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outword

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Dealer Discount:\$3,500
Sale Price:\$53,920
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\$53,020

6 at this net cost

\$4,000
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EXAMPLE: STK/VIN#S 65155D-808464

New 2021 2500 Big Horn Crew Cab 4x4



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MSRP:\$55,910
Dealer Discount:\$2,000
Sale Price:\$53,910
2021 Returning Lessee:\$500

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FBI Launches A Campaign to Raising Hate Crime Awareness

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) recently launched a nationwide campaign to increase awareness of hate crimes and encourage victims and witnesses of hate-related crimes to report them to law enforcement. To complement this effort, the FBI Sacramento Field Office has placed print ads in several locally owned community publications and placed Spanish language radio public service ads throughout its 34-county area of responsibility in partnership with the California Broadcasters Association. The print ads include a QR code that immediately routes viewers to the FBI Civil Rights Program web page to offer more detail about hate crimes and additional resources, <https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/civil-rights/hate-crimes>.

“Our local campaign represents an investment in the communities we serve and enhances our continuing outreach and education efforts throughout our territory,” said Special Agent in Charge Sean Ragan of the FBI Sacramento Field Office. “No member of our community, regardless of background or immigration status, should be victimized by bias-motivated threats or violence. When those crimes do occur, they deserve response and action. We encourage victims to come forward and report all incidents to

disability, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity. Hate crimes are a high priority for the FBI because of the intended, devastating impact such crimes have on entire communities.

As the lead investigative agency for criminal violations of federal civil rights statutes, the FBI partners with local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement to ensure a thorough investigation of the facts of alleged crimes, even if federal charges are

not ultimately pursued. The FBI is committed to protecting all victims of federal crimes, regardless of immigration status.

The criminal aspect of the offense is an important element. Hate itself, while hurtful and offensive, is not a crime—and the FBI is mindful of protecting freedom of speech and other civil liberties while ensuring the safety of all

communities it serves.

“While hateful speech is largely protected, a threat is an example of speech—written or spoken—that may cross the line and be a criminal offense,” clarified Ragan.

The FBI released “Hate Crime Statistics, 2020” in August. The release and report is available via the following link: <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/fbi-releases-2020-hate-crime-statistics>.

To learn more about federal hate crime statutes and state hate crime laws, visit the United States Department of Justice website at <https://www.justice.gov/hatecrimes/laws-and-policies>



law enforcement. In order to protect our communities, we also encourage witnesses and concerned citizens ant potential hate crimes.”

Victims and witnesses of hate crimes are encouraged to report the crime to the FBI by calling 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324) or submitting a tip online at tips.fbi.gov. Tips may be submitted anonymously.

A federal hate crime is defined as a criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender’s bias against a race, religion,



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The Huge Tax Subsidy Given to the Castrocreepers - Are They That Pretty?

OP Ed by Philip A. Behrens

San Francisco is a city begging for high-density housing. It has a dedicated water supply, two bridges, is located on the Pacific Ocean with a deep bay, is a maze of converging highways, and has several rail lines, including Amtrak, Bart, and MUNI. By any stretch of the imagination, it should have very high-density housing as a matter of both equity and efficiency. Who are the players that fund the infrastructure? The federal taxpayer, the state taxpayer, and the local taxpayer all deserve a say in the property taxation of San Francisco as they have all funded the complicated and expensive infrastructure of the city.

Housing-density has become more of a public issue as of late in the effort to reduce greenhouse gases and reduce energy use to battle climate change. Aside from the benefits to the climate of reduced greenhouse gases and reduced energy usage brought about by high-density housing, higher density housing in San Francisco would enable more people to walk to work and therefore make more people happier and healthier. When I worked in San Francisco, I walked to work, it was a joy! I had excellent health as I walked to work each day, thus getting exercise even if I skipped the gym. When my co-workers complained about the long drive or the crowded trains filled with coughing people, I remained quiet, giving silent thanks for my situation. I want the young gay people of today to have this same benefit.

The density of housing near transit centers is now a matter of public policy in California. The recent laws signed by Gov. Newsome to increase housing density are a paltry attempt to rectify a problem that has grown worse with each passing year. Senate Bill 10, authored by Castro Creeper political leader State Senator Scott Weiner, is one of the three recently signed bills. Of the three Senate Bills, Senate Bill 10 wins the prize for disingenuousness. This bill allows localities, only if they should so choose, to replace a single-family home with up to 10 units of housing. How clever of State Senator Weiner to make the housing provision entirely voluntary! The Castrocreepers have not seen fit to increase housing density in the Castro since at least 1970 so I am not going out on a limb when I say that State Senator Weiner has set up the hoity-toity lah-de-dah snooty snoots of Castrocreepersociety for another 50

years of exclusionary multi-colored Victorian mansions. Hip, hip, hurray for the Castrocreepers!

It shows the power of the Castrocreepers and the skill of their leader State Senator Scott Weiner that San Francisco has Victorian mansions within walking or biking distance of the downtown. I am sure that the Creepers feel very self-satisfied about doing their share to combat global warming while biking to work on their \$5000 Trek bicycles after leaving their multi-colored Victorian mansions for the day.

Young gay people look to San Francisco for various things. Some may look to it as a refuge from places like Wyoming, where Matthew Shepard was beaten and crucified on a fence in the middle of a cold winter and left to die and others may look to it as a gay-friendly economic powerhouse to play out their career dreams. San Francisco was a delightful city to live and work in when I arrived in 1980 and it still is. However, the structure of the property tax system and other factors have limited the supply of housing and therefore made it so expensive that most people have been priced out of the city.

I am sure that the Castrocreepers have much more important things to be concerned about than young gays seeking refuge in San Francisco. For example, while they are oblivious to climate change when the issue of housing in their own neighborhood comes up, they are very concerned about climate change when it comes to making it easier for themselves to ride their \$5000 Trek bicycles to work. In addition to climate change, there are other issues, such as how to properly address people based on their perceived gender

preference. I am sure that Matthew Shepard would not have cared about how he was addressed and would have been happy to have an outstretched hand welcome him to San Francisco at the point when his crucifixion began. I would even venture to say that he would have accepted living in an apartment building that was not painted five different coordinated colors. The Castrocreepers would blithely point out that now you can get married to a man in Wyoming, but I see Wyoming as becoming safe for gay people at least not for another 200 years, if ever, despite the passing of laws and court rulings. Do the Castrocreepers think that the murderers of Matthew Shepard would have followed the passing of pro-gay laws and pro-gay court rulings?

So, we have a gay refugee issue, how can we lower the cost of housing in San Francisco? We can begin by ending the subsidization of the Castrocreepers through the property tax system. We can do this by changing the local property tax system from an assessed value basis to a flat charge best use basis to disallow the heavy subsidies that are paid to Castrocreepersociety.

How much do we subsidize the Castrocreepers? The real estate website Redfin states that the average price of a home in the Castro neighborhood is \$2.15M. At a current property tax rate of 1.1801%, the annual tax bill is \$25,372 (\$2,150,000 x %1.1801 = \$25,372). If the city of San Francisco taxed property based on the flat charge best use assessment method, we would find that the Castrocreepers are very heavily subsidized indeed compared to the assessed value method of taxation used

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A Queer Caravan To Celebrate Pride In Placer County

Photo and Text By Chris Allan

For the second year in a row, Placer County held a Pride caravan drive on September 19th. The caravan was longer than last year to increase its visibility, starting in Roseville's Vernon Street, then heading over to the Galleria, and up into Rocklin on Stanford Ranch Road. The group had approximately 17 vehicles festooned with colorful flags, decorations and signs. While the planning committee had hoped to have an in-person festival this year, the caravan was held instead, out of COVID concerns. "We're really adaptable, and good at creating space for ourselves in very turbulent times," said biqueer committee member Mollie Murbach.



