Special Issue

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Be A Part of the NOH8 Campaign!

The NOH8 Campaign returns to Sacramento, CA on Saturday, April 15th with the help of Placer Law Group, APC. Stop by Uptown Studios anytime between 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to pose for an official NOH8 photo by photographer Adam Bouska. No reservations needed! Photos are first-come, first-served and we move fast! Please arrive camera-ready with a plain white shirt to match the signature style of the NOH8 photos.

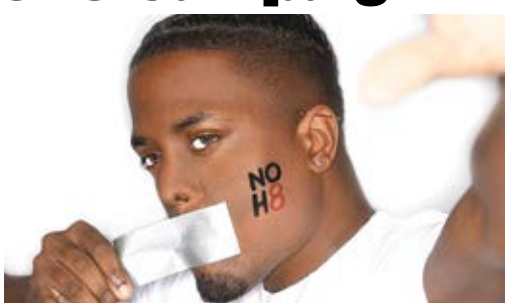
The NOH8 Campaign is a charitable organization whose mission is to promote marriage, gender and human equality through education, advocacy, social media, and visual protest.

Event Details:

When:
Saturday, April 15th, 2023
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Where:
Uptown Studios
2415 23rd Street
Sacramento, CA 95818

When To Arrive

Most people tend to arrive before the photo shoot is scheduled to begin, but as long as you're lined up before the advertised end time (4:00 PM), you'll still have a chance to pose!



Once You Arrive, The Next Steps Are Easy!

1. Fill-out one numbered model release for each person
2. Process your payment (cash and credit card only)
3. Trade your processed model release for duct tape!
4. Apply a NOH8 temporary tattoo for your photo
5. NOH8 Co-Founder Adam Bouska will photograph roughly 5-10 frames per person. One frame will be selected/edited by our team and made available within approximately six weeks (timeline subject to change).

Cost:

NO TICKETS REQUIRED TO ATTEND
Single/Solo Photos: $40
Couple/Group Photos: $25 per person

NOH8 accepts cash and credit cards only. Fees paid to participate cover services and costs for one edited digital print only, made available via noh8campaign.com, and do not include physical prints.

COME CAMERA-READY
WEAR A WHITE SHIRT
POSE & MAKE A STATEMENT

Senator Wiener's Statement on Death of Heklina

San Francisco drag icon, founder of Oasis nightclub, and community leader Heklina passed away recently while in London for a performance. In response, Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) issued the following statement:

Heklina

"I am absolutely devastated. Heklina was an icon in the truest sense — funny, caring, outrageous, and brave. I first saw Heklina perform when I was a young gay man in the 1990s, new to San Francisco. Over the years, I got to know her and helped her find a space for Oasis. I've rarely worked with someone as fierce, creative, and dedicated.

"Heklina created events and community spaces that spun glitter and giant wigs and raucous jokes into a feeling of home. She was fiercely outspoken and always stood up for her friends and community. She was the soul of San Francisco, and it's hard to imagine the city without her.

"Heklina was also a staunch defender of drag — which is under extreme attack right now — and created opportunities for young drag queens to find their space. While we grieve, we must honor her memory by remembering the joy she brought us and the importance of the art form to which she dedicated her life."

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Trans Week of Visibility Set for March 27 to April 2

by Annamarie Smith (she), Communications Chair, Stonewall Democrats of Greater Sacramento

This year is proving to be an incredibly challenging one for trans folk across the country, but here in Sacramento, there has been a burst of fantastic news. The local public school board, City Council and County Board of Supervisors have all passed motions declaring the area's annual Transgender Week of Visibility, which will be from March 27 to April 2.

Nationally recognized transgender advocate, Evan Minton (he/they), is delighted with the results.

"We found out just how much the broader community cares about our safety and social status," he said.

"Our cisgender allies were behind us in force, asking how they could help. Our trans youth are both a key part of this fight and the future of it," he continued.

Referring to the 432 anti-trans bills that have been introduced in other state legislatures in the year so far, Minton acknowledged the uphill fight ahead.

"The political wave against us feels big, but our joy and resistance are so much greater," he said.

Minton worked tirelessly with a handful of transgender and allied folks to promote this new event, including Rainer Apostle, Nikki Paschal and the Stonewall Democrats.

The Sacramento City Unified School District kicked things off on March 16 with its unanimous adoption of the Trans Week of Visibility declaration.

"Sac City USD led the way not only because they went first, but also because their motion went way beyond a symbolic affirmation," Minton said. "It is already very important that they organized a transgender rights flag raising ceremony, and that President Chinua Rhodes spoke so movingly in favor of school safety and the protection of historically disenfranchised communities."

"Going further, President Rhodes invited LGBTQ advocates to sit down with the SCUSD staff to craft a binding motion that requires the school system to support transgender students, teachers and staff; to encourage classroom discussion of trans issues; and to report back to the community with substantial reports on their progress in this policy area."

Next up: the Mayor and City Council. Councilmember Lisa Kaplan and Mayor Darrell Steinberg sponsored a motion to affirm the dignity, rights, and humanity of Sacramento's trans, non-binary, and gender non-conforming community. Once again, the vote was unanimous.

Sharp divisions did emerge when the County Board of Supervisors took its turn.

Phil Serna (District 1) led the push for a Trans Visibility Week declaration at the County Board, and Supervisors Patrick Kennedy (District 2), Rich Desmond (District 3) and Pat Hume (District 5) joined him.

However, Supervisor Frost (District 4) voted no. In a mean-spirited gesture, she even went so far as to withhold her signature from the Declaration itself.

As we go to press, West Sacramento has adopted a similar Declaration, and Washington USD plans to do so in late April.

At the state Capitol, legislators and state leaders celebrated trans visibility by wearing pins declaring that "Trans People Belong".

"Our thanks go to Equality California, California's Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis, Attorney General Rob Bonta and Rep. Barbara Lee (U.S. House, Cal. 12th; Co-Chair, Congressional Black Caucus) for leading the charge at the state-wide level," Minton added.

What Minton did not entirely anticipate was the huge uptake of the Trans Visibility Week concept among trans youth. The public galleries and ceremonial flag-raising events were exceptionally well attended by transgender persons, including youth and their parents.

"I was overjoyed by the number of students and community members who heard about what we were doing, joined us at the various local government public meetings, and spoke out fearlessly," said Minton.

"I met so many trans youth and their proud parents; we are inventing ways for everyone to support each other and to stay in touch," added Minton.

Minton also enjoyed a remarkable response from the local press. The coverage included a feature interview on a local NPR program and an op-ed in the Sacramento Bee (co-authored with Rainer Apostol, a trans Capitol staffer.)

Minton's impressive biography is evidence itself of the maturation of the transgender rights movement. He was the first openly transgender person to work in the California State Capitol, and transitioned genders during his employment there.

As a legislative staffer turned legislative and political advocate, he has been instrumental in passing landmark, first-in-the-nation LGBTQ+ rights legislation.

Minton was also the plaintiff in a high-profile ACLU lawsuit, which reached the United State Supreme Court. In 2020, Evan served as an Expert Witness to the U.S. House Oversight Committee on President Trump's attacks on LGBTQ+ Americans.

His continuing public service duties include: Co-Chair of the California Lieutenant Governor's Transgender Advisory Council; Co-Chair of the Democratic National Committee's Transgender Advisory Committee; and Member, Sacramento County Mental Health Board.

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Street Date:
May 25, 2023

2 California Pride

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May 29, 2023

Street Date:
June 8, 2023

3 LGBTQ+ History

Artwork Deadline:
June 12, 2023

Street Date:
June 22, 2023

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This Big Day of Giving, Help LGBTQ+ Students "Make the Grade"

by Rainbow Chamber Foundation

Education is crucial to lifelong success --- college graduates make more money and, on average, are known to have better life outcomes on many measures like health and general wellness than those without a college degree.

But for many gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) students, the obstacles to graduation are numerous. Students in the LGBTQ community are statistically more likely to deal with discrimination, bullying, substance abuse, and mental health issues than their non-LGBTQ classmates.

And on top of this, they are less likely to have family support.

LGBT college students are up to 4x more likely than straight and cisgender students to pick schools far away from their hometowns, whether they are escaping a hostile family, an unwelcoming town, or increasingly terrifying anti-gay and trans laws in their home state. (Source: UCLA Williams Institute, 2022, Experiences of LGBTQ People in Four-Year Colleges and Graduate Programs). This leads to less financial and emotional support from family.

What does this all mean? Essentially, our LGBTQ+ friends, neighbors, and community members are less likely to finish college, less likely to earn a living wage, and less likely to achieve their dreams than their cisgender and straight peers.

The Rainbow Chamber Foundation, the non-profit giving arm of the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, wants to partner with you to see every member of our local LGBTQ+ community thrive!

Since 2008, the Foundation has proudly awarded more than 120 scholarships and has contributed more than $375,000 to fund college and vocational education scholarships for LGBTQ and LGBT-supportive youth and support non-profit organizations, including the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center, National Suicide Prevention Program Trevor Project, GSA Network, Transgender Law Center, Sacramento International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival (SIGLFF), and the Equality California Institute. The Foundation focuses most of its giving on scholarships and organizations that help LGBTQ youth.

The Foundation is thrilled to be participating again in the Big Day of Giving on May 4. The Big Day of Giving is "an annual 24-hour giving event that unites caring people to raise funds for nonprofits that strengthen El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, and Yolo counties" (bigdayofgiving.org). Giving opens on April 20 – make sure to bookmark the Rainbow Chamber Foundation's page (go here or use the QR code in the image: https://www.bigdayofgiving.org/organization/rainbowchamberfoundation)

Your gift will help dozens of students in the coming year pay for books, tuition, fees, school supplies, and living expenses. In addition to the actual financial investment, many of our scholarship recipients tell us that knowing the community is rallying behind them gives them strength to continue with their studies when times get hard.

