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With the recent introduction of a new adult day facility called Galileo Place, the formation of a premier community-based palliative care program, and a 3-year-old merger with a longstanding Yolo County program called Citizens Who Care, we thought it was high time to rethink our name.

Clearly, the organization is so much more than just hospice. The essence of all our programs comes down to adding life to days. We support both caregivers and their loved ones who are living with a life-limiting illness... no matter where they are in their healthcare journey.

To that end, all of the organization's offerings are now housed under the new umbrella name, **YoloCares**.

It's simple and reflects the truth about our broader community.



Citizens Who Care is now the volunteer arm of this shared community treasure. Our volunteers assist with patient care, provide respite for caregivers, work in the office or answer phones, host fundraisers and golf outings, help maintain the Mastick Therapy Garden, or serve on the Board of Directors.

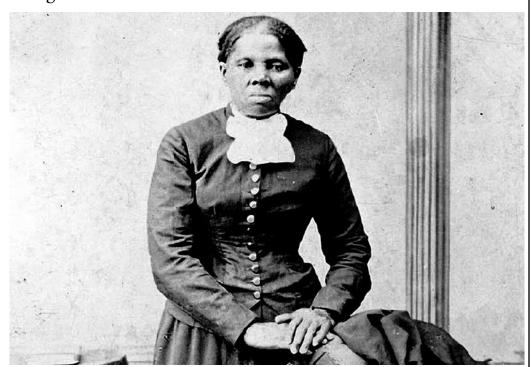
Wherever you find a place to volunteer at YoloCares, you are a Citizen Who Cares.





Freedom Center Supports Bill To Mint Harriet Tubman Coin

reedom hero Harriet Tubman is poised to assume her rightful place among America's pantheon of heroes. The Harriet Tubman Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act was passed by the United States Senate by a voice vote. The bipartisan bill celebrates Tubman's legacy by creating a series of commemorative coins in honor of the extraordinary achievements of her lifetime and her profound impact on the history and culture of our country. The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center applauds the passage of the bill by the Senate and hopes the House will follow suit before the 200th anniversary of Tubman's birthday on March 10. The Freedom Center will be a recipient of the surcharges raised by the sale of the coins, advancing its mission and perpetuating Tubman's legacy to inspire the next generation of freedom conductors.



"Harriet Tubman is one of the most revered figures in American history and in the ongoing fight for inclusive freedom," said Woodrow Keown, Jr., president and COO of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. "The passage of this legislation in the United States Senate rightly enshrines her among our nation's pantheon of heroes. It is an essential step in ensuring our national heroes reflect the true diversity of those who have contributed so significantly to our nation's democracy."

Harriet Tubman is perhaps the most recognized figure from the era of the Underground Railroad, the clandestine network by which enslaved individuals sought to liberate themselves in the first half of the 19th century. Born Araminta "Minty" Ross in March 1822 on a plantation in Maryland, Tubman self-liberated via the Underground Railroad in 1849, crossing from Maryland to the free state of Pennsylvania. She returned to Maryland 13 times over the next decade, leading 70 enslaved people to freedom in Canada.

The Harriet Tubman Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act, introduced by Senators Jacky Rosen (D-NV) and Rob Portman (R-OH) and Representatives Gregory Meeks (D-NY) and John Katko

(R-NY), will mint a limited number of three new coins to be sold exclusively by the US Mint that will bear Tubman's likeness on the front and an image representing the Freedom Center on the back. The Freedom Center will consult on the design of the coins with input from the Commission of Fine Arts; Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen will select the final coin designs.

'Minting Ms. Tubman's likeness on a commemorative coin will encourage people to learn more about this extraordinary leader who had such a profound impact on American history and culture," added Keown. "Modern-day abolitionists continue to be inspired by the principles of courage, cooperation and perseverance she exemplified to better our country."

The Freedom Center has secured the support of the Procter & Gamble Company (P&G) as lead sponsor to collaborate in helping honor Tubman's legacy and promoting social justice through the special initiative. P&G's sponsorship will also help maximize the financial support the Freedom Center will receive from the project.

The Freedom Center celebrates Congress's bipartisan leadership in the accomplishment of this significant milestone.

For more info: freedomcenter.org





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Return to Palm Springs

by Mark Haneke

Te're starting to come out of hibernation and, as restrictions ease, many are ready to get life back to normal - or close to it! This spring will see the return of some illustrious Palm Springs events that haven't been able to take place in a while. Sacramento International Airport can get you direct to the heart of Palm Springs in about an hour with Southwest Airlines' daily nonstop flights from SMF to PSP. You'll be soaking up the sun – and the excitement – in less time than most Zoom meetings.

From March 7 to 20, the biggest names in international tennis will be competing at the beautiful Indian Wells Tennis Garden in the BNP Paribas Open. The event is the largest combined WTA and ATP Tour two-week event in the world and has been named both the ATP Tour Masters 1000 Tournament of the Year and the WTA Premier Mandatory Tournament of the Year a record-setting seven times. This year, top-ranked players like Rafael Nadal and Ashleigh Barty are on the entry list, as are Daniil Medvedev, Novak Djokovic and Danielle Collins. The excitement extends off the court with incredible culinary options, like Nobu and Spago, and the Moët & Chandon champagne garden (complete with semi-private cabanas).

2022 is your last year to catch one of the Coachella Valley's most famous golf tournaments before it moves to Texas. Started in 1972 as the Colgate Dinah Shore Winner's Circle, the tournament immediately became the most compelling event in women's golf with the largest purse on the

LPGA tour. Hollywood and Palm Springs icon Dinah Shore used to host the event and raised the profile of women's golf. Later renamed the ANA Inspiration, its new sponsor, Chevron USA, is moving the tournament to the Houston area. Tickets are available now to watch the best female golfers compete for \$5M purse at the end of March

Harry Styles. Billie Eilish. Ye. Swedish House Mafia. Coachella is back with two weekends of non-stop performances in April (14 – 17 and 22 – 24). The iconic music festival has acts from every genre, including Phoebe Bridgers, 21 Savage, Megan Thee Stallion, Lil Baby, Doja Cat and Maggie Rogers. Passes may be sold out already, but there's always the waitlist option. Plus, if you can't go to the festival, it's still an incredible time to be in Palm Springs. The following weekend marks the return of Stagecoach, which features some of country music's biggest names including Brandi Carlisle, Maren Morris, Thomas Rhett and the

Brothers Osborne.

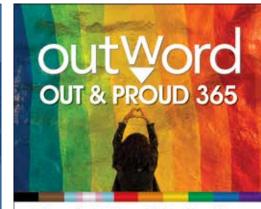
After a hiatus, Palm Springs' signature White Party returns to the Hilton Palm Springs on April 29. A jungle themed night kicks off the largest gay circuit party in the United States, which usually attracts more than 30,000 attendees. The schedule includes pool parties, internationally known DJs and music artists, Saturday night's White Party and Sunday's T Dance event. Hotels (and flights) book early for this event so be sure to make your plans now.

Southwest Airlines has two nonstop flights each day to PSP. The earlier flight leaves SMF at 10:55 a.m. and gets you there by 12:20 p.m., while the later daily nonstop leaves at 6:50 p.m. and lands at 8:15 p.m. There's an early morning return option at 6:35 a.m. and later at 5:50 p.m., making it an easy weekend getaway or quick midweek option.

