Healing

by Jenny Woods

In October of 2012, while getting ready for soccer practice, my seven year old son Kaleb was playing in our midtown front yard and was viciously attacked by a neighbor's dog. My son sustained major bites to his leg, arm, neck and face.



Kaleb and Buddy Love are now best buds, and Buddy watches after, and protects the whole family.

The bites took several weeks to heal. And after a few years of therapy, the nightmares and anxiety resolved. But the fear of dogs settled in. I grieved for my son's scarred face and sleepless nights. But I also mourned every time I saw him flinch or backup when we saw a dog.

Last December when Kaleb's 12th birthday was approaching, my instincts told me it was time to get a dog. I wanted my son to overcome his fear of dogs and to know the unconditional love of having one in the family. When I mentioned this idea to my family, my younger boys were thrilled, but Kaleb's eyes swelled with tears as he firmly protested.

A few miles a way, as our family was wrestling with this big decision, there was a scared little street dog trying to find his way. A good-hearted neighbor took the time to coax him into his backyard and a few days later he was safe at the Front Street Shelter. The following day, this frightened little fellow was in the care of his 'fairy godfather', a wonderful man who took the time to foster him.

He was named Buddy. For the following six weeks, he was spoiled with love, treats and walks – as well as vaccinated and neutered. Five days before Kaleb's 12th birthday, Buddy's picture popped up in my Facebook newsfeed. The post told of his story and his need of a forever home. A day later, with two excited boys in tow and one

very upset soon-to-be 12 year old, we met Buddy. We returned home that afternoon with our newest family member, my fourth boy – Buddy Love.

At first, the only person in the family Buddy would come to was my three-year old son. By night two, he was sleeping in our bed. For Kaleb, it took weeks for him to even acknowledge the dog.

I began enlisting him in walking Buddy. Kaleb then saw that Buddy liked belly rubs. And that when he scratched Buddy's belly a certain way, his leg moved and his lips looked like they were smiling. He also learned that Buddy liked fetching mini-tennis balls and loved playing tug-a-war with his rope toy. Kaleb was incredibly amused with Buddy's ability to destroy a stuffed squeaky toy in minutes.

It's been nine months since



All four of Jenny's boys.

Buddy Love joined our family. Last month when we went camping, all three boys insisted that Buddy come along. Kaleb now asks to walk Buddy. And requests that Buddy sleep in his bed. He has even taught Buddy how to sit and shake. The best part is that Kaleb no longer flinches when he sees a dog and Buddy no longer shakes when he meets a new person. It turns out that we needed Buddy as much as he needed us.

Front Street Animal Clinic was instrumental in helping get Buddy registered, current with his shots and fixed, plus they are usually bursting at the seams with loving animals that need good Forever Homes.

If you are looking for a new addition to your family, please be sure to look at adoptable pets that are in the local shelters. They are needing your love and caring, and will repay your kindness in more ways than you can imagine.

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Celebrate Halloween with “Boo at the Zoo”

by Chris Narloch

Outword’s annual Pet Issue seems like the perfect time to put the spotlight on our local zoo. Even though its residents are not technically ‘pets,’ the critters at the Sacramento Zoo need love too.

“Boo at the Zoo,” which takes place the weekend before Halloween, is a fundraiser that will benefit the general maintenance and animal care at the Sacramento Zoo.

Enjoy trick-or-treating throughout the entire zoo at 15 different candy stations, face painting for kids, festive games, themed stage shows, magic shows, keeper chats and even animal enrichments.

Top off a perfect day with a ride on the spooky zoo train or the creepy carousel, for an additional fee.

So get out those costumes, grab a trick-or-treat bag and head to the Sacramento Zoo on either Oct. 28th or 29th for the daytime Boo at the Zoo!

For more information, visit www.saczoo.org.



Heartthrobs and Hounds Calendar Benefits Pet Rescue Groups Fur Friends in Need and Lilo’s Promise



Big or small, fluffy or short-haired, young or old, everyone loves photos of adorable pooches, especially when paired with beautiful, hunky men. Photographer Mike Ruiz’s 2018 calendar, HeartThrobs and Hounds, is thirteen months of perfection (1 bonus month in 2019) that will put a smile on your face every day of the new year, while helping to find forever homes for pups in need. HeartThrobs and Hounds, is available for only \$19.99 at www.furfriendsinneed.com or <http://bit.ly/MikeRuiz2018Calendar>



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Get Your Scare On This Halloween

by Chris Narloch

The recent blockbuster *IT*, one of the most popular horror movies ever made, probably won't be released on DVD until this December. While we wait, you can enjoy a number of other chilling titles that are sure to scare the heck out of film fans.