Together, we can help our LGBTQ+ students make the grade and achieve their dreams! Thank you for investing in the future of our community this Big Day of Giving.

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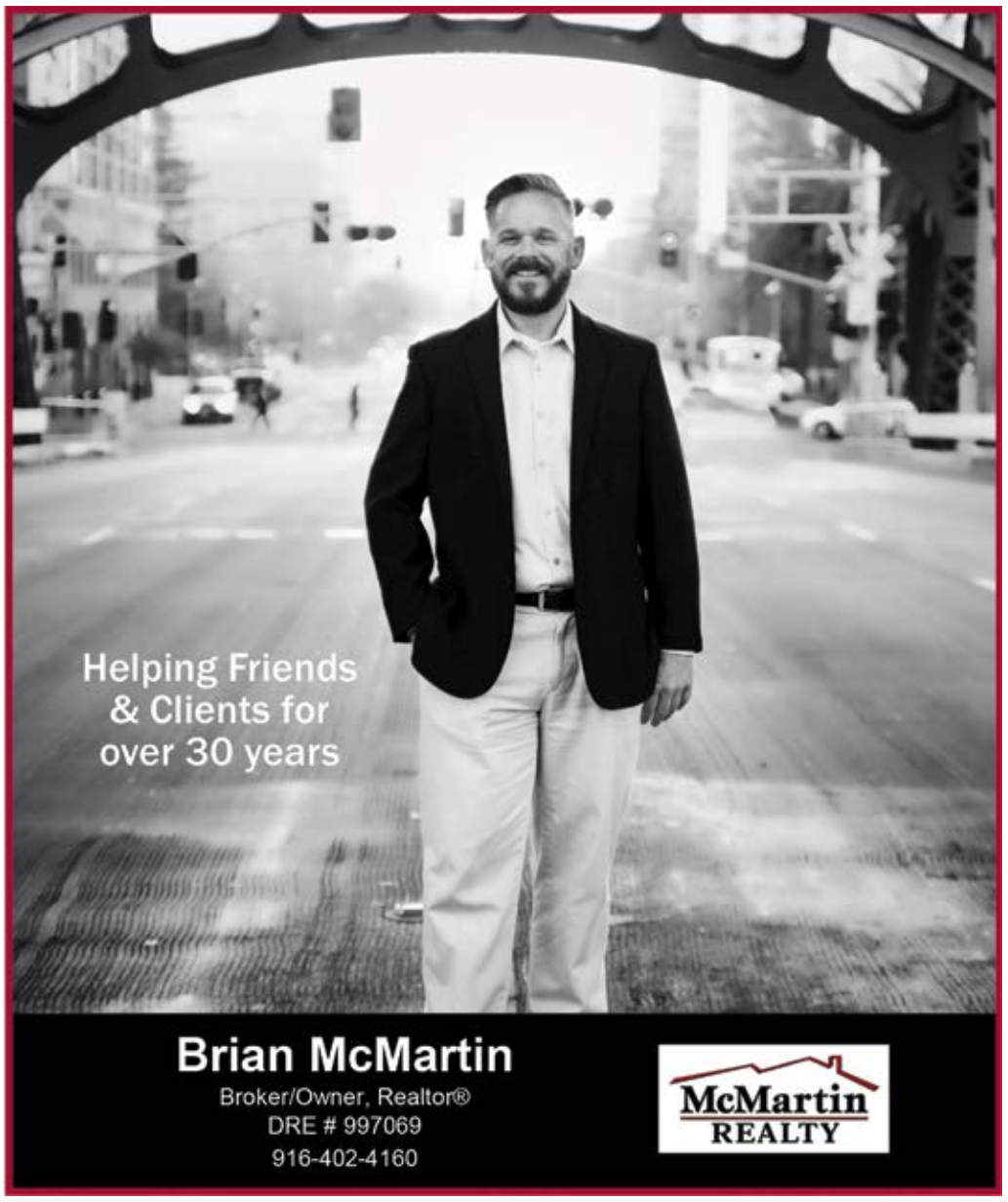

How Sexual Violence Impacts The LGBTQ+ Community,

Contributors to Article: Jess Lemos (They/She)
Jaime Gerigk (She/Her), Julie Bornhoeft (She/Her)

The past year has been turbulent for the LGBTQ+ Community. Many anti-LGBTQ+ bills have made their way through Congress, threatening the safety of transgender and queer youth, as well as increased violence towards the LGBTQ+ Community. The impacts of these political and social issues leave the LGBTQ+ community in even more need of allyship and violence prevention than ever before.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. WEAVE works to educate our community and support survivors 365 days a year and uses April as an opportunity to raise awareness of sexual violence, how it impacts communities and how to prevent sexual violence.

Sexual violence impacts LGBTQ+ survivors disproportionately higher than other demographics. Statistics offer insight into this issue, and according to the Centers for Disease Control,

"1 out of 8 lesbians
1 out of 2 bisexual women
2 out of 5 gay men
1 out of 2 bisexual men
1 out of 2 transgender folks"

have experienced a form of sexual violence in their lifetime. Not only is gender identity and sexual orientation a large factor in these statistics, but there are also the layers of identity such as race, ethnicity, language, and socioeconomic status that further create barriers to access care or wanting to report this violence. For example, 53% of Black trans women have experienced some form of sexual violence in their lifetime. Another group that experiences high levels of violence are our Indigenous communities. Indigenous women are three times more likely to experience rape or sexual assault compared to non-Indigenous women. These are just two examples of how identities impact survivors, as every survivor faces some form of barrier when it comes to reporting or reaching out.

There are many additional barriers to reporting sexual violence, such as a survivor feeling that they may not be believed, or feelings of shame and guilt. Some barriers that specifically impact the LGBTQ+ community can include if a person is not out to friends or family, they may not feel that they can disclose. If someone is trans, there is fear of continued violence from law enforcement and other first responders. Another barrier is a fear that someone who is trying to access care will not be treated in a gender affirming way.

The question we must answer is, "how do we help the LGBTQ+ Community, and prevent this violence from ever happening?"

First, educating the community on consent is essential. Affirmative consent, respecting consent, and teaching what a healthy relationship looks like is necessary for future generations of LGBTQ+ folks as they navigate the world. Second, teaching community members and community professionals LGBTQ+ affirming care so that every survivor feels comfortable, safe, and believed as they reach out for resources. Third, changing the Sacramento community's culture to prevent violence for everyone and to see sexual violence as a community requiring a community response.

WEAVE™

These actions are all strategies that WEAVE, Sacramento's local rape crisis center, commits to as part of supporting LGBTQ+ survivors and serving all people and all identities in Sacramento. WEAVE recognizes that layers of identity impact a survivor and what their individual needs are, as well as the barriers that a survivor must overcome to receive services.

WEAVE has partnered with the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce and Midtown Association in the Safe Night Out Program, which aims to train staff of nightlife establishments the warning signs of domestic violence and sexual violence, and how to intervene to keep establishments and patrons safe. A supplementary training, Pride, Pronouns and Progress, teaches LGBTQ+ identities, ways for establishments to have more inclusive language and practices, and how to support LGBTQ+ staff and patrons.

To schedule a free training for Safe Night Out or Pride, Pronouns and Progress, email Jess Lemos at jlemos@weaveinc.org or call (916) 319-4918. If you are a survivor and in need of immediate support, WEAVE is here for you. You can call the 24/7 support line at (916) 920-2952 or visit WEAVE's website at www.weaveinc.org to use our chat feature or to find out more information.

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Go Green and Save

by SMUD Director Rosanna Herber, Ward 4

Spring has sprung. As you start to tackle those home projects, now is a great time to think about small changes that are good for the environment and your wallet. Luckily, SMUD is here to help and has many resources to help you build a more sustainable home.

We recommend low-cost projects that can add up to big savings. Easy tips like replacing your dirty air filters can save 5-10 percent on your bill. If you have an older home, now is a good time to check your attic, doors and windows for leaks. A home can lose up to 20 percent of its heating or cooling through small leaks, which can be easily fixed with low-cost weather stripping and caulking.

In preparation for the warm summer days ahead, SMUD has partnered with the Sacramento Tree Foundation to offer free shade trees to help cool your home and clean our air. We also offer free mulch for your garden beds or around your trees to help retain moisture in the dry, summer heat. If you're working in your garden, think about solar lighting. It's free energy from the sun.

Try replacing your home lighting with LEDs. They are more energy efficient, last longer and don't heat up like traditional lighting does. Put your lights on a timer and you can cut costs even more.

If you're looking to replace appliances, SMUD has many options to explore before your big purchase and offers large savings if you go electric.

As a part of the Curtis Park Electric Stars, I am particularly fond of SMUD's home electrification savings. Electrification is a big part of our quest to eliminate carbon from our electric supply by 2030 and create a Clean Power City.

Home electrification appliances include heat pump water heaters, heat pump HVAC systems and my favorite -- induction cooktops -- all of which have rebates available.

These appliances all use electricity as the power source instead of gas, which can provide big savings amongst the rising price of natural gas. It also allows us to source lower-cost, clean energy.

Induction cooktops are the safest, fastest, healthiest and best performing cooking option for your kitchen and there is a $750 rebate. What I love about the induction cooktop is that it heats up fast, is very precise with temperature and doesn't heat up the home like gas cooktops. It also cleans up really easy.

The heat pump HVAC is three times more efficient than gas and is the most efficient way to heat and cool your home. If you are looking to replace your unit, SMUD has rebates up to $3,500.