Thank you for flying from SMF! Please make sure you ARRIVE EARLY! For more information, visit sacramento.aero.

Mark Haneke is the Director of Air Service Development Marketing for Sacramento International Airport as well as a seasoned expert in air service development and a savvy world traveler. His travel column appears regularly in Outword to share news on new destinations from Sacramento International Airport, peppered with some of his own personal stories and travel recommendations.





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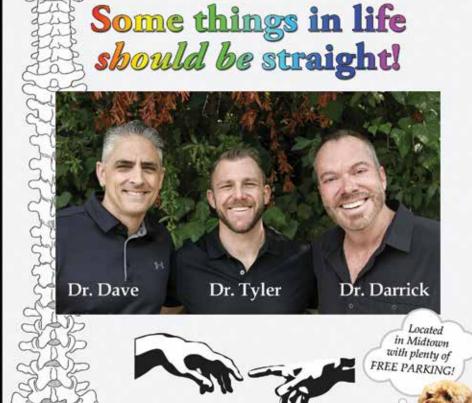


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Human Rights Campaign Foundation Releases New Data on the LGBTQ+ Wage Gap

oday, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, the educational arm of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) civil rights organization, released new data outlining the pay disparities of LGBTQ+ workers with a particular emphasis on the disproportionate wage gap that transgender, non-binary and LGBTQ+ people of color face.

The 2021 LGBTQ+ Community survey, administered by Community Marketing & Insights and supported by the HRC Foundation, found full-time LGBTQ+ workers earned about \$900 weekly, which is 90% of what the typical worker earns in the U.S. Put another way, LGBTQ+ workers earn about 90 cents for every dollar that the typical worker earns. LGBTQ+ people of color, transgender women and men and non-binary individuals earn the least when compared to their white or cisgender LGBTQ+

"Despite decades of work to achieve equal pay for equal work, LGBTQ+ workers continue to earn less than their heterosexual and cisgender peers and discrimination throughout the workforcein hiring, salaries, and promotions-is likely playing a large role," said Jay Brown, Human Rights Campaign Senior Vice President of Programs, Research and Training. "It is possible that wage disparities may be even larger than what is reported here because our analyses focused just on full-time employed workers, and did not account for wages among part-time workers, or non-wage earners. Earning less impacts every facet of our lives - including access to housing, healthcare and food security-and must be addressed head on."

Comparing these findings to wage estimates released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, HRC Foundation found that LGBTQ+ people of color earn less than all white workers-replicating trends in racial disparities seen in the broader workforce. Specifically, Native American LGBTO+ and Black LGBTO+ workers earn the least among LGBTQ+ workers by race.

- Native American LGBTQ+ workers earn 70 cents for every dollar the typical
- Black LGBTQ+ workers earn about 80 cents for every dollar that the typical worker earns.
- Latinx LGBTQ+ workers earn about 90 cents for every dollar that the typical
- White LGBTQ+ workers earn about 97 cents for every dollar that the typical worker earns.

- Asian/Asian Pacific Islanders LGBTQ+ workers earn about \$1.00 for every dollar that the typical worker earns-in other words, they earn approximately the same. Furthermore, LGBTQ+ working women, who have similar earnings to all women, earn less than all men and LGBTQ+ working men. Additionally, transgender people, and non-binary, genderqueer, and two-spirit workers earn significantly less than working men and women.
- Women in the LGBTQ+ community earn about 87 cents for every dollar that the typical worker earns.
- · Non-binary, genderqueer, genderfluid and two-spirit workers earned about 70 cents for every dollar that the typical worker

Compounding that disparity, LGBTQ+ women of color and transgender people especially, suffer the widest wage gap among multiply marginalized identities in the U.S.

- LGBTQ+ Latinx women earn about 72 cents for every dollar that the typical worker earns.
- LGBTQ+ Black women earn 85 cents for every dollar that the typical worker earns. Transgender men earn about 70 cents for every dollar that the typical worker earns.
- Transgender women earn about 60 cents for every dollar the typical worker earns.

This data is the newest research in a long line of HRC Foundation's reports that brings awareness to the status of LGBTQ+ people and economic disparities, "The Economic Impact of COVID-19 on the LGBTQ Community," and "The Economic Impact of COVID-19 Intensifies for Transgender and LGBTQ Communities of Color," showed that transgender people, especially transgender people of color, are more likely to face negative economic consequences as a result of the virus. These economic disparities have been acutely felt during the pandemic, but prior to the onset of COVID-19, nearly one in ten LGBTQ+ people were unemployed. In the first quarter of 2021, HRC and PSB research found that unemployment among LGBTQ+ people increased to 22% of LGBTQ+ adults and 24% of LGBTQ+ adults of color.

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Human Rights Campaign President on New Gallup Poll that Reinforces the Growing Power of the LGBTQ+ Community by Jeffrey M. Jones

allup released new polling that showed a growing percentage of adults in the U.S. are LGBTQ+ identifying. ■ The new poll found that 7.1% of U.S. adults identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or some other LGBTQ+ identity, closely mirroring the findings in a Human Rights Campaign released (HRC) analysis of data in the Census Bureau's recent Household Pulse Survey, which found roughly 8% of respondents identified themselves as LGBTQ+.

In response, Human Rights Campaign Interim President Joni Madison released the following statement:

"The LGBTQ+ community is a diverse and ever-growing force in the United States as the number of American adults who identify as LGBTQ+ continues to grow each year," said Ioni Madison, Interim Human Rights Campaign President. "This growth shows the impact of a more inclusive society and, closely mirrors HRC findings. Both emphasize the need to codify legal protections against discrimination and implement LGBTQ+ inclusive data collection at federal, state, local and private levels. With more LGBTQ+ people than ever before living openly and embracing their identity, the fight for LGBTQ+ equality in America must continue to represent this ever-growing and beautiful community."

Here are some key points from the 2021 Gallup poll showed the estimate of LGBTQ+ identifying American adults has risen by more than a full percentage point from Gallup's previous 2020 update, and doubled in size from the 2012 estimate, when Gallup first measured it.

7.1% of U.S. adults identify as LGBTQ+. The current estimate is up from 5.6% in Gallup's 2020 data and 4.5% in Gallup's 2017

One in five Gen Z adults (those aged 18-24 at the time of the survey) identifies as LGBTQ+, more than any previous generation.

LGBTQ+ identification has grown across all identities over the last year.

Bisexual identification is most common;

accounting for more than 56% of all LGBTQ+ identified adults, and approximately 4% of the U.S. adult population.

An additional third of LGBTQ+ adults identified as gay (20.7%) and/or lesbian (13.9%), accounting for approximately 2.5%of the U.S. adult population.

An estimated one in ten LGBTQ+ adults identifies as transgender, accounting for 0.7% of the U.S. adult population. This includes approximately 2.1% of Gen Z adults, 1% of Millenials, 0.8% of women, and 0.6% of men.

The results are based on aggregated 2021 data, including interviews with more than 12,000 American adults. While LGBTQ+ identification has been stable amid older generations, it is consistently rising among vounger generations. From 2020 to 2021, the number of Gen Z adults that identify as LGBTQ+ has increased from one in six in 2020 to one in five in 2021, an increase of four percentage points in a single year.