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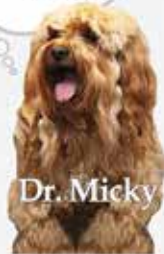
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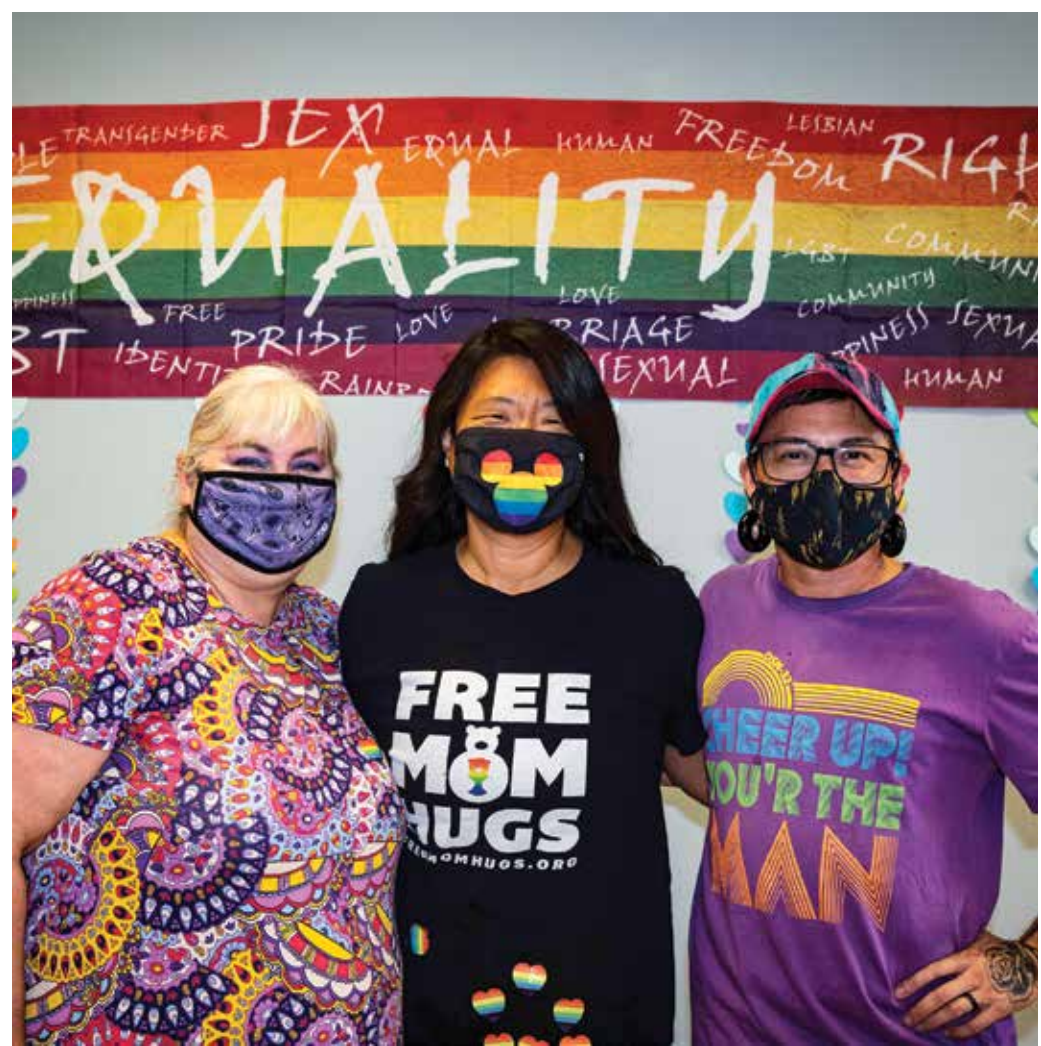
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Merced Center Shows Its Pride

Photo and Text By Chris Allan

Merced's second annual downtown Pride may have been cancelled this September (due to COVID concerns), but the month-old Pride Center is already planning upcoming brunch and board game events for the area's queer community. Eli Sachse, the "trans dude" and registered nurse who founded the center, says it evolved out of the transbi support group he started three years ago. "I want this to be a central place to find out about all the events and support," he explains. Sachse notes that Merced's City Council voted to hang the Pride flag for the first time this year during the month of June, and they are also going to help fiscally sponsor the Center, along with the Multicultural Center where the Pride Center is located. Sachse notes that the Merced community in general has been very supportive.



Cristina, Jennifer and Eli pose inside Merced's Pride Center

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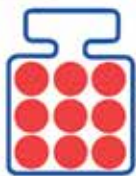
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The First Gay Bar in Palm Springs to be Celebrated as 2021 Community Grand Marshal of Palm Springs Pride Parade

Greater Palm Springs Pride announced today the Community Grand Marshal for the annual Greater Palm Springs Pride Parade is the pioneering Arenas Road business Streetbar. The Pride organization recognizes a Community Grand Marshal, to symbolically lead the parade, for having a positive impact in the region. Streetbar is honored as a community steward for its work supporting organizations and fundraising efforts that span 30 years.



Streetbar,
Palm Springs

In August 1991, Streetbar was the first Gay bar in Palm Springs and is now the longest-running LGBTQ bar in the Coachella Valley. When Dick Haskamp and Hank Morgan, founders of Streetbar, opened on Arenas Road, they paved the way for the Arenas Road business district. Arenas Road is recognized as the gay neighborhood and hub of LGBTQ-friendly nightlife and shopping in Palm Springs.

Streetbar has a longstanding tradition of bringing the community together with unique events. Since its opening, the staff and customers of Streetbar have raised funds for local charities, including the Aids Assistance Program (AAP), The LGBTQ Community Center of the Desert (The Center), and the Palm Springs Animal Shelter. For many years, the organizations benefited from Streetbar's two major fundraising events, the Holiday Wreath Auction and the ArtWall Project.

Dick Haskamp passed away on March 4, 2018, however his vision of charity work as a core value of Streetbar continues. Ron deHarte, president of Greater Palm Springs Pride, said, "As Streetbar celebrates their 30th Anniversary, Palm Springs is fortunate that Dick's legacy of philanthropy and community support lives on. I think he would be beaming with pride along with a visible teardrop or two, seeing Streetbar today. We are delighted to honor Streetbar for embracing and supporting the local community."

David Farnsworth, current co-owner of Streetbar, reminisced, "Dick always said it was the best staff, a good drink and a friendly atmosphere that garnered Streetbar

the loyal customers and its great success." Farnsworth added, "Even after a difficult and treacherous past year, what remains clear is the remarkable people that stand behind that bar every day providing a friendly smile and excellent service, as well as the longtime behind-the-scenes support staff that clean, maintain the bar, and keep things moving that have made it possible for Streetbar to prevail and persevere for 30 years."