We also have rebates for heat pump water heaters, which are among the highest energy consuming products in your home. You can save up to $3,000 with SMUD's home energy rebates. And don't forget that we have rebates for our business customers too, along with design help and advice on how to build an efficient, cost saving business.

Springtime is a time for home projects and as your not-for-profit electric utility, we want to partner with you to reduce your costs and build a Clean Power City.

We have many other opportunities for rebates on energy saving appliances at smud.org/rebates and tips on how to save energy around your home at smud.org/energytips. We also have an online energy store that provides products that save water and energy around your home or business. I encourage you to check it out at smudenergystore.com.

Every little bit counts. SMUD's programs and services help you save on your bottom line and helps us continue to provide clean and reliable power at some of the lowest rates in California.

As we transition to a zero-carbon economy, we need to partner with everyone to make it happen. Join the charge at smud.org/CleanPowerCity to learn more and get involved. *Rosanna Herber*

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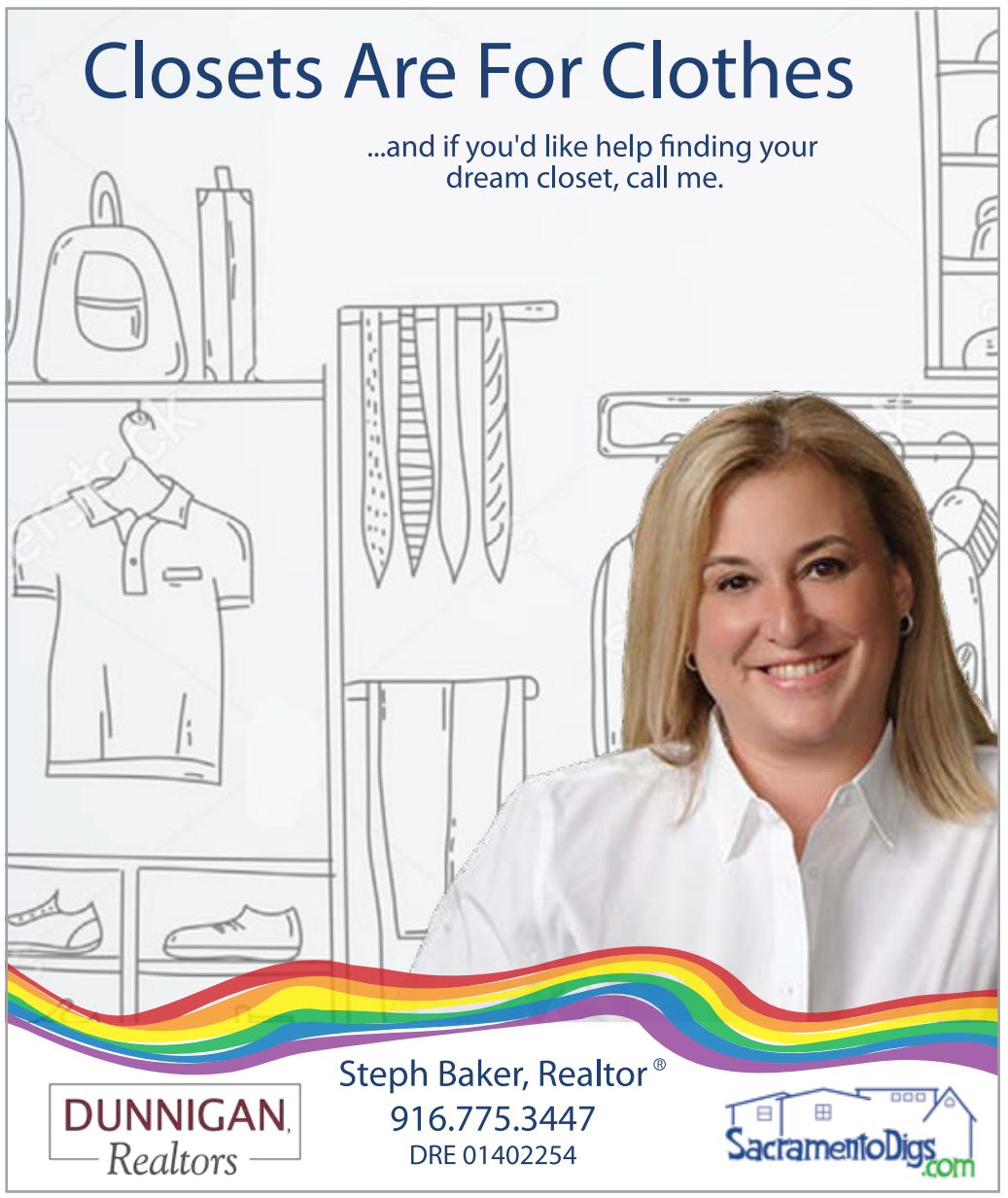

Sacramento's Miller Park Becomes a Safe Ground for Those Experiencing Homelessness

by Ken Magri

This winter's unusually cold, windy and rainy weather has created big challenges for Sacramento's unhoused population. Rising water levels at the Sacramento and American rivers have flooded many traditional locations used by unhoused campers. Constant rain has rendered the ground sopping wet everywhere, making it difficult to keep possessions dry.

In an effort to alleviate the difficulty for at least some, Sacramento's city and county governments – and the local nonprofit First Step Communities – teamed up to provide 15 travel-trailers, with added services, for people who are homeless to use at Miller Park.

It is part of the "Safe Ground" campaign created by the city to help reduce Sacramento's steadily growing homeless population. The 2022 estimate of the number of Sacramento County homeless people, done by the point-in-time count, reported an increase to 9,278 persons, up from 5,570 in 2019. A dramatic increase was also observed in homeless people who are vehicle-camping.

First Steps Communities operates a traditional 80-bed shelter near Loaves & Fishes, and a youth shelter on Del Paso Boulevard called The Grove. Additionally, it operates a tent facility in Auburn that can accommodate up to 50 homeless individuals.

First Step Communities was called in by the City of Sacramento a few years ago to operate a tent site under the W-X section of Interstate 80, during a construction phase. Later, the organization was contracted by the city to operate Safe Ground sites in Miller Park.

Last year, the city government set up 60 high-quality tents at Miller Park, spanning Marina View Drive and paralleling the Sacramento River. The tent village was fenced off for safety and included garbage pick-up, bathroom and shower services, and a dining area. Parking spaces were also provided at Miller Park for vehicle dwellers, so they could access the same services.

Staff was on-site 24 hours a day, and tenants worked with a case management team to help end the cycle of homelessness, which is a major priority of the Safe Ground project. The average length-of-stay for a tenant was 68 days.

But last September's surprising heat wave made the tents too hot and caused some tenants to be relocated. Likewise, there were more issues this winter with the severity of storms. "The previous tents were mostly destroyed during the New Year's weather event and people had to be evacuated," said Zach Freels, chief of staff to City Councilmember Katie Valenzuela, whose 4th district includes Miller Park.

"Yeah, the tents were a good deal. I liked it there because it was safe," said Scott (last name withheld), an unhoused man who now lives in a makeshift tent at the end of Broadway, just outside the park. A few of his homeless neighbors said they were among those tenants originally housed in the Safe Ground tents.

But people living less than 100 yards away could not be placed within the Safe Ground trailer site, which still has vacancies. "They would need to call 211; we don't do walk-ups," said Joe Pacheco, coordinator of the Safe Ground project for First Step Communities. "We get referrals from the Sacramento City Department of Community Response. They are responsible for identifying clients and bringing them in."

Could the tents make a comeback once the weather improves? "As of right now, tents are not slated to return to the park due to their lack of resiliency to extreme weather events," said Freels. "Trailers are the safest temporary option that the city had available to reopen the park."

The travel-trailers were provided to the city by Gov. Gavin Newsom. Purchased in 2020, they were originally located at Cal Expo and used as temporary shelters during the pandemic. Now situated near the front of Miller Park, they are intended to act as a temporary village of sorts, until the city and county governments work together to identify longer-term sources of emergency shelter.

Each of the Wildwood, Bullet and Premiere brand travel-trailers at Miller Park sleeps three people. But they are not hooked up for water or gas. "We provide showers and restrooms, they are serviced three times a week," Pacheco said. "We have clean, drinkable water and we provide two meals a day."

The Safe Ground space also includes 24-hour security, daily garbage service, covered tables and chairs for outdoor eating, and staff services. Tenants may come and go as they wish, but must visit guests outside of the fenced off area. Site Manager Demetrius Turner works to supervise the grounds, coordinate activities and act as a liaison, solving issues that come up between tenants and service providers.

The Miller Park site only lasts until May. The intention, Pacheco said, is to move the trailers to a new, possibly larger location.

After being homeless for five years, Leonard (who did not want to give a last name) is one of the current tenants at Safe Ground. "I am glad to have this, because without it I would be cold and wet at night," he said. "Out on the street it's always harder. Here I don't have to worry about being hungry or staying warm."

This story is part of the Solving Sacramento journalism collaborative. Solving Sacramento is supported by funding from the James Irvine Foundation and Solutions Journalism Network. Our partners include California Groundbreakers, Capital Public Radio, Outword, Russian America Media, Sacramento Business Journal, Sacramento News & Review, Sacramento Observer and Univision 19.

Long-time West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon Announces Candidacy for State Senate District 3

Christopher Cabaldon announced his candidacy for the newly drawn State Senate District 3, which includes parts of Solano, Yolo, Napa, Contra Costa, Sonoma, and Sacramento counties. Cabaldon, a respected leader in California politics, brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record of success to the race.

Christopher Cabaldon. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State.