In December 2021, the Human Rights Campaign released an analysis of data in the Census Bureau's recent Household Pulse Survey, which found roughly 8% of respondents identified themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, with millions more potentially identifying as terms beyond these - suggesting previous surveys may also have undercounted the population. Gallup's recent survey results corroborate this estimate, and based on the 2021 survey, Gallup anticipates that the proportion of LGBTQ+ Americans "should exceed 10% in the near future."





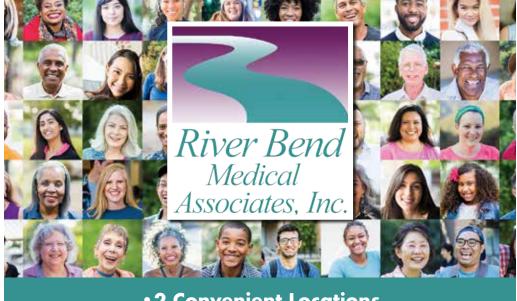
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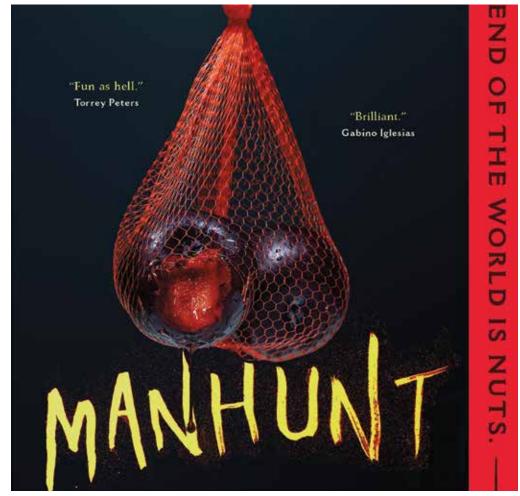
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"Manhunt" by Gretchen **Felker-Martin**

book reviewed by Terri Schlichenmeyer

It's just a little stick in the arm. Just a poke, a tiny jab, a brief ouch, and you have your opinions about it. On one hand, you hate getting sick; on the other, well, it's complicated. You don't even like to see needles on TV but it's obvious that viruses have a way of upsetting everything. And in the new book "Manhunt" by Gretchen Felker-Martin, this virus will make you howl...



Beth sometimes wondered where it came

Spreading the t. rex virus would have been easy, just a matter of leaving an open cannister by a heating vent somewhere or sprinkling it in a crowd. Who would do that, though? Who would release a virus that turned every post-pubescent male into a crazed, deformed, wolf-like killing machine?

Beth idly thought about it, as she and Fran tried to get back to their healer, and safety. Answers might never be knowable but no matter: they were too busy harvesting as many testicles they could get from the men-creatures they eliminated, so their healer could make the estrogen they needed. They had to stay safe and alive. Kill or be killed.

Sometimes, Fran couldn't help but feel sorry for Beth... and for herself, for that matter. Fran's transition was almost complete when the virus began spreading, when husbands, sons, and brothers suddenly became monsters. There was no time for bottom surgery but she was almost there, and at least she looked feminine. She might fool a TERF, but Beth never would. Beth was big, blocky, and still boy-muscled; there was no way she'd ever be a girl.

Robbie always felt that he was better off on his own. He had supplies and was self-sufficient, as long as the TERFs -

cisgender women who'd created a fierce army - didn't catch him. Though he was still menstruating, a trans man was a man.

And to the TERFs, a man, any kind of male no matter what, had to die.

You can take this as a siren, add fireworks: "Manhunt" is not a novel for everyone.

It's not for anyone who can't stand gruesomeness, or who hates having their heart sieze due to explicit sex, surprises, cringey scenes, or jumpy scares. Don't hand it off to anyone who can't tolerate feminism or a happily-never-after.

What this book is, though, is for someone with a deep, affectionate fondness for all of the above plus pockets of plot-brilliance, dark humor in a blow-them-all-to-pieces vein, buckets of blood and gore, moments that might make you *urp* a little, and monsters that live among us. Some tolerance for plot-holes is also needed for full enjoyment; author Gretchen Felker-Martin leaves readers with a few big WHY?s hanging over her smoking Armageddon, and while they're mostly forgivable, they may

This book has the feel of a video game your mother wouldn't let you have because it might give you nightmares. In this case, she was right: this truly is a keeps-you-up-allnight story with streaks of modern-day. Indeed, "Manhunt" is worth a shot.



Midtown Association Celebrates Love, Acceptance and Inclusion with Colorful New Rainbow Banners, Art Wraps & More

s part of a partnership between the Midtown Association and Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce & Foundation, look for 10 vibrant new banners on proud display on 20th Street between I and K Streets - including in front of the Sacramento LGBT Community Center! The colorful banners were specially designed to demonstrate and celebrate Midtown Love, acceptance, and inclusion in the heart of Lavender Heights.

"Our cherished Lavender Heights area is an incredibly special and vibrant part of Midtown and we're thrilled to partner with the Rainbow Chamber & Foundation to install colorful new rainbow banners," said Emily Baime Michaels, Executive Director of the Midtown Association. "We want to

celebrate love, acceptance and inclusion in everything we do in Midtown. We hope these new banners will serve as welcoming and visual reminders of the pride we feel for the LGBTQ+ community and the very lovely Lavender Heights."

"We are excited to see continual progress

with Lavender Heights and the banners add a nice next step to our work in establishing this part of town," said Paul Villaluz Weubbe, President of the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber Foundation.

In addition to the new banners on 20th Street, the Midtown Association also recently installed eve-catching and whimsical "Love is in our roots" rainbow vegetable art wraps on 21st Street (at the intersections of J, K, and L Streets). Part of Midtown's continuing "Art in Unexpected Places" efforts, the art wraps celebrate the Lavender Heights district plus highlight Midtown's commitment to providing ongoing access to fresh foods and locally grown products at two farmers' markets - the

photos by Fred Palmer

Midtown Farmers Market on Saturdays and the midweek Wednesdays at Winn World Market, both year-round. Plus, 37 "I Love' banners were newly installed along J Street between 20th & 27th Streets to share Midtown Love by highlighting various activities and amenities available in the area, including biking, dogs, fitness classes, coffee shops, retail shops, chefs, farmers' markets, and locally owned businesses.

More information about Midtown Sacramento is available at www. exploremidtown.org; for more information about the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce & Foundation, please visit www.rainbowchamber.com.