The Pride Parade on Sunday, November 7, will celebrate Streetbar as Community Grand Marshal. The parade is a free community event and steps off on N. Palm Canyon Drive at E. Tachevah Drive at 10:00 a.m.

About Greater Palm Springs Pride

Greater Palm Springs Pride (www.pspride.org) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community enhancement organization founded to promote the public education and awareness of individual rights and civil liberties of the LGBTQ community and to promote its history, diversity, and future prosperity. Palm Springs Pride has been a tireless advocate for equality and diversity since the first Coachella Valley Pride event in 1986.

The organization brings together diverse communities through programs that include the Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast, Pride Honors Awards, OUT PSP, OUTstanding Voices Palm Springs, the Pride Parade, Pride Festival, Cesar Chavez Breakfast, and the Community Leadership Council.

Palm Springs Pride Week is scheduled for November 1-7, 2021. For more information about Greater Palm Springs Pride, visit www.pspride.org. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/palmsprings.pride.



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Book Review: "A Tale of Two Omars" by Omar Sharif Jr

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You always wanted to make your mark. There'd be no footstep-following in your life. You'd carve your own path, select your own adventures, seize the opportunities that appealed to you, and blaze trails for the sake of others' journeys. You'd take the best of those you knew and loved, and you'd go your own way. As in the new memoir, "A Tale of Two Omars" by Omar Sharif, Jr., you'll also make your own mistakes.



Omar Sharif Jr.

Born into a family that had ties on several continents, Omar Sharif, Jr. never had to worry about money or a place to live. On one side of the family - his maternal side - the Holocaust left a mark on his mother's parents, who'd barely escaped the concentration camps. On the other side, Sharif's paternal grandparents were both famous and beloved actors with roots in Egypt. Sharif was close with his entire family, but particularly with his grandfather, Omar Sharif.

Sharif recalls many a dinner party, listening, while his grandfather held court at dinner, laughing and telling stories. Everyone, everything seemed so elegant and refined and those meals showed Sharif a life that he could have if he wanted it. As time passed, the lessons he received were paid back: he was one of the few allowed to help his grandfather as Alzheimer's took hold at the end of the great actor's life.

But this is not a story of a famous actor or a grandfather. It's the story of a man who's not just half-Jewish and Egyptian. He's also gay, a part of himself that Sharif kept hidden until well into adulthood, although he says that other children must've sensed it when he was young. It was a part of himself that he feared revealing to his father. It helped him land a dream job that ultimately became a

nightmare.

The title of this book - "A Tale of Two Omars" - is a bit of a misnomer. Judging by what author Omar Sharif Jr. writes here, there are several Omars: the activist; a globe-hopper; a son and grandson; a writer; and a grandfather whose life was impactful but who has a surprisingly small footprint in this book.

Which is not to say that readers will like them all.

Indeed, parts of this book may seem as though you've read them before: bullied as a child, fear of coming out, the college revelation, the mismatched first love. Those ubiquitous bits are here, but they pale in comparison to Sharif's ultra-urbane life and the hair-raising, terrifying account of getting and getting out of what seemed like the ultimate job with a wealthy sheikh, a job that slowly grew dangerous. That story-within-a-story is so edgy, so mouth-drying, that you'll throw away the thriller you bought last week.

Then there's the part about his life-threatening activism, a tale that starts and ends this book...

And so beware at the unevenness of this memoir, but understand that the tedium doesn't linger. Skip past the ho-humness of "A Tale of Two Omars" and the rest is remarkable.

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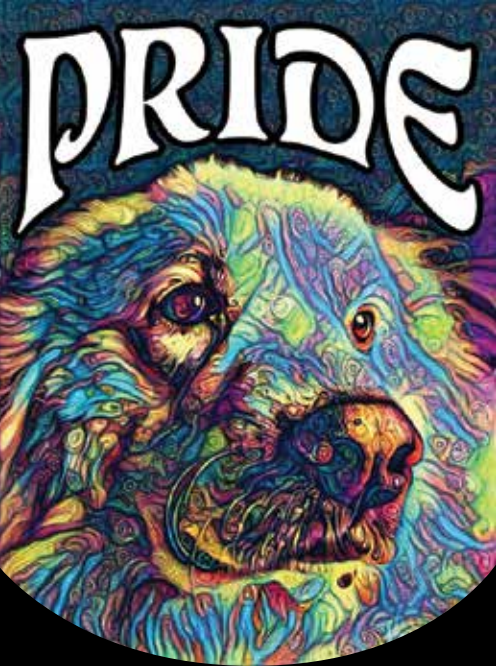
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Outdoor Movies, Ice Skating, & More...Family-Favorite Activations Return To Downtown Sacramento

With the fall and holiday seasons quickly approaching, plans are in place for a fun, festive and fully reimagined holiday season in downtown Sacramento. After pausing for a season in 2020, the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink and Theatre of Lights are back, adding to Downtown Sacramento Partnership's impressive lineup of holiday events. Movies Under the Stars was launched by the organization in 2020 and will be back this year, moving from Ali Youssefi Square to the Old Sacramento Waterfront.

Being able to bring back the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink and Theatre of Lights this year is really special," said Michael Ault, Executive Director for Downtown Sacramento Partnership. "We're also excited to be bringing our Movies Under the Stars event to its new home at the Old Sacramento Waterfront!"

"Movies Under the Stars" returns in October

Thursday evenings this October, "Movies under the Stars" are back! This year, downtown visitors and residents can enjoy a series of outdoor family-friendly spooky movies at the Old Sacramento State Historic Park (111 I Street). Presented by Xfinity in partnership with California State Parks Capita District and the California State Railroad Museum, attendees are encouraged to arrive early and order

Ice Rink tickets are \$6 for kids 6 and under, \$13 per skater during regular hours, and \$15 per skater during holiday hours. More information on daily hours and special events can be available at GoDowntownSac.com/icerink.

Theatre of Lights (November 24 - December 24)

To add to the winter festivities and



The Downtown Ice Rink

takeout from the surrounding businesses. A full list of open businesses at the Old Sacramento Waterfront can be found at OldSacramento.com.

The 2021 "Movies Under the Stars" line-up is as follows:

- October 7 at 7 p.m.: Original Ghostbusters
- October 14 at 7 p.m.: Clue
- October 21 at 7 p.m.: Hocus Pocus
- October 28 at 7 p.m.: The Haunted Mansion

Movie tickets are \$10 each, or \$40 for a group of four, including a complimentary blanket. Tickets can be purchased at GoDowntownSac.com. Attendees must bring their photo ID and QR ticket confirmation to receive headphones to enjoy the movie.

Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink returns November 11

The Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink, the region's oldest and most beloved outdoor rink, will open on Veterans Day (November 11, 2021) at Ali Youssefi Square (7th and K streets) in downtown Sacramento. Located steps away from the Golden 1 Center and DOCO (Downtown Commons), the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink will be open Tuesday through Sunday through January 16, 2022.

continue the spirited holiday tradition for thousands of families throughout the region, the annual Theatre of Lights show will return to the Old Sacramento Waterfront this season. Presented by Dignity Health, Theatre of Lights was conceived and created by Stage Nine Entertainment's Troy Carlson and is produced by some of California's finest talents in the field of light and sound: BP Productions, Associated Sound and Skywalker Sound, and Emmy-nominated voice actor Bill Farmer, the voice of Disney's Goofy. Theatre of Lights artfully blends the historic charm of the Old Sacramento Waterfront state-of-the-art sound and lighting technology to create a memorable holiday experience for visitors of all ages.