"California is facing some of the most pressing challenges of our time, from the housing crisis, economic inequality and access to quality education," said Cabaldon. "I believe that we need experienced leaders to do the hard work necessary to find real solutions. That's why I'm running for State Senate - to bring people together and get things done for our communities."

Cabaldon was elected Mayor of West Sacramento in 1998 and was the first openly gay Filipino elected Mayor in the United States. He was also the longest serving LGBT Mayor in the country.

As Mayor of West Sacramento for over two decades, Cabaldon has been a strong advocate for smart growth, sustainable development, transportation infrastructure, and equitable economic opportunity. Under his leadership, West Sacramento became a model for urban revitalization, with new housing, retail, and office space driving economic growth and creating jobs.

Cabaldon is a respected leader, innovator, and collaborator, having been a leading voice on regional governance issues while serving as the chair of the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and the president of the California League of Cities.

"I am excited to take the next step in my public service career by running for State Senate District 3," said Cabaldon. "I look forward to meeting with voters throughout the district, hearing their concerns, and working with them to create a better future for all Californians."

Cabaldon has worked extensively in the world of education policy and was a Professor of Public Policy at California State University Sacramento. He also was appointed by President Obama to serve on the Executive Committee of the National Advisory Board for America's College Promise, which was chaired by Dr. Jill Biden. He currently works with the Institute for the Future, an organization dedicated to looking ahead to ensure society has the tools, methods, and capabilities to cope with socio-economic challenges before they become critical issues.

Cabaldon is committed to delivering real results for the people of Solano, Yolo, Napa, Contra Costa, Sonoma, and Sacramento counties.

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CANCER IS A DRAG!

Cancer Is A Drag hopes to help raise awareness about the growing need to break down barriers and improve health equity for LGBTQ+ cancer survivors - while educating about the important role exercise plays in a cancer survivor's recovery, to improve quality of life, and reduce risk of recurrence.

Funds raised through Cancer is A Drag will be used to support capacity building for Triumph Cancer Foundation and Sacramento Rainbow Chamber, and to support our local LGBTQ+ survivorship community through a newly developed workshop series and educational fitness booklet that will be distributed to members of the Sacramento LGBTQ+ community.

The event will be held at The Mix Downtown, 1525 L Street on April 13. For more information and to purchase tickets go to: https://one.bidpal.net/cancerisadrag2023/welcome

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Getting That Lush Look, But Without All The Water…

by John Nicolaus

With torrents of rain and a mountain range covered in feet of snow, it may be difficult to be concerned with water conservation, much less be thinking about your garden plans for 2023. But fear not! Spring will finally arrive and the gardening urge will get to many of us. Thing is: What should we plant and how should we plan to take care of it?

The Sacramento region is fortunate to have great growing weather for just about any type of plant if it's planted in the right place, and there's a wide variety of plants that look and feel lush, but actually take very little water to maintain once they're established. The operative term here, however, is 'once they're established', because all plants (trees included) need regular irrigation to get them going, with the idea being that irrigation can be reduced considerably after roughly a year of the plant being in the ground. Another important consideration is providing habitat for pollinating insects like hummingbirds, bees, ladybugs and butterflies. The great thing is, multiple goals can be achieved with the right plant selections.

One thing to consider: Many really drought tolerant plants don't do well in the shade. If you have a really shady spot, consider plants like ferns, succulents and even camellias (contrary to popular opinion, they are drought tolerant once established). Most of the 'dry lush' plants fare better with partial shade. Pollinators mostly do best in full sun.

Great, multi-purpose, easy care plants to consider are:

Acacia 'Cousin Itt'
Achillea (Yarrow)
Agave 'Blue Flame' (and many other types of Agave)
Buddleia (Butterfly Bush)
Feijoa (Pineapple Guava)
Lagerstroemia (Crape Myrtle)
Lantana
Lavender
Mahonia 'Soft Caress'
Nandina (Heavenly Bamboo)
Rosemary
Salvia (there are many colors and forms)

John Nicolaus is a Sacramento-based landscape architect who has practiced for over 30 years throughout California and the west.

UC Master Gardeners of Sacramento County Open Garden

In celebration of Earth Day, the UC Master Gardeners of Sacramento County will open our garden in partnership with Sacramento County Waste Management whom will be providing compost samples, a display on composting and offering one-on-one advice based on the most recent research-based sustainable practices and decades of experience.

Event Day and Date
Saturday, April 22, 2023
Event Time
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Event Location
Horticulture Center
11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Located Outside: Rain or Shine
Cost: Free
For More Info: UC Cooperative Extension at (916) 875-6913, sacmg.ucanr.edu

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Woodland Addresses Homelessness

by Wendy Weitzel

A Woodland project aims to end the cycle of homelessness by offering a range of lodging and services to help vulnerable residents stay safe, healthy and achieve housing stability.

TinyHomesWoodland.jpeg: Seth Newman of Friends of the Mission, left, Woodland City Manager Ken Hiatt, Woodland City Councilman Tom Stallard, and Scott Thurmond of Friends of the Mission, right, discuss the tiny homes village at its dedication ceremony in November 2022. (Photo by Spencer Bowen/City of Woodland)

When complete, the $35 million East Beamer Neighborhood Campus Project will provide temporary and permanent housing for 170 people and substance use treatment for 60.

The neighborhood includes three complementary parts. The first, a 100-person emergency shelter, opened in early 2021. The second, which opened in October, is a tiny home village of permanent, supportive housing — 31 furnished duplexes of one- and two-bedroom units. The last piece will be a 60-bed treatment facility, Walter's House, which broke ground on March 31.

Fourth & Hope, a faith-based nonprofit that provides food, clothing, shelter and recovery help for those in Yolo County, operates the emergency shelter, and will manage Walter's House.

Oversight of the tiny homes village comes from Yolo County, Fourth & Hope, Friends of the Mission and the City of Woodland.

The facilities at 1901 E. Beamer St. in Woodland are on 2.8 acres clustered around a shared green area, a garden, a community center and a health center. The parcel, donated by the city, was a wastewater treatment plant until the 1980s, and remained vacant since decommissioning and cleanup. Partners in the project came together with a vision for a neighborhood campus serving people with housing instability.

These homes "provide dignified shelter while those in need work to improve their circumstances," a Feb. 10 City of Woodland news release said.

One of its residents, Sabrina Truelove, agrees. "Living in the tiny homes has gotten me back on track in my life, [and] allows me to love myself more deeply while I apply for employment within the neighborhood." Jobs that are within walking or biking distance are vital for people like Truelove who do not have a vehicle.

The city cites evidence from a UC San Francisco study, saying this kind of transitional housing is one of the most effective interventions in reducing homelessness. In a randomized trial, researchers found that permanent supportive housing helps chronically unhoused individuals get shelter and stay housed much more effectively than comparable interventions. The study was published in 2020 in the journal "Health Services Research."

The tiny home community includes housing for 70 individuals plus an onsite manager, in 31 buildings. The one- and two-bedroom duplexes include two ADA-compliant units.

"It wasn't that long ago I stood in an empty field envisioning Fourth & Hope's future," said Doug Zeck, the organization's executive director. "I thought if we could bring homeless services together in one place, we could change many lives."

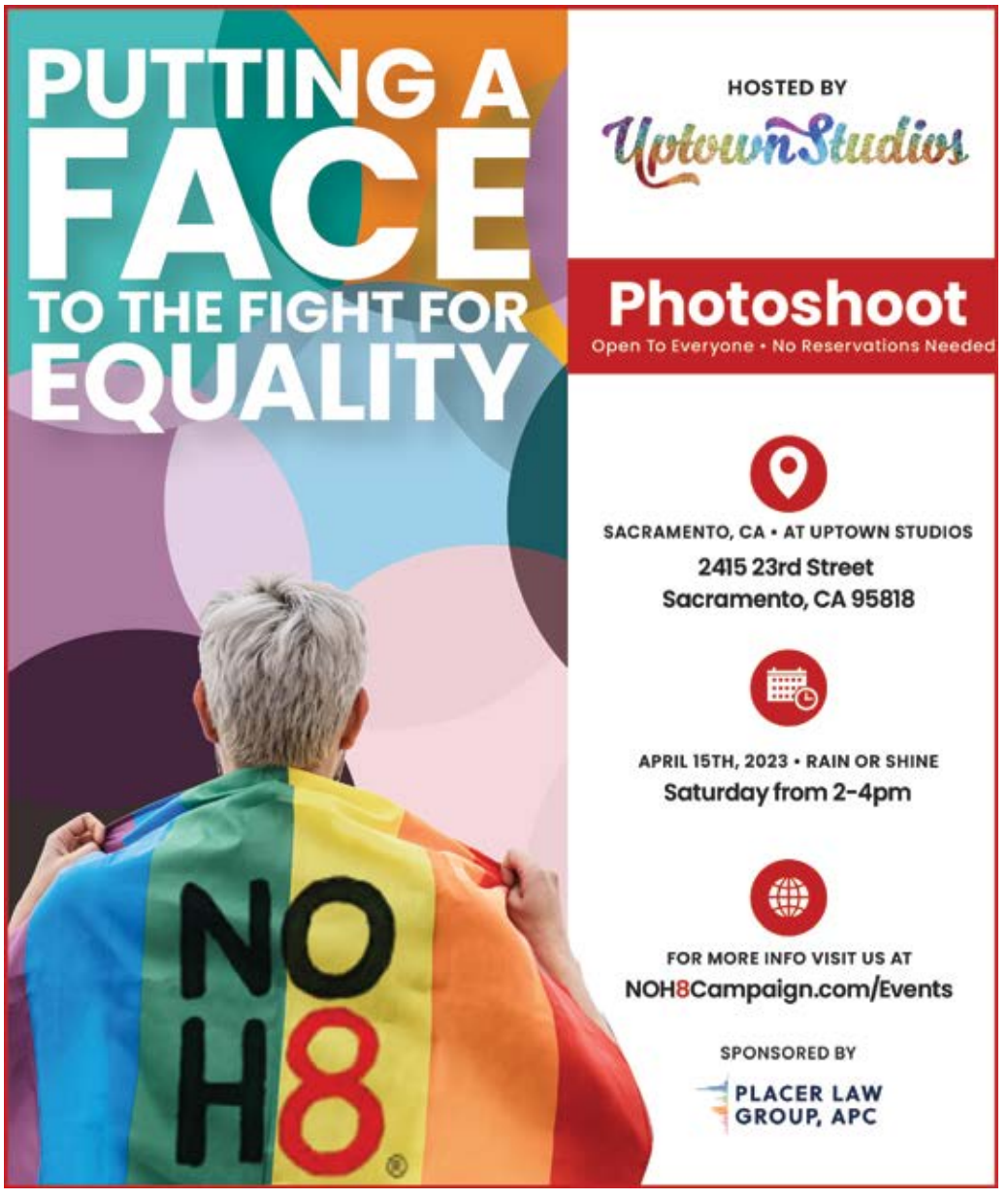
Three years later, the emergency shelter and a permanent supportive housing community are complete, and work on Walter's House begins soon. "This hub of hope is built by the collaboration and support of this community and agency partners," Zeck said. "It has changed the trajectory of our neighbors experiencing homelessness, while providing a model for a homeless service campus."