2017 was a pretty good year for oddball horror movies, including a number of interesting flicks that either never made it to Sacramento or played only briefly in River City, such as *The Lure*, *Personal Shopper*, and *A Ghost Story*.

Read on for a rundown on two older scary films that were rereleased on Blu-ray this year.

Buffy The Vampire Slayer Anniversary Edition

Has it really been 25 years since Kristy Swanson, Donald Sutherland, Rutger Hauer and Luke Perry starred in this funny, action-packed fright-fest?

For pampered cheerleader Buffy

(Swanson), the only thing worse than discovering that her town is infested with vampires is being told it's up to her to defeat them all – including their creepy leader (Rutger Hauer).

With help from a mysterious stranger (Sutherland) and a handsome mechanic (Perry), Buffy is soon kicking serious vampire butt in this cult classic from 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment, now available on DVD, Blu-ray and Digital HD.

Demon Seed

This crazy cross between *2001: A Space Odyssey* and *Rosemary's Baby* is saved from silliness by a

great performance from Julie Christie, one of the most beautiful and talented big screen actresses of the last fifty years.

A classy horror film based on a book by Dean Koontz and released by a major studio (MGM) in 1977, *Demon Seed* stars Christie as a child psychologist held hostage by the computerized home created by her technology-obsessed husband.

Ahead of its time, the film successfully blends sci-fi and horror with a pre-*Blade Runner* plot in which an artificial intelligence desires to be human. *Demon Seed* is available in various formats at www.wbshop.com.

MOMIX Brings *Opus Cactus* to Mondavi

Moses Pendleton and the dancer-illusionists of MOMIX return to the Mondavi Center in November, this time bringing the landscape of the American Southwest to life through a new rendition of the troupe's classic *Opus Cactus*.



This remounting of the show reveals a work with renewed energy, one that transports audiences to a dynamic world of cacti, slithering lizards and fire dancers, all of which are conjured up by Pendleton and company –

outwardmagazine.com

seemingly out of thin air.

Based in Washington, Connecticut, and founded in 1981, MOMIX is an offshoot of the dance company Pilobolus. MOMIX tours internationally and presents works that combine

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SIGLFF 2017 Reaches New Heights

The Sacramento International G&L Film Festival held their most ambitious Festival the weekend of Oct. 13 – 15 at the Crest Theatre, screening six feature films and two full shorts programs. For the first time the Festival awarded a cash prize for the best feature film, with \$750 going to *The Lavender Scare* by director/producer Josh Howard who attended the Festival and the best short, with \$500 going to *Curmudgeons* by director Danny DeVito. For more information, visit siglff.org and to see more photos and to download them for free visit outwordoutabout.shutterfly.com.