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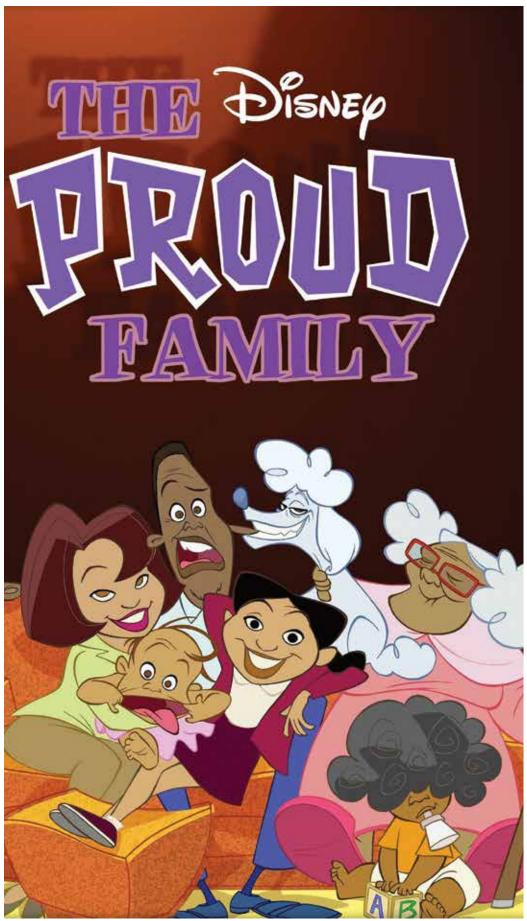




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Celebrate Black History Month with The Proud Family



he great Billy Porter is just one of the talented individuals lending his voice to "The Proud Family: Louder and Prouder," a revival of "The Proud Family" which originally ran on Disney Channel from 2001 to 2005. The new series follows Penny Proud, a 16-year-old girl and her family, as they navigate their lives in the 2020s. The reboot premieres this Feb. 23 on Disney+ and features guest stars such as Lizzo, Tiffany Haddish, Lena Waithe, and Lil Nas X, in addition to recurring characters played by the likes of Zachary Quinto and Billy Porter.

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Out & About

With Matthew Burlingame

▼t's 2022 and I still don't have a self-navigating flying car! Can I get a manager, please? I'm about to Karen out over this mess! We're also two months down in the new year and some of the many COVID "mask the gathering" restrictions are changing again. If you're not sure of the latest rules, check out saccounty.gov

Black History Month continues with the Black Expo which is celebrating 34 years of continued success. Bring your family and friends to Sacramento State University on Saturday, Feb. 26 from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. This year's Black Expo theme is "Live The Impossible Dream." Entry is free for everyone and will feature entertainment, a variety of vendors and soul food. Golden Rule Services will be onsite with their mobile testing unit to offer HIV testing and information. Blackexpoevents.info

Don't miss the Black History Month Legacy Awards starring Chante Moore to be held on Sunday, Feb. 27 starting at 3 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at Sacramento State University. Moore will perform and is an honoree along with other individuals who have been instrumental toward Black/ African American visibility. 916-477-0157

Sacramento Rainbow Chamber Drag Queen Bingo is back! A night of fun and prizes hosted by the fabulous DoMe Moore at and benefitting 916 Ink. Come get your bingo cards and daubers Thursday, Mar. 3 at Mango's, 1930 K St. The fun starts at 7

p.m. and admission is first come, first served. Outdoor seating is available and currently masks are required indoors. Proof of vaccination or 72-hour negative covid test is required. Rainbowchamber.com

Keep the faith that there is still fun in these odd times! The Capitol City Sisters will have an immaculate conception on Saturday, Mar. 5 from 4-9 p.m. and you don't want to miss it! Come commune at the 2022 Project NUNway event, 2003 K St. The Sisters and DJ Dan will celebrate epic Hollywood costumes with fashions crafted from recycled materials! Proceeds will go to local charities including the Capital City AIDS Fund, Lavender Library, Queer Youth Services and others. Get your tickets in advance at Capitolcitysisters.org.

The Sacramento Stonewall Democrats and Michael Vargas are hosting their third annual "Blind Wine Pull". For a \$100 ticket you could go home with a \$10 bottle of wine! Seems like a fair trade. There will also be hors d'oeuvres, dessert and of course... more wine. Get your tickets in advance for Wednesday, Mar. 9 from 6-8



p.m. at Uptown Studios, 2415 23rd St. Actblue.com/donate/winepull2022

Valentine's Day may be over but did he/ she/they surprise you with a proposal? If so, get a jump on planning those nuptials in whatever form they may take! Sunday, Feb. 27 from 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. the Bridal Showcase will be held at Cal Expo. A one stop shop to find the best bridal professionals in the wedding industry. DJs, bands, salons, gowns, tuxedos, cakes, photographers, videographers, florists and everything you haven't even thought of yet. Bridalshowcase-ca.com

SacCirque is planning to take over Southside Park at 7th and T Sts. on Sunday, Mar. 6 at 1 p.m. It's an opportunity to meet and greet, skill share and play with others in Sacramento's Circus and Flow community. This is a freestyle event and welcomes flow arts, juggling, acro-yoga, slack-lining and more! Be aware this is not a SacCirque performance, but an opportunity for artists to connect and share. saccirque.com

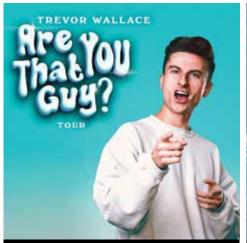
Events? Announcements? Birthdays? Anniversaries? Send them to me at matthew.burlingame@gmail.com.



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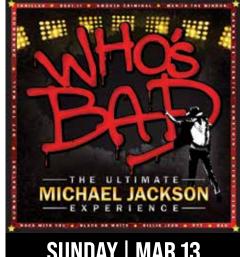
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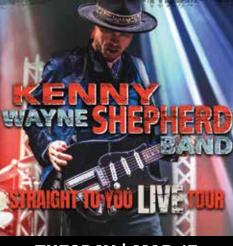
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SUNDAY | MAR 13



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SPENCER DAY SUNDAY, APR 10



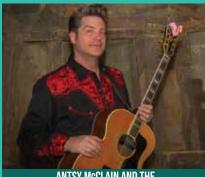
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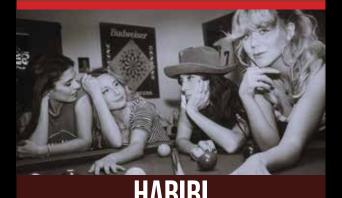


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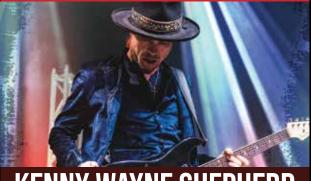
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SATURDAY, MAR 12 | CREST SACRAMENTO



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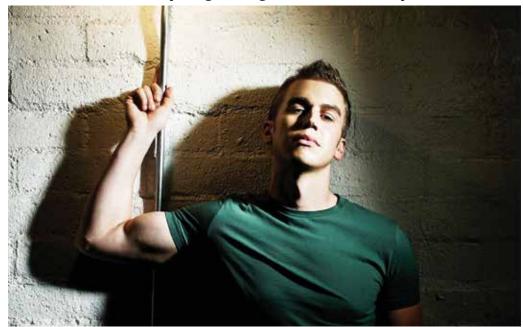


and More

Sexy Spencer Day Set to Sing in Sac

by Chris Narloch

ay fave Spencer Day returns to Sacramento for one night only this April 10 with another sure-to-be-sensational show at The Sofia on Capitol Avenue in midtown. If you've never seen the multi-talented, sexy singer-songwriter live, this is your chance.



Spencer Day is a #1 Billboard jazz/pop performer who has played venues as diverse as Lincoln Center, the Hollywood Bowl, and London's West End. The artist's songwriting is influenced by jazz, musical theater, cabaret, soul, and pop.

Day's new album Broadway by Day is a collection of reimagined theater songs from "South Pacific," "Evita," "A Chorus Line" and other musicals, with surprising and genreblurring arrangements. Broadway by Day, featuring Grammy-nominated artists such as Dave Koz and Jane Monheit, will be released this Feb. 25.