The electrifying and family-friendly holiday show will debut on Wednesday, November 24 (Thanksgiving Eve) immediately following the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at Front & K Streets at 6 p.m. After the debut night, two 20-minute performances are offered on Thursdays through Sundays at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (with the exception of Thanksgiving Day when no performances are scheduled). Additional performances are scheduled for Tuesday, December 21 and Wednesday, December 22. Find more information about Theatre of Lights at GoDowntownSac.com.

For more information about Downtown Sacramento Partnership, please visit www.DowntownSac.org.

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Local Museums Offer Fun Halloween-Related Activities in October

In addition to its fascinating Gold Rush past, the greater Sacramento area is rich with an amazing array of state-of-the-art museums and historic sites that offer visitors the chance to explore California's fine art, history, science, and wildlife treasures all year long. This fall, and with safety measures in place, many members of Sacramento Area Museums (SAM) are offering fun Halloween and harvest-related events and activities.



A sampling of the spirited activities is below (but please check with the various museums and/or destinations for other events and more detailed information):

“Spookomotive” Train Rides at the Railroad Museum – October 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 & 31

All aboard for some Halloween fun at the Old Sacramento Waterfront! Guests of all ages will enjoy diesel-powered “Spookomotive” train rides aboard a whimsically decorated train crawling with spiders, cobwebs and cornstalks while staffed with an entertaining “skeleton crew.” Plus, train ride guests are encouraged to dress in costume during themed weekends: Superheroes & Villains (October 9-10), Pirates & Princesses (October 16-17), Witches & Wizards (October 23-24) and Superheroes & Villains (October 30-31). For more, visit www.californiarailroad.museum/events/spookomotive-train-ride.

34th Annual Safe & Super Halloween at Fairytale Town – October 16, 17, 23 & 24

Kids – and the young-at-heart accompanying them – can enjoy four days of family-friendly fun at the 34th Annual Safe & Super Halloween at Fairytale Town. The always popular Halloween extravaganza features treat-or-treating, treat stations, a costume parade, hands-on activities, and lots of spirited fun. For more information and advance tickets, please visit www.fairytaletown.org/calendar/halloween-2021-10-23/

Pumpkins and Planes Halloween at the Air Park – October 30

The community is invited to celebrate Halloween early with Amelia Bearhart and friends at the Aerospace Museum of California from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the huge open air outdoor Air Park. Guests can fly on by for trick-or-treating, music, Halloween-themed activities, and games for the whole family. For advance tickets, please visit www.aerospaceca.org/event/pumpkins-and-planes/.

Monster Mash at the Crocker Art Museum – October 30

To kick off a thrilling Halloween weekend, costumed kiddos and their grownups are invited to the Crocker Art Museum to experience a participatory Monster Mash performance full of amazement and artistic inspiration! Following the performance, guests are encouraged to explore the galleries with a Halloween-inspired scavenger hunt, take a festive family portrait, and discover a magical surprise or two. An interactive gift bag full of non-edible treats will be included with every child's ticket. For advance registration and tickets, please visit www.crockerart.org/event/2764/2021-10-30.

Trick-or-Treat Daytime Halloween Activities at the Children's Museum – October 31

Calling all boos and ghouls, visit the Sacramento Children's Museum for a fun day of trick-or-treating featuring multiple candy stations, outside play, art activities and more! The event is free, but the Museum is welcoming donations of new or gently used children's books for their lending library. Capacity is limited and advance registration is required by visiting www.sackids.org/trick-or-treat-at-scm/.

Movies Under the Stars: at the Old Sacramento Waterfront – Thursdays in October

The Old Sacramento Waterfront is always a great place to enjoy the spookiest time of the year! For a haunting good time, the community is invited to experience Movies Under the Stars presented by Xfinity in partnership with California State Parks Capital District and the California State Railroad Museum every Thursday evening in October. Movies will take place outdoors at the Old Sacramento State Historic Park and include “Original Ghostbusters” (October 7), “Clue” (October 14), “Hocus Pocus” (October 21) and “The Haunted Mansion” (October 28). For advance tickets, please visit <https://downtownsacramentpartnership.ticketspice.com/movies-under-the-stars>.



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Halloween Horror In The Bay Area

by Chris Narloch

Nobody does Halloween like the drag queens, and the proof is this year's hair-raising haunted house at the imposing San Francisco Mint building, where Bay Area drag legend Peaches Christ and her 'partners in crime' are presenting "The Immortal Reckoning," a diabolical new supernatural adventure.

After that tantalizing taste of terror, you can drive over to San Jose and celebrate All Hallows Eve at the Winchester Mystery House. Read on for all the gory details.



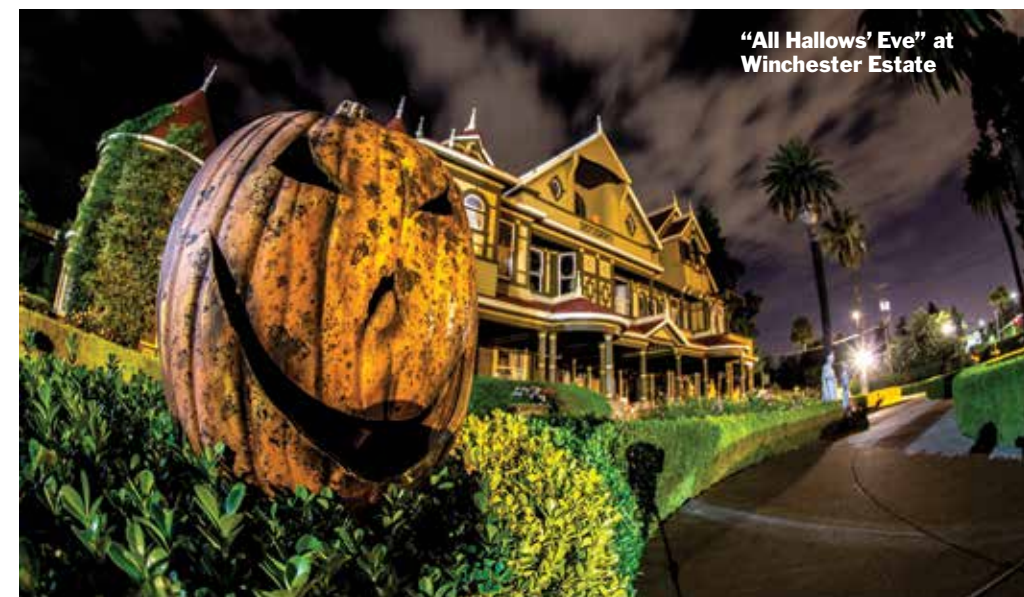
Photo courtesy of "The Immortal Reckoning"

The Immortal Reckoning

Into The Dark's latest scary scream-fest returns to San Francisco's creepy Old Mint this year for an immersive, 45-minute walking tour that includes monsters, mad nuns, human sacrifice and much, much more.

The dungeon-like space features neon-lit rooms and a new bar, the Fang Bang, where you can enjoy creepy cocktails surrounded by the undead. (You may need a drink or two before you brave this immersive haunted house, which continues through Oct. 31st.)