The impact of the first phase of the Woodland project was evident when Yolo County reported its most recent point-in-time count of those experiencing homelessness. On Feb. 23, 2022, the county identified 746 unsheltered people, an increase of 13.9% since its last survey, done in 2019.

Yolo County Public Guardian Ian Evans , noted the modest increase in overall homelessness compared to surrounding jurisdictions. For example, Sacramento County went up 67% and Napa County rose 53%. In addition, Yolo County numbers should decline when residents begin moving into a new vertical tiny home village in Davis — Paul's Place — later this month.

Evans said the change "speaks to the collaborative efforts that occur in our community.

Tiny Homes continues on page 35



Small Spaces Can Make the Biggest Impact

words and images by Joshua Novello

For those purchasing homes in Sacramento's older neighborhoods, or moving into their first midtown rental, it's an exciting time to start envisioning your personal space. As you start to search for inspiration and style, it can be easy to get caught up in the grandeur of sprawling designer estates and spacious apartments. But the truth is, small homes can offer just as much, if not more, creative freedom and design opportunities as their larger counterparts.

One of the aspects I find most intriguing when styling a small home is the ability to really hone in on a client's personal style and aesthetic, while taking advantage of the space's character. With less space to work with, every design choice becomes more impactful and intentional. You can really let your creativity shine and create a space that truly reflects your personality and tastes. Start with a feeling or a vibe that you want to portray. What best suits your lifestyle or the path you want to embark on in your new space? I always like to start this conversation with my clients and create a visual plan that brings their ideas to life. This can act as a personally curated plan that can be referenced when searching for inspiration and guidance. This also saves my clients from wasting money on pieces they're not sure will work in their existing space and allow them to shop confidently for their home.

When we only have a limited amount of square footage to work with, it becomes essential to make the most of every nook and cranny. This can lead to some innovative solutions, such as built-in storage under stairs, or a custom lofted bed to free up space. Consider multifunctional pieces like storage ottomans or nesting tables for extra surface area. Want to stay on budget and still show off your personal design style? A few vintage or second hand pieces automatically add warmth to a space and keep things from looking sterile. Thrift shops, artisan pop-ups or a trip to our local antique fair are great places to start collecting and curating a one-of-a-kind home. Make sure to add in some personal mementoes that tell a story and don't be afraid to leave some room for new memories too.

One of the strongest misconceptions about small homes is that they have to feel cramped and cluttered. Try floating some of your furniture, like an accent chair or sofa in the room's interior to keep walls and windows accessible. With the right layout, a small home can actually feel spacious and airy. Make sure to be mindful of your proportions, bring in some mirrors and use strategic lighting. A single central light can feel dismal and make a room seem flat. Sprinkle in light sources around your space at different levels to create a sense of depth and make a room feel larger than it really is.

Perhaps one of the most exciting things about styling a small space is the chance to experiment with different design styles. Because you have less space to commit to a certain look, you can feel free to make a statement. Gone are the days of neutral everything and whites on whites. Be bold with color, set the mood and play with textures that you might not feel comfortable incorporating into a larger space like a lime washed wall or wallpapered moment. Add some art! Art can be anything from postcards to graphic posters. Hanging large textiles or a collection of prints you already own can help ground a space, visually define an area and help you envision the perfect color palette. This can lead to some truly unique design choices that set your home apart or highlight some architectural features older homes commonly have.

Of course, styling a small home does come with its own set of challenges. Staying organized and purposeful as you style your space is critical, as it forces you to evaluate your belongings and prioritize what is truly important to you and your lifestyle.

Moving into a smaller home is a great opportunity to invest in yourself and your style. Remember, when using proper lighting, art and personal items, experiment and don't be afraid to make mistakes. You can create a home that reflects your unique personality and lifestyle. From older homes to studio apartments, every space offers opportunities to make every design choice count. Whether you prefer a minimalist aesthetic or a bold eclectic style, there is no shortage of inspiration to be found. When the tunnel seems difficult to get through, consider partnering with a designer. The world of interior design isn't only for those with deep pockets. With some guidance, ingenuity and trust, local designers like myself, can create a space both functional and beautiful with your story in mind.

Joshua Novello is a Sacramento based designer and artist. With years of experience in exhibition design and studio art, Novello has crossed over to the world of interiors and established Novello Studio in 2020, where he has styled and designed residential spaces throughout Northern California.

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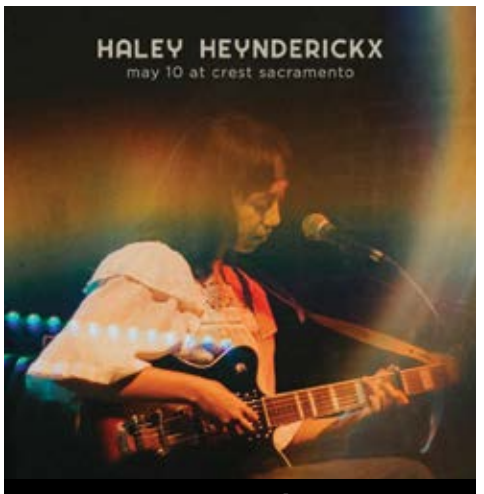

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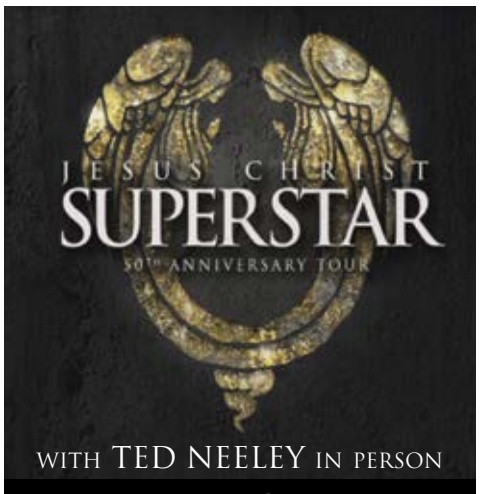

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Check out Tom's music on YouTube:
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photo by Dusti Cunningham

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Home Electrification - Is It Right For Me?

by Jennifer Kennedy,
Perfection Home Systems Inc. CSLB# 464658

We can all agree that fossil fuels aren't good for us or our environment. Reducing our carbon footprint is something we should all be striving toward. SMUD has a noble initiative to become carbon free by 2030, and part of their pathway is offering very hefty incentives to convert natural gas appliances to all-electric versions.

Heat Pump heating technology is not new, however it is one of those things that have been dramatically improved over the decades. Here is some information to help you decide if it is a right fit for you.

How Heat Pumps work:

Extracting heat from a source- in this case the outside air. That warmth is absorbed by the refrigerant (aka Freon) and compressed, then redistributed into the house through the ducting system. Refrigerant is run through your system via copper lines then zips through a coil (like a radiator) and the central system's fan inside the home pushes air across the coil to warm it where it then works its way through the ductwork and into the rooms. Similar to an air conditioner, but in reverse.

What are the PROS:

- Less dependency on fossil fuels. These systems use only electricity to heat your home.
- SMUD is customer owned vs PG&E shareholder owned. Historically less volatile rate changes.
- Can work great in combination with solar, however we'll touch more on that…
- Doesn't dry out the air as much. Gas heating is VERY drying, so if you are sensitive to the dryness of a traditional gas heater, this may help.
- Safer. Not a gas appliance so no gas, fire, or carbon monoxide risk.
- Runs more efficiently when sized, installed, and run by the homeowner properly.
- LOTS of incentives right now. Between the local utilities, state, and federal tax credits- there has never been a better time to convert your gas furnace to heat pump*.