Day's collaboration with the Postmodern Jukebox has surpassed 1.5 million views on YouTube, and his album Angel City, which Day arranged and co-produced, was recorded at Capitol Records with the Budman-Levy Orchestra. That album's single, "72 and Sunny," marked his debut on the Mediabase Adult Contemporary chart, and his electronica remix of the song was featured on Kygo's "Palm Tree Summer" playlist.

For tickets to his Sacramento concert, visit https://bstreettheatre.org/music/spencer-day

NEON Releases a Beautiful Blu-ray Box Set

by Chris Narloch

ome of the finest films of 2021 are being released on Bluray in a limited-edition box set that is a must-have for fans of foreign and indie movies. Containing eight terrific titles from NEON, an American film and production company founded in 2017, the new set commemorates a superb year for movies and marks NEON's first five years releasing cutting edge cinema.

In addition to Kristen Stewart's Oscarnominated portrayal as Princess Diana in "Spencer," the box includes one of the wildest movies of 2021, the bizarre and brilliant Cannes Film Festival favorite "Titane," plus "Flee," a Danish movie that recently made Oscar history as the first film to ever be nominated in the animation, documentary, and international feature

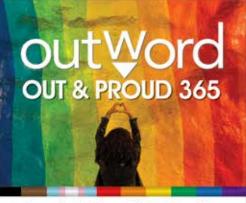
NEON has also included "Pig," a highly acclaimed drama from last year about a reclusive truffle hunter living alone in the Oregon wilderness who is determined to find the person who stole his prized pig. Nicolas Cage, who should have received an Oscar nomination as Best Actor for "Pig," turns in his finest performance in years.

That's not all. The box features four other films, including "Ailey," a dynamite documentary from filmmaker Jamila Wignot



that examines the remarkable life and career of visionary dancer and choreographer Alvin Ailev

Only 500 sets will be made available, so you will want to act fast before product sells out. For more information about NEON, go to https://shopneonrated.com



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Starting on March 9, the Book Den and Warehouse will be going to regular hours for shopping and donations with no warehouse sales every other week. Shopping hours will now be Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 9am to 3pm. Donations will be taken every Wednesday and Saturday from 9am to noon. Large donations are welcome but please call or email us in advance so that we can ensure storage space. Special sales during the year will be posted on our website: http://www.saclibfriends.org.

you have any questions, please email macsa46@gmail.com. You can also call the Book Den, 916-731-8493 between 9am and 12pm. Please be patient - we are an all-volunteer organization and not in the office past noon most days





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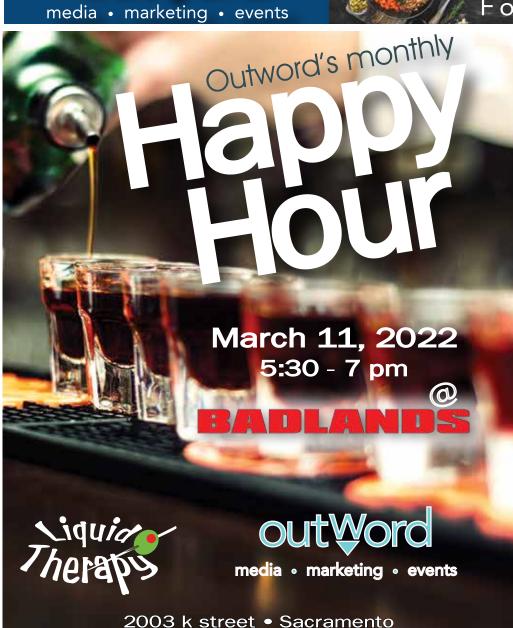
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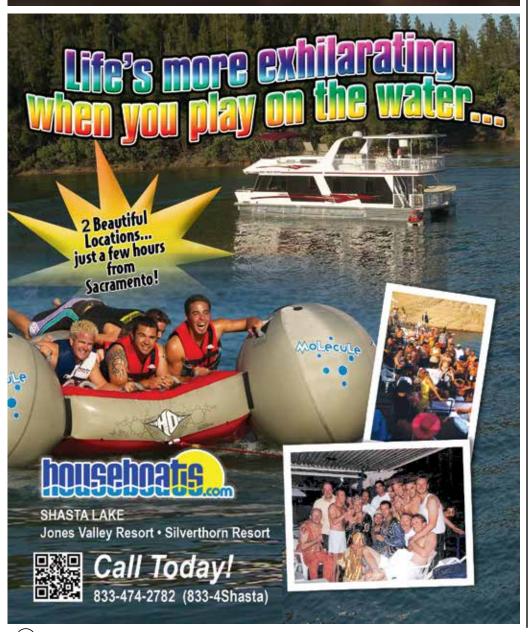






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What's new at STC, Cap Stage & B Street Theatre? by Chris Narloch

The COVID numbers finally declining -- thank God! -- live theater in Sacramento is back in business, and I can review plays again. Read on for information about three intriguing local shows to consider if you're itching to get out of the house.

The Great Leap

You have until Feb. 27 to see this compelling new play about a "friendship game" of hoops between the United States and China during the post-Cultural Revolution of the 1980s.

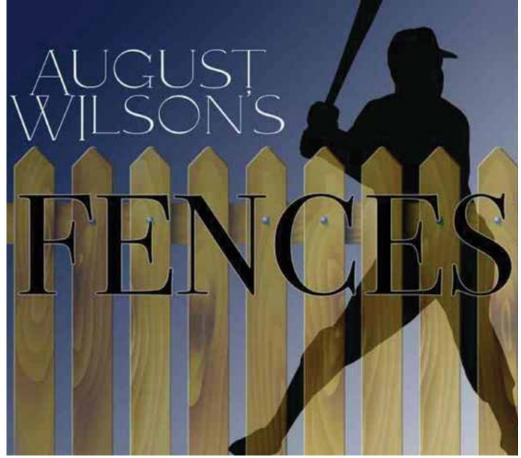
Playwright Lauren Yee was inspired by her own father's basketball-playing past in San Francisco's Chinatown, but "The Great Leap" is a fictional story that touches on real world events such as the Tiananmen Square protests in 1989.

Yee's play is a difficult-to-pull-off mixture of profane comedy and unexpected pathos that somehow succeeds, and I was moved and entertained -- even though I have embarrassingly little interest in geopolitics (and zero interest in basketball).

With the recent Olympic games in Beijing, which had their own controversies, a play about an American college basketball player in Beijing for an exhibition game is incredibly timely, and the four-person cast and director Jeffrey Lo work hard to give the performance real immediacy.

Not all the casting in the Capital Stage production worked for me, but I'm not going to single anyone out. You'll just have to see this thought-provoking play -- which is about how a person can sometimes stumble upon their destiny -- and make up your own mind.

For tickets to "The Great Leap," visit https://capstage.org



Fences

Sacramento Theatre Company (STC) returns to the late, great August Wilson's American Century Cycle with a trip to Pittsburgh, PA, where this powerful Pulitzer and Tony Awardwinning play unfolds.

Set in the 1950's, "Fences" centers around Troy Maxson and his family, and the fences in our lives that can both nurture and protect us, yet also create obstacles to deny us emotional fulfillment.