You'll travel up and down the Mint's spooky staircases, through possessed passageways and into chilling chambers during this adults-only haunted tour. For tickets, visit www.intothedarksf.com



"All Hallows' Eve" at Winchester Estate

Winchester Mystery House

If you've never been to the Winchester Mystery House, a sprawling, spectral tourist attraction that was once home to Sarah Winchester, heir to the Winchester gun fortune, Halloween is the perfect time to visit.

The famous haunted house is much spookier after dark, and you can check out a new seasonal special event being offered there on select autumn nights through Halloween.

"All Hallows' Eve" features the Lost In The House Tour, an indoor theatrical paranormal investigative adventure, and as an added bonus, the family-friendly Jack O' Lantern Trail through the Victorian gardens.

"All Hallows' Eve" continues through Oct. 31 at the Winchester Mystery House. For more information, go to www.winchestermysteryhouse.com

Grrl Power On Local Stages

by Chris Narloch

Local live theatre is back, with Broadway Sacramento, Capital Stage, B Street Theatre, and Sacramento Theatre Company all up and running again, after lengthy shutdowns due to COVID.

This is a blessing for theater queens like me, for whom that long dry spell was torture. I am happy to say I am planning a theatre trip to NYC for the first time in several years, and I look forward to many terrific local productions this fall and next year.

Read on for information about two current plays here in town, one at B Street Theatre and the other at Sacramento Theatre Company. Both are stories of feisty females.

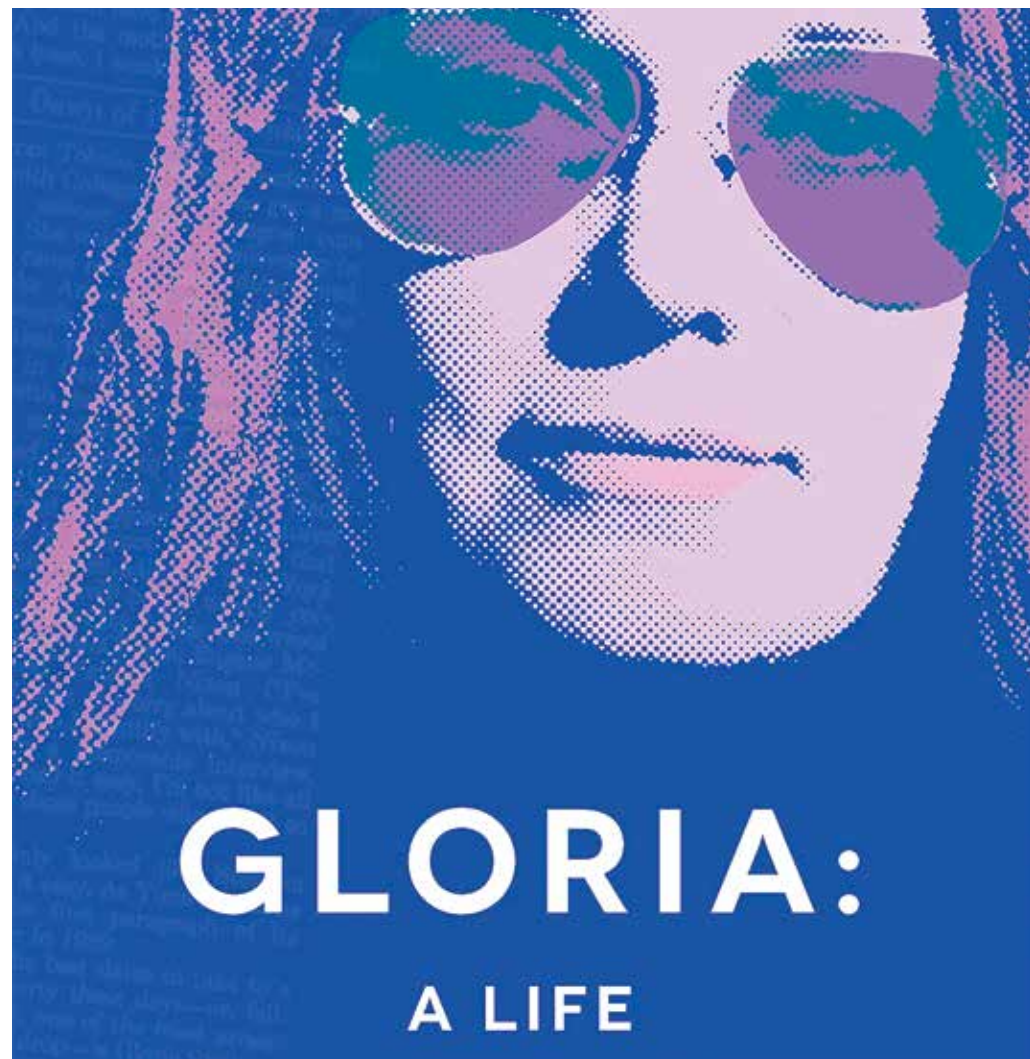
Dance Nation

Clare Barron's play, currently on stage at The Sofia -- the new home of B Street Theatre -- has much to recommend it: a talented, diverse cast, some very funny and profane dialogue, and important themes involving solidarity and sisterhood.

Why then was I left cold by this pedigreed play about a pre-teen, competitive dance troupe hoping to claw their way to the top at Nationals in Tampa Bay? Perhaps it's because the play, as with "The Wolves," a similar work from a few years back, doesn't really amount to much.

I didn't have a problem with the cast purposely looking too old for their roles, but the characters in "Dance Nation" also speak in language that feels beyond their years. The lack of a traditional dramatic structure, with a beginning, middle and end, was another red flag for an admirer, like me, of 'old-fashioned' multi-act plays.

To be fair, a 57-year-old male like me probably wasn't the target audience for "Dance Nation" so you may want to make up your own mind about this highly acclaimed play, which runs through Oct. 24th. Visit <https://bstreettheatre.org>



Gloria: A Life

I was unable to review this new production before our deadline, but Emily Mann's play has a fascinating subject and a great lead in local actress Jamie Jones.

"Gloria: A Life" is described as "a profoundly detailed tapestry about one of the most inspiring and astonishing women of our time, Gloria Steinem, who continues her activism today by remaining a major voice for equality."

The blurb on STC's website goes on to say that the play "is one part a historical voyage of her over 50 years of activism, one part an intimate and interactive lightning bolt which ignites a social conversation between actors and audience."

Making its regional premiere, this timely 2019 theatrical phenomenon aims to leave you empowered and awestruck. "Gloria: A Life" continues through this Oct. 24. For more info, go to www.sactheatre.org

For more live theater options, please visit www.sacramento365.com



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AGT Hunk Kameron Ross Plays Palm Springs

By Chris Narloch

Kameron Ross



Sex sells in the music industry, and that's why the talented gay singer Kameron Ross is stripped down to his skivvies to promote his first Palm Springs engagement. The queer country cutie performs this Oct. 14 at Oscar's Palm Springs, after wowing the judges on season 15 of America's Got Talent during the summer of 2020. Here's hoping the hunky Mr. Ross makes his way to Northern California soon. Read more about him at www.kameronross.com

Jake Wesley Rogers Opens for Ben Platt

By Chris Narloch

Jake Wesley Rogers is the lucky artist who gets to open for Ben Platt during Mr. Platt's 2022 Reverie Tour, which begins next February in Florida. Mr. Rogers, who is 24, came out as gay to his family in 6th grade and is clearly inspired by performers like Lady Gaga and David Bowie. He recently sold out LA's famed Troubadour, and he will share the bill with Ben Platt next April when the pair perform live in San Francisco and other cities across the U.S. Check out those platform shoes, and check out Jake's debut EP Pluto, now available via Facet Records/Warner Records. For more information about this talented singer-songwriter-musician, go to www.jakewesleyrogers.com



Jake Wesley Rogers

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“Evil Dead The Musical” Returns To Folsom

By Chris Narloch

Tickets are going very fast for the 11th annual production of “Evil Dead The Musical” at Folsom’s Sutter Street Theatre, where you can sit in the ‘splatter zone’ if you want to get covered in fake blood during the show. The off-Broadway musical version of Sam Raimi’s classic “Evil Dead” films is goofy good fun, and the Sutter Street Theatre production plays through Oct. 31. To find out if there are any tickets left, visit <https://sutterstreettheatre.com>



Cast photo by Allen Schmeltz from the 2018 production of Evil Dead The Musical.