How about some CONS:

- Work differently and there is a learning curve. You need to run the system more constantly (but it is much more efficient!) We recommend no more than a 5° swing from the coldest thermostat setting (overnight/ away) to where you want it set when you are home.
- Cooler air created (but still warm!) Typically, the air coming out of a gas furnace is around 120° where a heat pump produces 95° air. We as humans are 98° so if you put your hand up to the vent of a heat pump it will seem cooler, but there is heat contained in the air.
- Start to diminish in efficiency at about 40° outdoor temperature. Remember where I said it is using the outside air to help pre-heat the refrigerant? Just like in the summer when the hotter it gets outside the harder it is for the system to perform at peak efficiency.
- Potential infrastructure issues with more homes and cars being electrified? How much demand over supply do we have now? A question that needs to be addressed by the utilities and government.
- Will there be non-heating days during cold snaps like we see no-cooling days during heatwaves? "It's too cold, you can't run your heater!" We don't know for certain.
- Outdoor unit runs both heating and cooling so location is key. However, the existing outdoor unit can be moved in most homes, heat pump or not!
- Additional electrical circuit will be needed. This typically isn't a problem but some homeowners may not have room on the panel or a way to run additional wiring for the system. A panel upgrade may be necessary in the worst circumstances.

Have solar? One thing you may not know: "I have solar, this is great, I'll get all my heat for free!" First and foremost, awesome for having solar on your home! However, everything is based on solar hours when it comes to how much solar energy is collected to be able to energize your home. What does this mean? In the winter- the sun is lower in the sky, weather determines how much the sun is out, and the days are much shorter. This means that the panels can't collect as much energy as they do in the summer. Also, you have more lighting needs in the winter because of the shorter and darker days. While new heat pump systems are much more efficient than in years past, they still consume electricity so there is a very high likelihood that you'll run out of 'free' solar power based on the load necessary for your entire home.

If you would like to learn more about these systems, or my personal favorite the dual fuel (hybrid) type systems; please visit our website https://hotcold.com/home-electrification/ where I continue the conversation with unlimited words on the internet!

*Not all utilities are offering incentives. The State of CA has not yet announced their program. Please consult your trusted CPA about the Federal Tax Credit (tax liability matters, math is hard, you know the drill.)

Jennifer Kennedy is with Perfection Home Systems Inc. CSLB# 464658. Perfection is a longtime supporter of the Sacramento LGBTQ+ community and a member of the Rainbow Chamber of Commer www.hotcold.com

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Want to Declutter Your Home This Spring Cleaning Season? Avoid These 7 Mistakes.

by Christina Giaquinto

The spring cleaning season is always such a great time to refresh your home and everyday lifestyle. Are you already planning to deep clean your carpets and rugs, clean all of your home's windows, and wipe down all counters and cabinets? These are all fantastic steps to take, but have you thought about taking the time to declutter each room? You may not know it, but if you have a cluttered home, you are unknowingly hurting your mental wellbeing.

It's true – clutter takes up physical space, uses your mental energy, and can amplify stress and anxiety. In my experience as the Professional Organizer and Brand Ambassador of Modular Closets (a DIY customizable closet system that organizes any space in your home), I have found that decluttering and organizing your home is one surefire way to live healthier and happier. That said, if you want to declutter your home this spring cleaning season, avoid these blunders:

Mistake #1: Thinking You Need to Throw Everything Away

Oftentimes, when one thinks of decluttering, they falsely assume that any and all clutter should just be thrown away. Their reasoning is that if articles of clothing and other clutter have been strewn around the home for a long time, the items are obviously not important and it would be easiest to just toss them out. However, don't make this mistake, as it can lead to unnecessary waste in landfills. You may also have friends and family who would love the items you no longer want, or you can donate them to charitable causes that need them.

Mistake #2: Keeping an Item You Don't Need

On that same note, don't make the mistake of holding onto an article of clothing or other product because you think you might use it in the future. If the item has been sitting in the back of your closet or laying forgotten underneath your bed for months (or years!), then I recommend donating it, giving it away to a friend, or trying to sell it. You get the benefit of less clutter, and the item will go to someone who truly wants to use it. It's a win-win for you both! Don't let objects take over you – remember that you always control the items.

Mistake #3: Starting the Decluttering Process Without Planning Piles

I get it – when you finally decide to declutter and organize your home, it can be tempting to just go all-in and start tossing all the items strewn about into one box to sort through later. However, you will streamline the whole process if you plan out your plies first – you can designate a pile of items you will keep, a pile to donate, a pile to sell, and a pile to throw away. Then, you can sort all of the items as you go – then you can easily box up the piles to donate to Goodwill or another organization, place all the items in the "Throw Away" pile into a trash bag, etc.

Mistake #4: Decluttering With Everything Still in the Space

Many people make the mistake of decluttering their drawers, closets, and entire rooms with all of the items still in the space. Don't commit this blunder, as you can really optimize the decluttering process by first emptying out the closet / room / space before sorting the items. You will be much more cognizant of the items you decide to place back in the space and consider more if you really want to hold onto certain items you haven't used in a long time. Also, you won't overlook items that may be hidden under others.

Declutter continues on the next page

Declutter continued on the previous page

Mistake #5: Keeping Clutter for a Garage Sale That Isn't on the Calendar

Garage sales are a fun and effective way to rid your home of items you no longer need, make a little profit, and give someone else the chance to enjoy your old items at a very low price – as the saying goes, one man's trash is another man's treasure! However, if you want to hold a garage sale to sell your old items, it is absolutely key to schedule the day and time you plan to hold it. Otherwise, you may end up having to keep pushing the garage sale out as other obligations come up, all the while still holding onto a bunch of items cluttering up your space.

Mistake #6: Decluttering Without a Goal and Intention for Your Space

Having a goal you want to achieve for your space will further optimize the decluttering process. Do you finally want to sort through that jumbled junk drawer in your kitchen? Are you ready to organize all of the clothes in your master bedroom's closet? Do you have a ton of makeup and other beauty products you really want to declutter and organize? Set your goal and declutter accordingly. This will prevent you from being distracted by any clutter in other spaces – as you achieve one goal, you can then set another goal for another space. One step at a time!

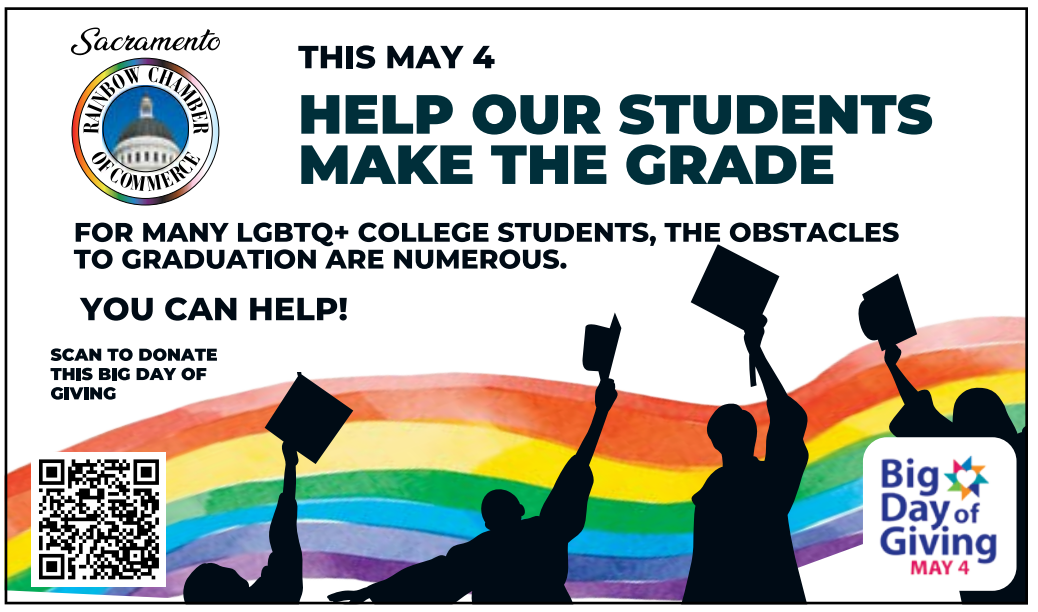
Mistake #7: Decluttering Without a Snack On Hand

Trust me, decluttering and organizing any space can be tiring! This is especially true if you are moving heavy boxes and equipment around. So keep your energy and momentum up by having a tasty snack nearby at all times. This can also make the process more fun and enjoyable!

To Wrap It All Up

Are you ready to declutter and organize your home this spring cleaning season? Good for you! You can make the decluttering process much more efficient by avoiding some common mistakes others make, like thinking you need to throw everything away, decluttering while everything is still in the space, and keeping clutter for a garage sale that isn't yet on the calendar. Also, do not be so hard on yourself, because this process is a lot! The fact that you are working on your space to make it better is truly such an accomplishment. Good luck!

Christina Giaquinto is the Professional Organizer and Brand Ambassador of Modular Closets (DIY customizable closet units that organize any space in your home). Christina focuses on giving her clients the tools, methods, and techniques to transform their lives and homes through decluttering and organizing. She combines spiritual coaching and organizing to help her clients let go of things that do not spark joy and happiness. Her work has been featured on sites like Popsugar, Women's Health, Reader's Digest, Realtor, The Spruce and Yahoo. www.modularclosets.com



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The Marketing of Air Jordans Plus, Three More New Movies

by Chris Narloch

When you're not busy bingeing the final season of "Succession" and/or the second season of "Yellowjackets," check out one or more of these new movies currently in theaters.

Air

Since I am not really a basketball fan, I wasn't expecting to love Ben Affleck's new dramedy about how Nike wooed Michael Jordan and his parents away from Adidas and Converse at a time when those brands were more successful. The rest is shoe business history, and "Air" brings it to life with verve and humor, thanks to a fun script, a great cast, and solid direction by Affleck.

Affleck also stars as the decision maker at Nike, and he is aided by a terrific supporting cast that includes Chris Tucker, Jason Bateman, Marlon Wayans, Chris Messina, Julius Tennon, and the movie's MVPs – Matt Damon and Viola Davis – who play, respectively, the Nike agent who cinched the deal and Jordan's mother, who helped guide her son to greatness (and great wealth). In wide theatrical release.