If you've never had the pleasure of hearing live actors speak Wilson's rich dialogue, "Fences" is a great place to start. STC's production, which I hope to see soon, performs Feb. 23-March 13. Go to: www.sactheatre.org

Lovers and Executioners

This unhinged romp tells the story of nobleman Bernard who, suspecting his wife of infidelity, strands her on an island to die. With the help of her steadfast servant, she escapes and returns three years later, disguised as a nobleman, to get her revenge.

"Lovers and Executioners," featuring commedia dell'arte gymnastics and devilishly funny shenanigans, sounds like it will leave audiences in stitches. The B Street Theatre production, with a terrific cast that includes Melinda Parrett and Amy Kelly, will perform March 2-April 10. Visit https://bstreettheatre.org





John Waters is Coming Back to Sac

by Chris Narloch

The one and only John Waters, director of such gloriously trashy films as "Multiple Maniacs," "Pink Flamingos," and ▲ "Hairspray," returns to Sacramento's historic Colonial Theatre on March 12th with his highly acclaimed, one-man show "False Negative: An Evening with John Waters."

The event is presented by the fine folks who put on the annual Sacramento Horror Film Festival, and it promises to be an outrageous party hosted by the man who gave bad taste a good name.

After John's performance, there will be an intermission break followed by a John Waters-inspired Drag King & Queen Invitational Show. (Bring cash for tips!)

Waters has been the king of divinely deviant cinema for more than half a century, beginning with his first full-length feature film, 1969's appropriately-titled "Mondo Trasho."

To his credit -- and despite his mainstream success with projects such as the blockbuster Broadway version of "Hairspray" -- the writer-director-actor and raconteur has never strayed from his renown as "The Pope of Trash," a moniker bestowed upon Waters by none other than rebel writer William Burroughs.

I spoke with Waters recently by phone, and the topics of conversation included everything from his place in film history, to a body part he'd like to autograph one day.

John, your movies were filmed in the Baltimore area. Do you still live there?

Yes. My heart is in Baltimore. I do have an apartment in San Francisco, one in New York, and I have a summer rental in Provincetown, but Baltimore is my primary residence.

You're out there on the road, performing during COVID. How does John Waters stay sane during a pandemic?

Well, my job is to not be sane....but I've kept very busy. I finished my novel. It comes out this May, and it's called "Liarmouth." I wrote a script during COVID, but I can't talk about it.

The thing is, everybody wants their old life back, but that's never ever going to happen

I realize you can't tell me what the script is about, but does that mean we might get another John Waters-directed movie sometime soon?

I hope so, but I've written many scripts since "A Dirty Shame" came out that never got made. I've continued to work in Hollywood and have sold scripts, but then the movies never got made. I've never made a movie that I didn't write, and it's worse than it ever was to get a movie made now. But I always find a way to tell my stories, so I've been writing books and performing my live shows. All my books are still in print, and my movies keep coming back around. Thank God for Criterion, and there are all these channels now where people can discover my films.

Does it amaze you that you have so many young fans at the shows? Now that your original fans are older, they show your movies to their kids and grandkids.

When I was young and starting out, the parents called the police, and now, you're right, people share my films with their kids.

Are you surprised that so many of your movies, like "Hairspray" and "Pink Flamingos," are still so popular decades after they were made?

Last year, "Pink Flamingos" was selected by the National Film Registry for preservation. I mean who would have thought when I made it that it would be designated an important American movie one day?

Are you going to return to "Law & Order," do you think?

I played a porn director -- big stretch. Millions of people watch that show, and she [Mariska Hargitay] is absolutely wonderful, and smart, and beautiful. A pleasure to work with.

Did you enjoy playing the late, great William Castle, your fellow renegade director, in "Feud"?

Of course. I remember his daughter told me she was proud of my performance, so I was really excited about that. And I got to meet Jessica Lange who I'm friends with now because of that show.

I know you were a fan of classic gay porn from the '70s and '80s, like Joe Gage's movies and Jeff Stryker's. What are your thoughts on modern porn, John?

Modern porn? There are no porn stars anymore. Jeff Stryker was the greatest male porn star. We became friends and used to hang out, and people were shocked when they would see us walking down the street. I felt like Don Knotts walking down the street with Gina Lollobrigida. But there are no porn stars anymore.

I guess porn has been replaced by sending nude selfies?

They are out there for eternity! It's kind of unbelievable to me. I have never sent a nude selfie, and at the age of 75 I'm definitely not starting now.

You do have some wild fans, and I wondered what is the strangest body part you've ever been asked to autograph?

Well, I've been asked to sign many mastectomy scars on transgendered men, but I've never been asked to sign a female-tomale bottom surgery. I'm open to it though.

For more information about "False Negative: An Evening with John Waters," nlease visit:

https://colonialtheatre.biz/calendar-of-events



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"Uncharted" & "The Batman" **Go Big at IMAX** by Chris Narloch

There will be handsome men galore coming soon to the supersized screen at Sacramento's Esquire IMAX Theatre on K Street, with Tom Holland and Mark Wahlberg in "Uncharted" followed by Robert Pattinson and Colin Farrell in "The Batman." Read on for more details.



Uncharted

Hollywood doesn't have a great track record with computer games, but the movie version of "Uncharted" could be the exception. The story is a prequel to the games, starring Tom Holland as a younger Drake, showing us details of how he came to meet and befriend Sully

The pair embark on a dangerous quest to find the greatest treasure never found while also tracking clues that may lead to Drake's long-lost brother. "Uncharted," which I was not able to review before our deadline, continues at the Esquire IMAX through March 2.

The Batman

Hopes are high for the latest movie to feature the dark knight. Many fans were upset when Robert Pattinson was cast as the defender of Gotham, but I am taking a wait and see attitude since I haven't seen the film yet.

I wasn't wild about the "Twilight" film franchise, but Pattinson has given better performances in several recent indie movies, and I am rooting for him to pull it

Other casting includes Zoe Kravitz as Catwoman, Paul Dano as the Riddler, Colin Farrell as the Penguin, and Andy Serkis as Alfred. Rumors abound that Barry Keoghan might be playing the Joker in "The Batman," but we will just have to see about that.

The new film is, of course, shrouded in secrecy, but I can report that the caped crusader is on the trail of a sadistic killer. Matt Reeves, who directed "Cloverfield" and two recent "Planet of the Apes" movies, is the

The Batman" has its official opening at Sacramento's Esquire IMAX on March 3. For more information about both films, go to www.imax.com/imax-esquire-oo



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Channing Tatum & JLo on the Big Screen by Chris Narloch

his issue's cinematic roundup includes an Oscar nominee from Japan, a road movie starring Channing Tatum and a dog, a glossy murder mystery from Kenneth Branagh, and a musical rom com with the ubiquitous ILo.

Speaking of the Oscars, those awards will be handed out on March 27, and I will include my thoughts on this year's nominations in our early March edition.

While we wait for Oscar's big night, you can enjoy Turner Classic Movie's annual 31 Days of Oscar in March which finds handsome (and gay) Dave Karger hosting many of the finest Oscar winning films from movie history.

You can also get Oscar fever at Sacramento's Crest Theatre, where the Oscar nominated short films will be playing, between Feb. 25 and March 19. Visit https://

Read on for my latest movie reviews, which include two new films that you can only see in theaters and two that are also available to watch on the small screen.