Are You A Belieber? Well, Diane Keaton Is...

By Chris Narloch

Ever since they met a few years back on Ellen’s talk show, Diane Keaton has been anything but shy about her crush on Justin Bieber, and that’s probably why the pair are starring together in the surprisingly moving new music video for his song “Ghost.” Bieber asked the Oscar-winner to play his grandmother in the clip, which is a poignant mini-movie about a grandson missing his grandfather and helping his grandmother move on with her life. The two performers, who share a wonderfully wacky fashion sense, even do shots and dance together in a bar in the video. “Ghost” is one of the best songs on Bieber’s current album, and you can check out its video here:



Diane and Justin. Photo: Rory Kramer

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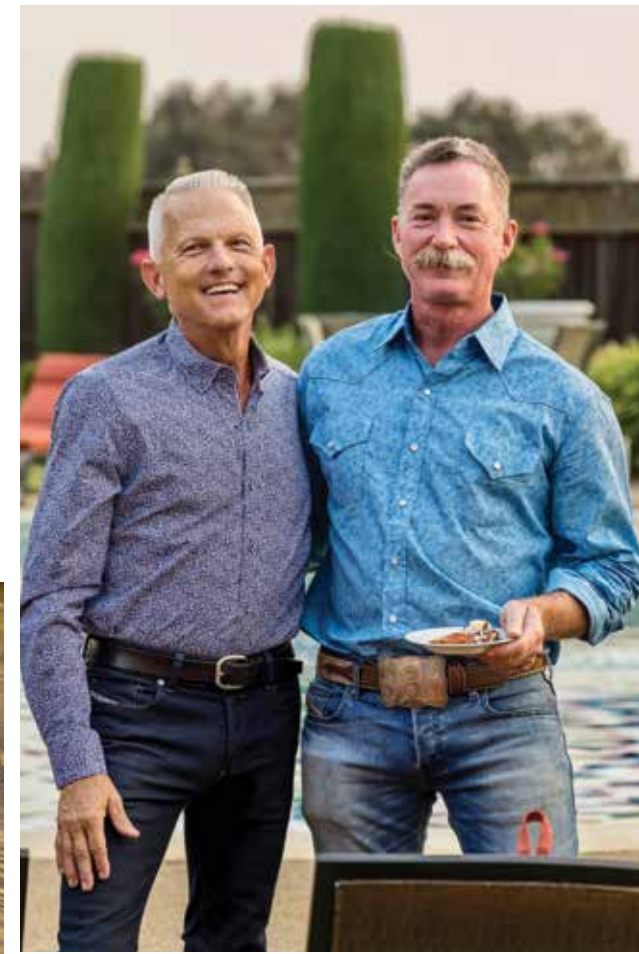




Rainbow Chamber Foundation would like to extend a big thank you to all who were able to attend last month's Farm 2 Scholar VIP Dinner. We can hardly believe this year marked our 7th annual event! We had a fantastic (sold-out!) crowd in attendance, all in the name of supporting the Rainbow Chamber Foundation Scholarship Program. And of course, thank you to the generous sponsors and vendors who helped make this year's dinner a success.

There was amazing food by Lenise Cafe and lovely beverages by Willamette Wineworks and Tahoe Blue Vodka. This event was a vaccination required-event to attend.

Photos by Joan Cusick
www.joancusick.com





CA Museum: Your Destination for Dia de Los Muertos

By Chris Narloch



"Carmela" by John S. Huerta, courtesy of the Perez Flores family.

Sacramento's CA Museum has a fun series of events planned around Dia de Los Muertos (Day of The Dead) this year, starting with their brand new exhibition, "Dia de Los Muertos 2021: Espiritus Creativos de California" ("Day of The Dead 2021: Creative Spirits of California").

That new exhibition honors creative Californians, including Eazy-E, Carrie Fisher, Ishi, Charles M. Schulz and John Steinbeck, through altars and original work by five NorCal artists (Roberta Alvarado, Francisco Franco, John Hancock and Juan Ramos of John Juan Art, John S. Huerta and I Love Sugar Skulls' Rob-O).

"Día de Los Muertos 2021: Espiritus Creativos de California" is the Museum's seventh exhibition exploring the Mexican cultural tradition of honoring lost loved ones -- on Nov. 1 and 2 each year -- through the display of "altares de muertos" (altars of the dead) adorned with "calaveras de azúcar" (sugar skulls) and "ofrendas" (offerings)

A festive and social occasion, the annual cultural tradition welcomes the return of those who have died and recognizes the cycles of life and death. Developed from ancient traditions of the Aztecs, the ritual has evolved over 3,000 years to become part of modern-day California's culture, where celebrations take place each year in cities across the state.

On view through Nov. 7, 2021, "Día de Los Muertos 2021: Espiritus Creativos de California" also features an adjacent Community Altar where visitors can remember deceased friends and family.

Other events related to the new exhibition include a Dia de Los Muertos Fiesta that includes live music and an artists' discussion on Oct. 21, a sugar skulls workshop on Oct. 23, plus the ongoing Dia de Los Muertos 2020 Online Exhibition.

For more information, please visit www.californiamuseum.org/dia-de-los-muertos-2021

To learn about many other fun arts events happening locally, go to www.sacramento365.com



Photo by Warren Du Preez and Nick Thornton Jones

Björk Announces New Cornucopia Dates For 2022

Iceland's greatest musical export, the one and only Bjork, recently announced her return to live performing after a COVID break, and the even better news is that her upcoming tour will bring her to San Francisco for a pair of dates at the Chase Center, in early Feb. 2022. Critics have raved about Bjork's Cornucopia concerts, produced with an award-winning team of digital and theatrical collaborators and based off her 2017 album "Utopia." If you have never seen this artistic genius live, you don't know what you're missing. Get your tickets before they're gone at www.ticketmaster.com/bjork-tickets/artist/753508



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Elvira 'Comes Out' With A New Book

By Chris Narloch



Just in time for Halloween, Cassandra Peterson (aka Elvira Mistress of the Dark) has released a new memoir in which she reveals details of her 19-year relationship with a woman. The busy horror movie hostess, actress and writer met her female partner – a fitness trainer – while Peterson was still married to a man, and the rest is herstory! Read all about that relationship and Peterson’s unique life and career in “Yours Cruelly, Elvira,” a tantalizing tell-all by the ultimate sexy scream queen, who is now – can you believe it? – 70 years old.