The Lost King

A feel-good film if ever there was one, this delightful new movie, which was inspired by a true story, follows an ambitious writer and amateur historian who defied the academic establishment to unearth Richard III's long-missing remains underneath a Leicester car park.

Philippa Langley also managed to polish King Richard's much-maligned reputation in the process and fought to obtain a proper burial for his bones. Luckily, the filmmakers found the perfect person to portray Philippa: the always-wonderful British actress, Sally Hawkins.

Scream VI

I enjoy a good horror film, if it's well-written and skillfully directed, but the latest installment in this long-running fright franchise is neither.

A very attractive cast that includes handsome Mason Gooding and the lovely and talented Jenna Ortega and Melissa Barrera works hard – running, screaming, and fighting for their lives – but they are defeated by a generic slasher plot with little suspense.

I got my hopes up when I learned that the film was going to be set in New York City this time out, but other than filming on the subway, the disappointing "Scream VI" fails to take advantage of the move to the Big Apple. In wide theatrical release.

A Thousand and One

This searing, superb drama observes a recently incarcerated woman named Inez who kidnaps her 6-year-old son, Terry, from the foster care system. They set out to reclaim their sense of home, identity, and stability in a rapidly changing New York City.

"A Thousand and One" boasts an Oscar-worthy lead performance by Teyana Taylor as Inez, and a whopper of a twist near the end of the movie that totally blew my mind. The film is an intense and realistic rollercoaster ride.

"The Lost King" and "A Thousand and One" were still playing at Sacramento's Tower Theatre as we went to press.

Billy Porter: The Black Mona Lisa Tour

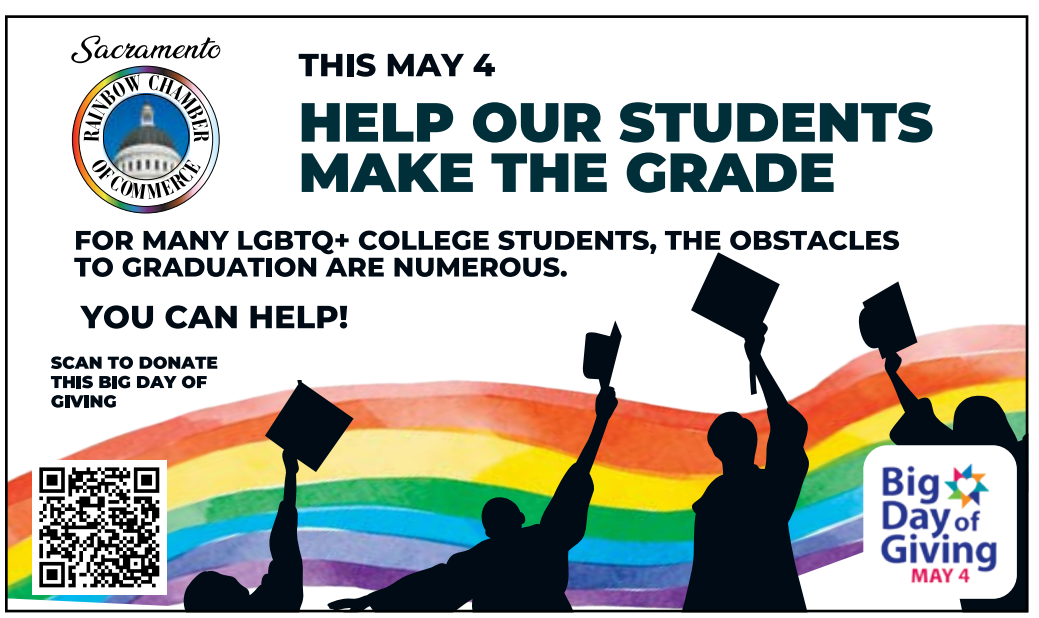
The unstoppable, Grammy, Emmy, and 2x Tony Award-winner Billy Porter will bring passion and joy to San Francisco when his first-ever, career-spanning pop music concert, "The Black Mona Lisa Tour: Volume 1," stops into San Francisco's Golden Gate Theatre for one night only. Expect a full band, backed by a video installation, fronted by Billy Porter telling his life story through song. This 90-minute powerhouse event will feature his chart-topping hits "Love Is on the Way" and "Love Yourself," a tinge of Broadway, a nod to "Pose," and stunning performances of future pop classics from his forthcoming album, "Black Mona Lisa." This is an experience not to be missed, on Friday evening, May 5, 2023. For more information, go to https://broadwaysf.com

The Tantalizing Tom Goss Will Sing In Sac

Outword's Monthly Happy Hour gets even happier with the arrival of the terrifically-talented Tom Goss, who will perform live and in person when Badlands hosts Liquid Therapy with the gorgeous Mr. Goss as special guest, on Friday evening, April 14, 2023, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Goss has had many careers (or near-careers), including college wrestler, schoolteacher, and Catholic seminarian turned professional musician. Lucky for us, the calling that stuck was successful singer-songwriter, with seven albums to his credit, plus thousands of shows across the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

Tom's latest album, "Territories," tells the complex story of a changing marriage through songs named after the places that inspired them. It's a stunning evolution of substance and style for a proven performer who has embarked on a thrilling new journey that includes a not-to-be-missed stop in Sacramento for one night only.



Celebration Arts Returns With Lynn Nottage

Next up at Celebration Arts in Sacramento is "What to Send Up When it Goes Down" by the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage ("Clyde's," "Sweat," "Ruined").

"What to Send Up When it Goes Down" is characterized as a play-pageant-ritual-homegoing celebration in response to the physical and spiritual deaths of Black people as a result of racialized violence. "What to Send Up When it Goes Down" is meant to disrupt the pervasiveness of anti-Blackness and acknowledge the resilience of Black people throughout history.

Unique to this play is that boundaries between performers and audiences blur as the audiences are asked to observe the performance and participate in the ritual. This theatrical work uses facilitated conversation, parody, song, and movement in a series of vignettes to create a space for catharsis, reflection, cleansing, and healing.

The creative team for "What to Send Up When it Goes Down" includes Sacramento natives, actor/director Imani Mitchell, professional dancer and choreographer Dr. Angela Alforque, and local musician Jordan Simpson as musical director.

"What to Send Up When it Goes Down" performs through April 30, 2023. Please visit: www.celebrationarts.net

Brian Falduto Releases His Debut Album "Gay Country"

It's been a long time coming, but country music is (finally) getting more inclusive, with Black artists like Darius Rucker and Mickey Guyton hitting it big – and gay musicians like T.J. Osborne and Ty Herndon "coming out." The latest addition to queer country is the actor-singer Brian Falduto, who appeared in the 2003 movie "School of Rock" and recently released his debut album, an 8-song LP entitled "Gay Country." Falduto's single, "Same Old Country Love Song," has a fun video that finds the singer standing in for Shania Twain, Faith Hill, Carrie Underwood, and other country queens. You can watch it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gue2yp2uhQM

CANCER IS A DRAG!

APRIL 13TH - THE MIX DOWNTOWN

A Celebratory Evening featuring a Drag & Fashion Show Event to raise awareness for healthcare disparities faced by local LGBTQ+ cancer survivors. Proceeds will support Triumph Cancer Foundation & Sacramento Rainbow Chamber who are working together to improve access to support & care.

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Will Ben Platt win another Tony Award this June?

by Chris Narloch

It's only April, and Tony Award nominations won't be announced until May 2nd, but I will be shocked if Ben Platt fails to get nominated as Best Actor in a Musical, and he could be the frontrunner and win his second Tony this year.

Now, I haven't even seen this production yet, and I am basing my predictions solely on the recently-released cast recording of the current Broadway revival of "Parade," which features Platt's most impassioned vocal performances since "Dear Evan Hansen," the show that won him his first Tony Award.

"Parade" dramatizes the 1913 trial of Jewish factory manager Leo Frank (Platt), who was accused and convicted of raping and murdering a thirteen-year-old employee, Mary Phagan.

The trial, sensationalized by the media, aroused antisemitic tensions in Georgia, and it is now believed by most historians that Frank, who was ultimately lynched by a mob, was innocent of the crime.

The terrific new cast recording has been on repeat in my car stereo ever since I received it, and I cannot wait to see the highly-acclaimed production, playing through at least this August 6th at the Bernard B. Jacobs Theatre in New York City.

This important musical is needed now more than ever, as evidenced by the sad fact that Neo-Nazi protesters assembled outside the theater the night of this production's first Broadway preview performance, earlier this year.