It's a toss-up whether Channing Tatum or his four-legged friend is the more handsome beast in this dog lovers' dream of a movie about an Army Ranger (Tatum) tasked with driving a working dog to his master's military funeral.

If you have seen the trailer for the film, then you know that the dog isn't exactly wild about his human chauffeur and turns much of the road trip into a comic ordeal for Tatum's character. You can probably guess -- if you've ever seen even one movie about a canine companion -- that the pair bond by the end of the film.

"Dog" is admittedly predictable and sentimental, but it takes a couple interesting detours, and Tatum is as sweet and sexy as ever. When he and Lulu got clean in the same bathtub at one point, I turned to my friend and said, "That is one lucky dog."

Death on the Nile

I am a sucker for big-budget, all-star Hollywood mystery-movies so I enjoyed the latest film version of Agatha Christie's famous whodunnit set aboard a riverboat, even though I guessed one of the culprits near the start of the movie.

Kenneth Branagh directs and stars as supersleuth Hercule Poirot, and his direction impressed me more than his performance, which has him mumbling through an ornate moustache for much of the film. Branagh's "Death on the Nile" looks lovely though, and it has a great cast.

Marry Me

You know exactly what you're going to get with a ILo rom-com, and she delivers in "Marry Me," playing a character so close to herself that you'd be hard-pressed to call the performance acting.

Lopez plays a superstar singer who is a romantic at heart, so much so that she marries a random guy (funnyman Owen Wilson) pulled from her concert audience, after discovering -- right before their planned, on-stage nuptials -- that her fiancé (sexy Maluma) is a lying cheater.

I didn't believe a second of "Marry Me," but it's more romantic fantasy than romantic comedy, and it was fascinating to see JLo portray a woman whose every move and moment is turned into social media self-promotion. In that one respect, "Marry Me" could almost be a documentary about Lopez's real life.

I watched "Marry Me" on Peacock, but JLo's ego should probably be experienced on the big screen.

Drive My Car

This incredibly poignant drama is the first Japanese film ever nominated in the Oscar's Best Picture category. It will likely lose that award, but it has a good shot at winning Best International Feature Film when the Academy Awards are handed out this March.

"Drive My Car" won't be everyone's cup of tea -- the movie is three hours long and has a slower pace -- but those who stick it out until the end will experience an intensely moving tale of two damaged souls who bond after an older man with glaucoma hires a young woman to be his driver.

It turns out the pair has unresolved grief in common, and the film contains several stunning monologues that expose the characters' inner pain. Both lead actors (Toko Miura and Hidetoshi Nishijima) give beautiful performances, and director Ryusuke Hamaguchi squeezes every ounce of feeling out of this epic adaptation of a short story by Haruki Murakami.

"Drive My Car" will be available on HBO Max this March 2, but I recommend you see it on the big screen at Sacramento's Tower Theatre to get the full effect of the acting and the directing. For more information, please visit www.angelikafilmcenter.com/tower









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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 responce we have recieved 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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OutwordRainbowFund.com

Beautiful New Music From Three Queer Artists

utword receives so much new music from queer and queerfriendly artists that it can be a job to wade through the junk to find the gems. I did just that recently, and here are



Calum Scott

This handsome hunk rose to fame on "Britain's Got Talent" by transforming classic dance tracks such as Robyn's "Dancing on My Own" and Jermaine Stewart's "We Don't Have to Take Our Clothes Off" into epic, heart-tugging ballads.

Scott's gorgeous voice soared on his first CD, "Only Human," which featured the Robyn cover and other dynamite songs including "You Are the Reason," "What I Miss Most," and "If Our Love Is Wrong."

If you want to have a good cry, just listen to the singer's classic coming-out song, "No Matter What," an exquisite tribute to his mother's unconditional love. Calum has been a busy boy lately, and his second official studio album is coming soon.

In the meantime, you can check out the first three sensational singles ("Rise," "Biblical," and "If You Ever Change Your Mind") from his upcoming CD. I also recommend the quartet of EPs Scott released in 2021, "Only Acoustic," "Only Collabs," "Only Love," and "Only Live."



Zolita

This incredibly beautiful, 27-year-old singer-songwriter is an avowed lesbian, and she became a viral success with the music video for her sexy song "Explosion," which was followed by Zolita's debut studio album, "Evil Angel," in 2020.

Now she's back with the raunchy viral hit "Somebody I Fucked Once" and a very sweet second song, "Single in September." Talk about versatile! You can check out the latter single's very gay-positive, mini-movie music video, which Zolita produced, directed, and edited herself, here: www.youtube.com/embed/hW-KwWFA-bg

Harry Hains (aka ANTIBOY)

This genderfluid actor also made moody, magnificent music before his tragic death in early 2020 from an accidental fentanyl overdose.

Hains' adoring family is keeping his memory alive with music videos for the songs on ANTIBOY's hauntingly beautiful debut disc, "A Glitch in Paradise."

That posthumous album is a stunner and so is its latest video, for the eerie and excellent single "Insanity": www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWqoAMIVPc8



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'A Gay Life" Part II by John Daniel

y family often vacationed in San Francisco, and in '87 it finally happened: we found ourselves in the middle of the ▲ Castro District, sitting at a long, red light. At 23, I hadn't yet visited this most famous of all gay ghettos, but I certainly

recognized where we were.

I wasn't out to my family at the time and I pondered the delicacy of the situation at hand: Being so close to the mothership, would I begin to inexplicably levitate? (I put on my seatbelt.) Would this be the moment that my parents finally put two and two together? I was hardly ready to come out to them that day, stuck in the middle of the Castro with my younger brother sitting next to me passionately sucking on a lollipop.

In any case, my mother was busy admiring all the beautiful drag queens on parade and their fashionable ensembles. My father admired the large, gleaming pyramids of empty beer bottles everywhere, and the happy go lucky demeanor of the men and women surrounding them. I privately wondered if anyone would somehow recognize me and wave. I donned my sunglasses and slid down into the seat.

As we sat there idling, a young man in a skeleton mask approached our car. He belonged to a group called ACT-UP, and he was giving out condoms and scented lube samples as part of a Safe Sex campaign. My mother graciously lowered her window and obliged, though while choosing a scented

and Fresh-baked Sugar Cookie. This was all too much for my father, who impatiently revved the engine a few times in a "thank you, buh-bye" gesture. Eventually the light turned green and we were off.

As we made our way up the street, my brother broke the silence: "Our teacher gave us condoms, but he told us it's safest just to masturb-" "SHUSH!" My father abruptly cut him off, shaking his head in disbelief. I, too, was a little shocked by my brother's forthrightness, but he was part of the New Era: an era in which speaking up saved lives and "silence," (as the saying used to go), equaled death. I myself had come of age in the 70's, when nobody really talked about intimate issues, and said "silence" invariably equaled a stiff drink! I wasn't used to being enlightened about lubricants, masturbation and condom-use by people on the streets armed with bullhorns, in front of my parents, before I'd even come out of the Closet.

Man, had the times changed.... Back when I was a teen, the only lube I could get hold of was Vaseline; there was

lube, she couldn't decide between Lavender



premium, scented or hypoallergenic available. Masturbation used to be something no one dared talk about, unless it was around the dinner table, and then only in a roundabout way. My mother usually initiated the conversation: "John, you're leaving a lot of Vaseline all over the tub. Your grandmother's going to slip and hurt herself if you don't wipe everything down better."