Cassandra Peterson

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Because of the continuing trauma being caused by COVID, many of our advertisers are doing everything they can to stay afloat - that includes Outword Magazine. At the onset of the pandemic we changed our distribution model to an online-only affair. That helped us weather the storm, but we have since returned to both online as well traditional, printed copies. Thankfully, the response we have received after returning to print has been fantastic!

Once again we are asking that you, our readers and advertisers help us with a contribution that will be used to help keep the presses rolling. This money will assist with publishing costs, both in print and online, and help pay our staff, distribution costs and a few of our writers, among other things.

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Sacramento Celebrates Trans Visibility

Photos and text by Chris Allan

On Saturday, October 9, 2021, Sacramento celebrated National Trans Visibility Day at Crocker Park with a program that included a variety of community organizations and local residents.

For the first time since the march started in 2019, the event was held outside of Washington D.C. The organization chose Orlando as the primary host city this year, but also added several satellite cities, including New York, Atlanta, Chicago, and Sacramento.

Organizer Lauren Pulido, Executive Director of Sacramento's Gender Health Center, said they connected with the national organizers. "We told them that Sacramento as the capital of California would help spread out the visibility, that it includes rural and urban communities and not just the big cities."

The program included a Native American land acknowledgement, various speakers and spoken word artists, the Bluyrose Dancers, and awards to local activists and organizers.

Ebony Harper, Executive Director of California TRANScends, won the Torch Award. The award is the national organization's prize for honoring individuals whose work shows distinguished achievement in impacting TGNC (transgender and non-conforming) communities.

"People don't know how hard it is to be trans in this world," Harper said, acknowledging the other black trans women on stage with her.

"This is historic... to have four black trans girls on the same stage that have survived so many things that you would never, ever imagine."



Ebony Harper and Friends at Trans Visibility Day Sacramento



Proud Mom at Trans Visibility Day Sacramento

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Castrocreeper

continued from page 4

today. For example, based on a best use assessment method, I would conservatively rate any residential lot within a mile of the Castro District MUNI Station as capable of supporting a 25-story building. The Castro neighborhood is a hilly area, and I would rate the higher elevations of the Castro at taller heights, perhaps 50 stories, for the heights of the buildings to follow the slope of the hills. This is so that the neighborhood would be more pleasing aesthetically as the buildings would follow the natural slope of the land. But let us leave aside the issue of varying building heights for now for the purpose of keeping our example simple.

Even at a 25-story height limit we find that the subsidies paid to Castrocreepersociety are incredibly high. To present an example for the purpose of illustration, we will use a fixed height of 25 floors. Based on one unit per floor for a 25-story building, we arrive at a figure of \$634,304 that would be collected in property taxes from a Castro residential building lot based on a best use assessment basis ($\$2,150,000 \times 25 \text{ floors} \times 1.1801\% = \$634,304$). From the total tax of \$634,304 collected under the best use method, subtract the annual bill of \$25,372 on the same sized lot taxed at the current assessed value basis and you get a whopping \$608,932 subsidy. Wow! Even I am amazed at the good tax deal the Creepers are getting.

So, to sum up, I am proposing that any residential lot within one mile of the Castro MUNI Station be taxed at a flat charge of \$634,304. The tax would be for a standard lot, double lots would be charged double the single residential lot charge. The tax change would reward the inclusion of more housing units on lots and encourage those who wanted an Atherton style house on their lot to move to Atherton.

For example, if we take one floor of our 25-story building and divide it into two units, the owner of each unit would pay \$12,686 in taxes, half of the \$25,372 charge for the Castrocreeper mansion. Under the best use assessment method, the city of San Francisco would be getting \$634,300 ($\$12,686 \times 2 \text{ units per floor} \times 25 \text{ floors} = \$634,300$) from this lot instead of the \$25,372 it receives under the assessed value method. There is a \$4 difference from \$634,304 figure in the above paragraph due to rounding.

The city of San Francisco would get so much more money under the flat charge best use system of taxing property that they would wonder why they had not moved the Castrocreepers to Atherton years ago. If we split each floor into 2 units of 1500 square feet each, the property tax for the homeowner would be 50% of the Castrocreeper payment of \$25,372 for a Victorian mansion, improving housing affordability. Fifteen hundred square feet is a very generously sized apartment. This is all based on an average residential building lot size of 3000 square feet. As we shall see in the following paragraph, the room to increase affordability would grow even more based on the total revenue stream to the city increasing by 25-fold under the fixed charge best use system.

How much would the revenue stream grow? Let us look at the difference in revenue streams based on a sample of 100 residential

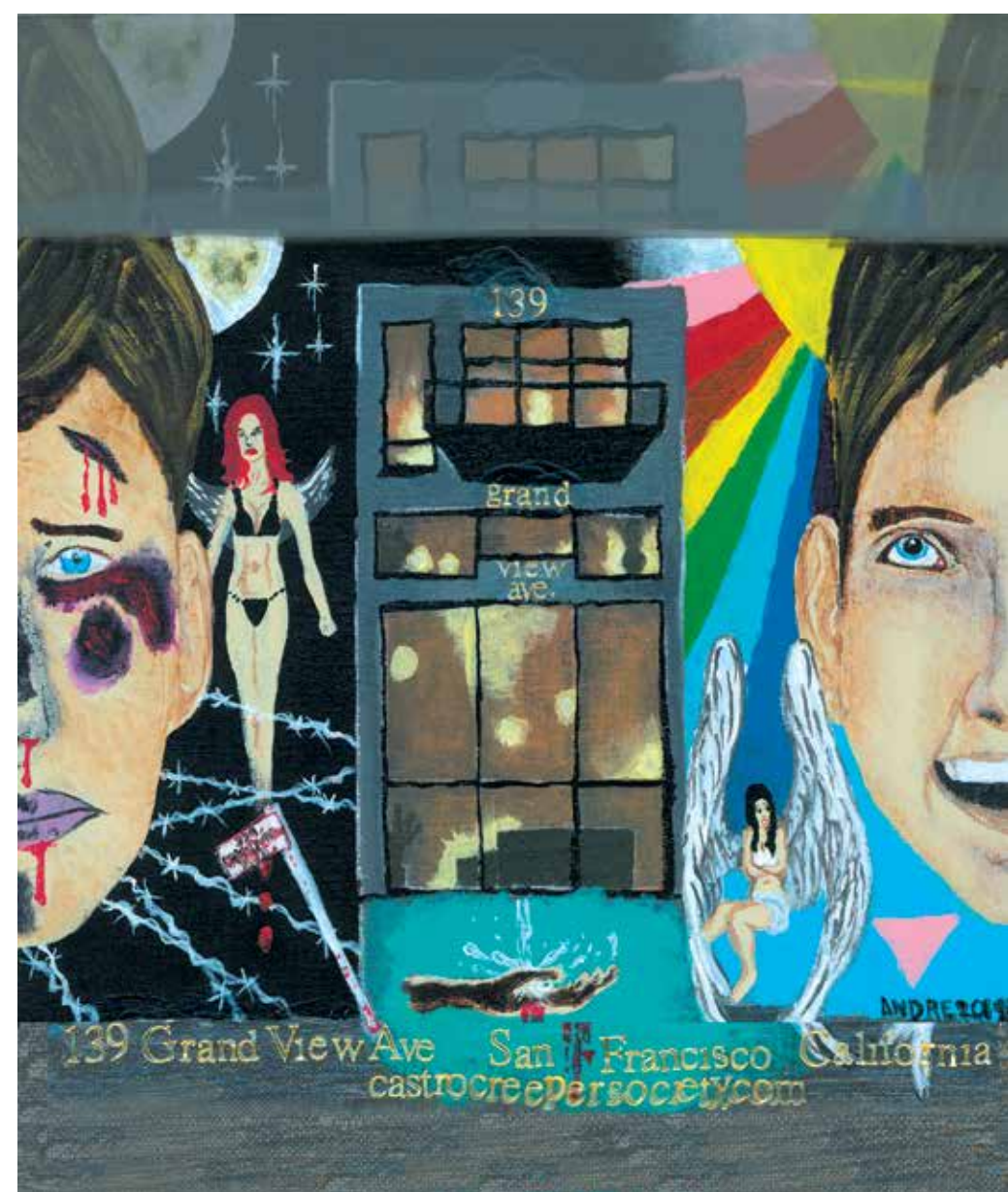
lots at both the assessed value method and the best use method. At the assessed value method, 100 lots would bring in \$2,537,200 ($\$25,372$ (tax charge for one Victorian mansion) $\times 100$). Compare this with the revenue under the best use method which brings in \$63,430,400 ($\$634,304$ (tax charge for one lot with a 25-story building) $\times 100$). Does the city budget need to increase by a factor of 25 because of the extra people? Absolutely not. I will not go into that issue here, but I would say that the excess not needed for increased services should go into reducing property taxes to further increase affordability. More than any other factor, increasing housing affordability in San Francisco would allow more gay people in Matthew Shepard's position to live in San Francisco.