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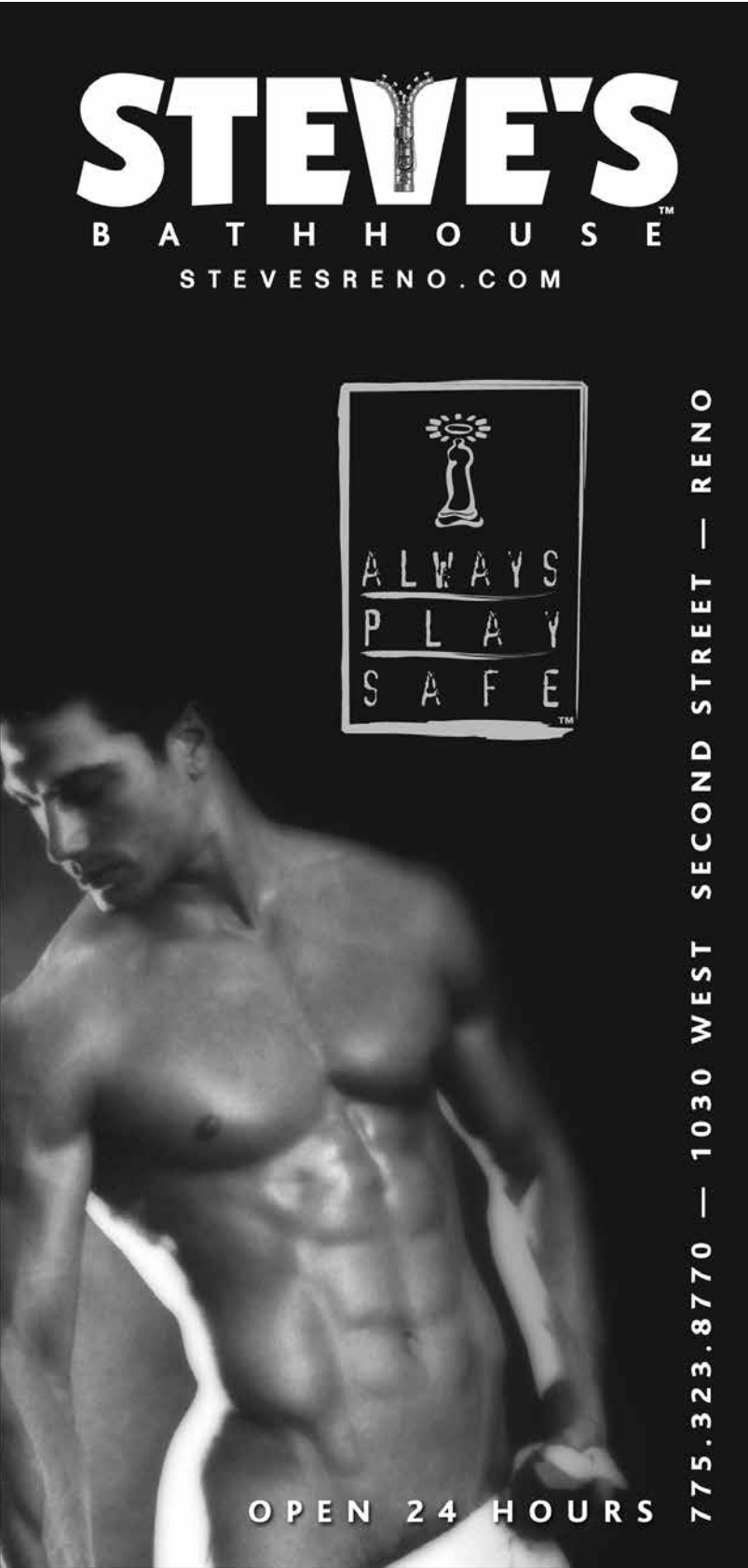
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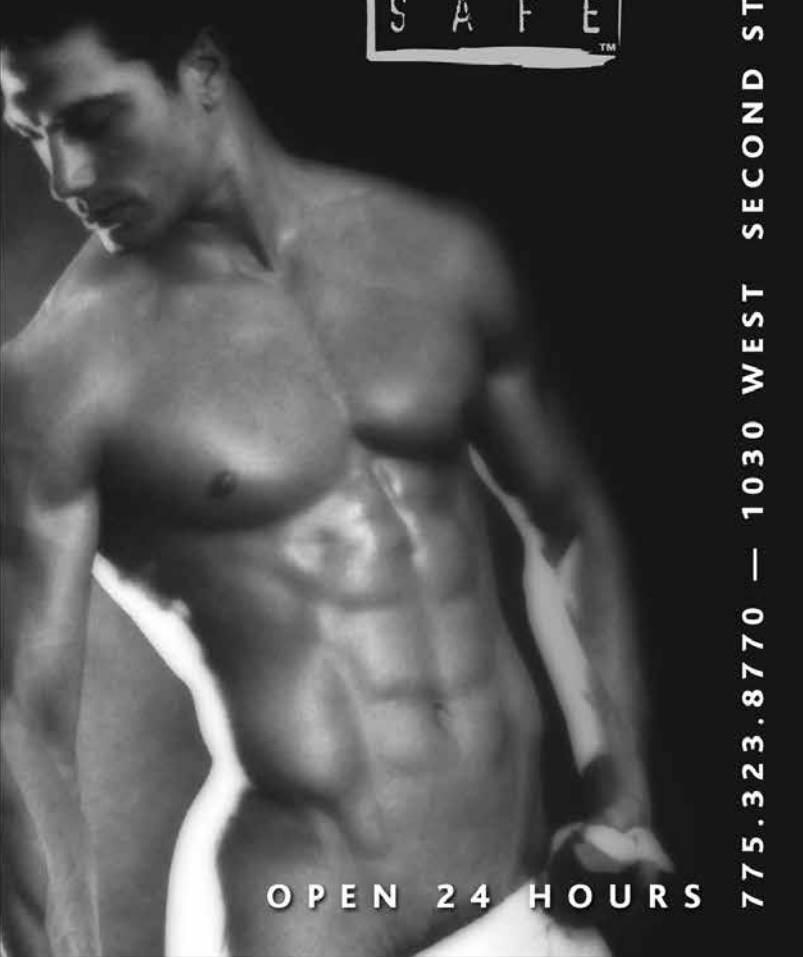
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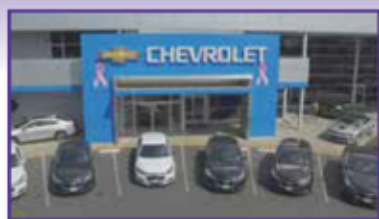


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