My poor mother. Her Vaseline-that dusty jar in the closet-must have lasted 20 years before I got hold of it: aqua blue, handblown glass, and these days it's probably valuable on Ebay. Suddenly she's buying a jar a month. What must she have thought?

You young people laugh; you've got hip moms. They've read books. Masturbation is natural; it's safe and fun! But back when I was a teen, such "stimulation" was a crime and my trail of evidence didn't just end in the bathroom: police tape was wrapped around my bedroom as well. My detective mother-always gathering evidence, but never making an arrest-liked to put purple sheets on my bed. Before mothers had access to over-the-counter Luminol, dark sheets told them everything they needed to know.

I recall a particularly disastrous "romantic evening for one." I was channel surfing on my little black and white bedroom TV when I stumbled-across a college wrestling match. Back then, wrestling was the closest thing we had to hot, male-on-male action, and for me, their singlets never failed to inspire a doublet. After carefully moving my sheets out of harm's way, I settled-in and got down to business.

But wait: Did I hear footsteps? Is my door knob turning? Why am I lying here naked, watching wrestling on TV??

Two quick raps of knuckle and the door cracked open. My father's head came into peripheral view. To hell with laundry-fresh! I grabbed my sheet and vanked it back over my nakedness as quickly as I could, but alas, with too much force. I overshot my body, and even the bed. It was like witnessing the sudden, catastrophic failure of a plump drag queen's overburdened spandex ensemble: we watched in collective, slow-motion horror as the liberated sheet wafted across the room and into a corner, out of reach. My father said nothing and closed the door, and it wasn't long before I heard liquor bottles rattling in the cabinet down the hall...

I had never heard of a sex toy. It would be a decade at least, before they found a

respectable home in the Self Pleasure or Die sections of widelydisseminated safe sex guides. Indeed, before devices like Fleshlights could be shipped to the door with a click of a mouse, one had to use whatever was available

vacuum hoses, hollowed-

around the house:

out bananas, Kenwood speaker bass ports...you get the point.

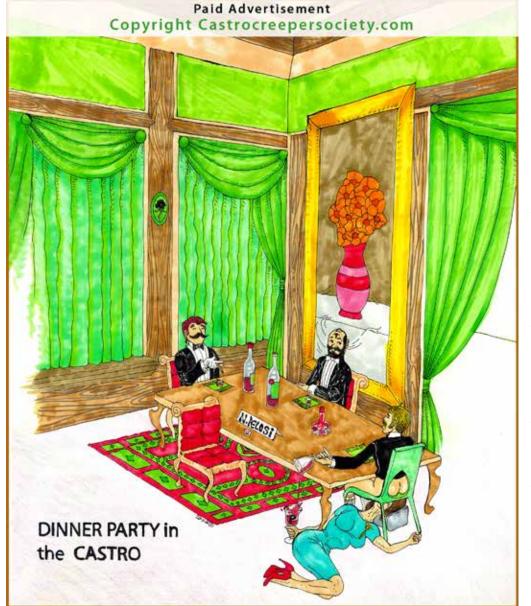
Being a nascent Romantic, I lit candles and attempted to deflower my bed. I cut a hole in the top of my mattress, then doused a sponge in warm water and tucked it inside the opening, but did my makeshift mangina work? Unfortunately no. My flat, gargantuan mattress hardly afforded the leverage necessary to properly execute a horizontal mambo. In the end, I was reduced to vigorously bouncing myself up and down on the bed, rigid and spread-eagle like a blow up doll possessed; my feathered, overly hair-sprayed 70's hair flopping forward and back like wings with each blissful impact.

For the first couple of seconds the feeling was exquisite but after a few more violent plunges into the rough sponge I felt as though my nether regions had burst into flames. The sudden pain and sensitivity was shocking. I don't think a facial expression has changed so quickly-from bliss to acid-bath contortions-since that Nazi looked into the Arc of the Covenant after Indiana Jones had told everyone else not to. I had a rash that lasted for weeks. Vowing to never so much as look in the direction of a sponge again, I flipped the mattress over to hide the hole, eventually forgetting about it altogether, and that was that...or so I'd thought.

A few years after my family's fateful trip to San Francisco, my makeshift mangina made one last appearance, while my father was helping me move. It was the first time he'd ever seen the infamous hole up close: unbeknownst to me, it was banging him in the face as we wrestled the mattress up a flight of stairs. We flopped the bedding down on the floor and there it was, staring up at us. OMG, how could I have so quickly forgotten my torrid, reckless night with the Sealy Posturepedic?

I remember preparing for awkward silence but perhaps this time, things would be different. It was a new era, even for my father. He had read books and watched Oprah. Masturbation is natural; it's safe and fun. As we stood there in the unfurnished room, at opposite ends of my wounded mattress, I figured that he was recounting all the helpful chapters he had read, desperately trying to figure out which topic best gave him the wisdom to gracefully handle this particularly delicate situation. What disarming statement would he come up with to diffuse the moment?

As he began to speak, I shook my head and sighed: "Yes Dad, there's a six-pack in the Fridge."



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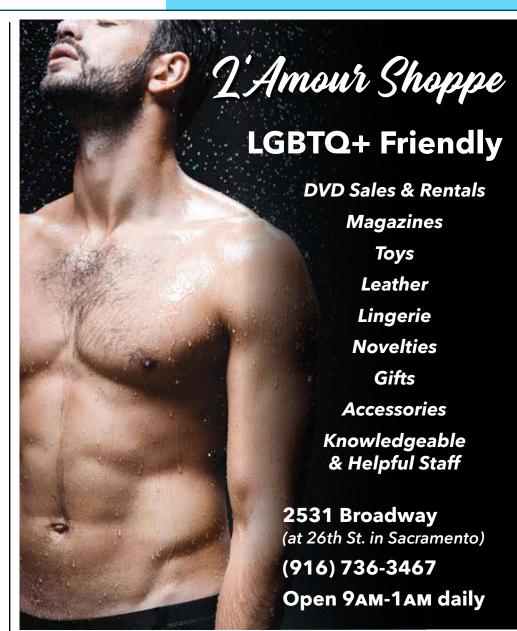
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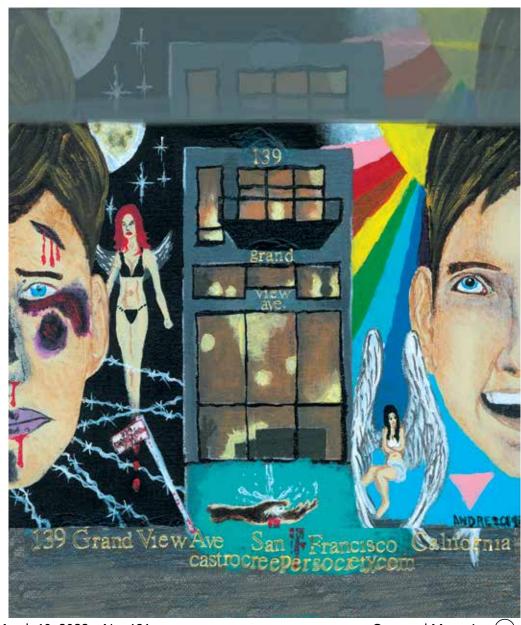
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