San Franciscans like to preen and pat themselves on the back for their exceptional racial tolerance but I see a different picture. I would count Asians, East Indians, and Latinos as "Honorary Whites" for the purpose of demographic analysis. Based on this viewpoint, San Francisco is not a fountain of racial tolerance but a perpetrator of a slow silent and very effective form of genocide against Blacks. From comprising 13.4% of the population of San Francisco in 1970, Blacks have declined to 5.6% of the population in the 2020 census. In several hundred years, Blacks will no longer be a concern to San Franciscans as they will have faded away. While the current Black population seems to be content with the racial genocide plan of San Francisco, I am still arguing for increased affordability of housing in San Francisco both for gay people in Matthew Shepard's position, for the Blacks and their children who want to return to live in San Francisco, and for Mother Earth.

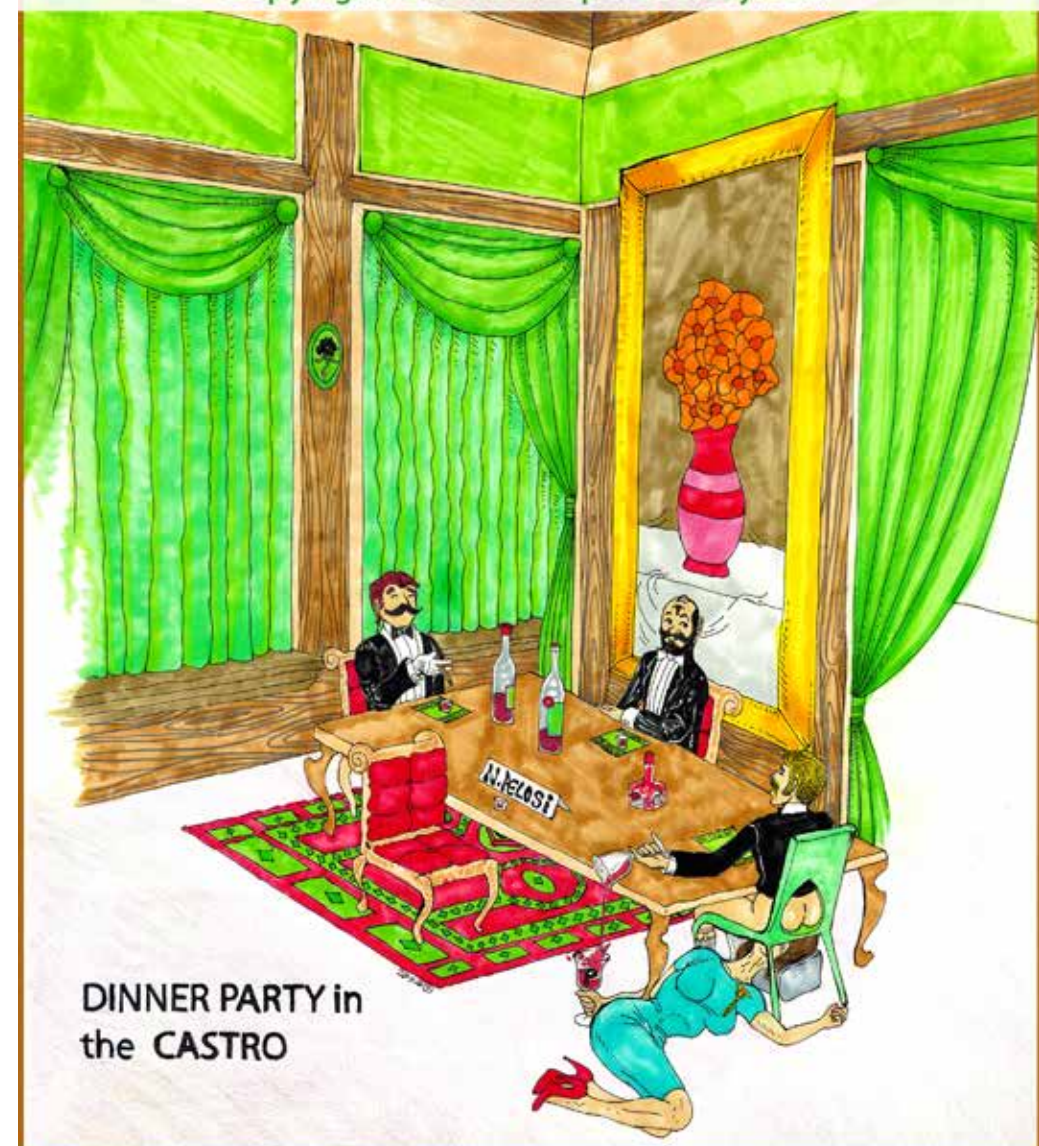
Taxing residential property based on the best use assessment method would make real estate speculation less attractive. It has been said that Americans invented real estate speculation, but I think it is time for a change. The speculators could still speculate, they would just have to pay their fair share of the expensive infrastructure of San Francisco. No longer could they largely reduce their taxes by letting a lot sit vacant for years. San Francisco is no longer a string of cattle farms on the coast of the Pacific so we should not tax the property as if it were.

To answer the question I posed at the beginning of this article, no, I do not think the Castrocreepers are that pretty that they are justified in receiving tax breaks of \$608,932 for each of their Victorian mansions. I think they should pay their fair share of the property taxes of San Francisco. Instituting a best use property tax system in San Francisco would benefit not only the gay people who are fleeing places like Wyoming but would also benefit the entire nation as San Francisco became more of an economic engine bustling with creative young people and less of a resort for ultra-wealthy gays. Saint Francis was a man who invited us to consider the needs of all of creation as we go about our daily business. I think we need to reflect on his teachings as we consider whether to retain the assessed value method of property taxation or implement the fixed charge best use tax assessment policy.

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