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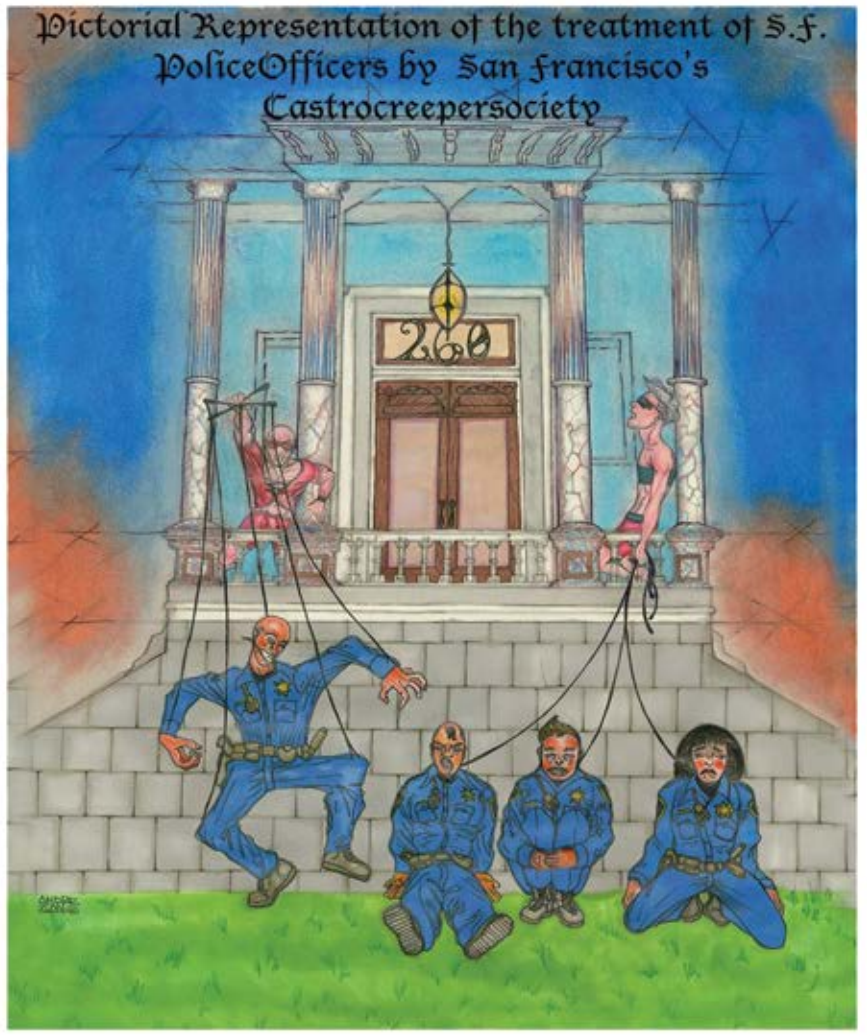

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Sheena & Taylor bring "Ladies Night" to Folsom

Two iconic female vocalists who ruled the pop charts in the 1980s will sing their way into the Harris Center in Folsom on Sunday evening, April 30, 2023, for one amazing hit-filled evening. Tickets were still left but going fast last time we checked, for a divine double-bill of divas featuring Taylor Dayne and Sheena Easton.

Taylor Dayne

Taylor Dayne is an American pop queen with a career spanning three decades, after her thundering debut single "Tell It To My Heart" turned her into an overnight international star in 1987. She followed that smash with seventeen Top 20 hits, including the number ones "Love Will Lead You Back" "Prove Your Love" and "I'll always Love You."

Dayne has sold over 75 million albums and singles worldwide, earned three Grammy nominations, an American Music Award, multiple New York Music Awards, received New York Music Hall of Fame honors and is ranked as the Number 18 Female Dance Artist of all time by Rolling Stone magazine.

Sheena Easton

With chart topping hits like "Strut," "Sugar Walls," "U Got The Look" (With Prince), "Morning Train (9 to 5)," "For Your Eyes Only" and many more, Sheena was the first, and still the only artist to have top five records on five major Billboard charts. Her recording career has included gold and platinum albums in the United States, Europe and Asia. In addition to her recording success, Sheena is a top concert attraction around the world.

For more information about this show, please visit www.harriscenter.net/hca-ladies-night

Out & About

with Matt Burlingame

The storms have passed (for now), spring has sprung and Sacramento stores are raising the prices on antihistamines as allergy season sets in. Enjoy the calm while you can as soon every organization you're involved with will be attending every pride throughout California and looking to you to help set up or take down. IYKYK! Before Pride season rushes in, let's have fun with some great springtime events.

Join us for the *Outword* & Badlands Liquid Therapy Happy Hour at Badlands Sacramento, 2003 K St. on Friday, Apr. 14 at 5:30 p.m. and spend the evening with singer Tom Goss! He will be performing live and capacity for this free event is limited so get there on time.

After Liquid Therapy get your laugh on with another awesome Queermedians event at the Sacramento Comedy Spot, 1050 20th St. #130, on Friday, Apr. 14 at 9 p.m. McGillicuddy Productions presents the LGBTQ stand-up comedy show featuring Carrie Jahn, Adam Strawbridge, and TammyTea Love. Come out early for Mercury Reprobates at 7:30 p.m. Saccomedyspot.com

Kyle Abraham's latest piece for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater "Are You In Your Feelings" is a celebration of Black culture, music, and the spirit that perseveres in us all. Ailey comes to the Mondavi Center on Apr. 18-19. Mondaviarts.org

The Crest Theatre, 1013 K St., presents Musical Mondays and on Monday, Apr. 24 the 1956 film The King And I returns to the local big screen for a one night only showing. A widow accepts a job as a live-in governess to the King of Siam's children and introduces him to western views for better or worse. Crestsacramento.com

Crowd Control Comedy at Punch Line Sacramento, 2100 Arden Way, has comics tossing out their material for the night and looking to work the crowd. But it's not just going to be a typical crowd interaction show, as at any point the comedian may ask questions to the audience. With host Josh Means, bring your friends and see what questions you may be asked. Punchlinesac.com

Sacramento's Best Drag Brunch is Back at Punch Line Sacramento, 2100 Arden Way, Sunday. May 14 at 12 p.m. Makeup & Mimosas: Brunch at the Punch is the Drag Brunch you need to go to! Fantastic drag at an amazing venue with great food! Make sure to bring dollar bills so you can tip the performers and feel free to record and tag the performances on social media. We'll bring makeup and serve the mimosas, you bring your friends and enjoy! Punchlinesac.com

Join Triumph Cancer Foundation and the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber for Cancer Is A Drag! A drag show, fashion show and dance with appetizers, swag, wine and fun at The Mix Downtown, 1525 L St., on Thursday, Apr. 13 at 5 p.m. The event raises awareness about the importance of equitable healthcare and post-treatment for LGBTQ cancer survivors. Studies from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities illustrate growing evidence that LGBTQ populations have less access to healthcare and higher burdens of certain diseases, such as cancer. Stigmatization, hate-violence, and discrimination are still major barriers to the health and well-being of LGBTQ individuals. Let's change this together! Rainbowchamber.com

***Clue* will be playing at the Historic Fallon House Theatre.**

The classic whodunit takes to the stage at the Historic Fallon House Theatre, 11175 Washington St. in Columbia, CA from Apr. 6 - May 7, directed by Jerry Lee, and choreographed by Jill Slyter. Based on the iconic 1985 Paramount movie which was inspired by the classic Hasbro board game, Clue is a hilarious farce-meets-murder mystery. Don't miss this amazing show at an incredible venue! SierraRep.org

On Saturday, Apr. 15 the Court of the Great Northwestern Imperial Empire (CGNIE) is turning 50 years old—and not lying about its age like many of us do! Join CGNIE in celebrating "50 Years of Noble Deeds" with their annual coronation and gala at The Center, 2300 Sierra Blvd. Coronation Starts at 5:15 p.m. CGNIE.org

Events, birthdays, announcements? Send them to matthew@hengemedia.com.

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27th anniversary

Please Support the Outword Rainbow Fund

For 27 years, we have been Sacramento's resource for LGBTQ+ information, politics, entertainment and we have helped connect and maintain our community.
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!

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

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Think Pink: Celebrate the start of Rosé season in Sonoma Valley

by Gary Saperstein

Out In The Vineyard, the organization that brings you the popular Gay Wine Weekend, is proud to present the 3rd Annual Pink Sonoma Saturday on May 13. This event has quickly become the premier Rosé Wine Tasting event of the season while also being one of the most highly anticipated events among wine enthusiasts and partygoers.

The event itself is a celebration of all things Pink. It's a #RoséAllDay event atop the summit at Viansa Sonoma Winery overlooking Sonoma Valley. The vineyards are the perfect setting to sample a wide variety of Rosé wines, both still and sparkling, each with its own distinct flavor and aroma. This year more than 20 wineries will be offering their current Rosé wine releases just in time for the spring and summer seasons.

The event gives wine lovers an opportunity to interact with some of the leading vintners in the region, who are always happy to share their knowledge and expertise about their wines including suggestions on how to best pair with food. Throughout the day light bites will be provided by Chef Chad of Classic Culinaire Caters, who always brings the best of Wine Country cuisine to any event. Chef Chad creates exceptional food pairings that make the wines shine. Music will fill the air throughout the afternoon as you enjoy the food and wine pairings.

As with any Out In The Vineyard event, surprises await all who attend to help create a truly magical afternoon.

Pink Sonoma Saturday is a benefit for Positive Images, supporting LGBTQ+ Youth in Sonoma County. A silent auction will feature incredible wines and wine country experiences with 100-percent of the money raised going to this worthwhile and vital organization.

Overall, the Out In The Vineyard Pink Sonoma Saturday event is a perfect event not only for wine connoisseurs but also for anyone who enjoys an unforgettable afternoon out in "our" Wine Country. The combination of the wine, cuisine, music and scenery create a delightful and luxurious experience that will create memories for years to come. It is an event of true sophistication and fun where one can revel in the beauty of Sonoma Valley and indulge in the very best of what this iconic region has to offer.

Meet you atop the summit at Viansa Sonoma on May 13! Tickets are now available at https://www.outinthevineyard.com/pink-sonoma-saturday. For more information on Sonoma Valley, visit www.sonomavalley.com.

PINK SONOMA SATURDAY
Saturday, May 13, 2023
Noon-3pm
Viansa Sonoma Winery

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Once again we would like to thank those that have become sponsors of Outword Magazine! Your contribution will help us keep the lights on and the closet doors wide open. Here are a list of our Sponsors at the level they participated, so far. We will continue to run this page, with any updates, for the next several issues.

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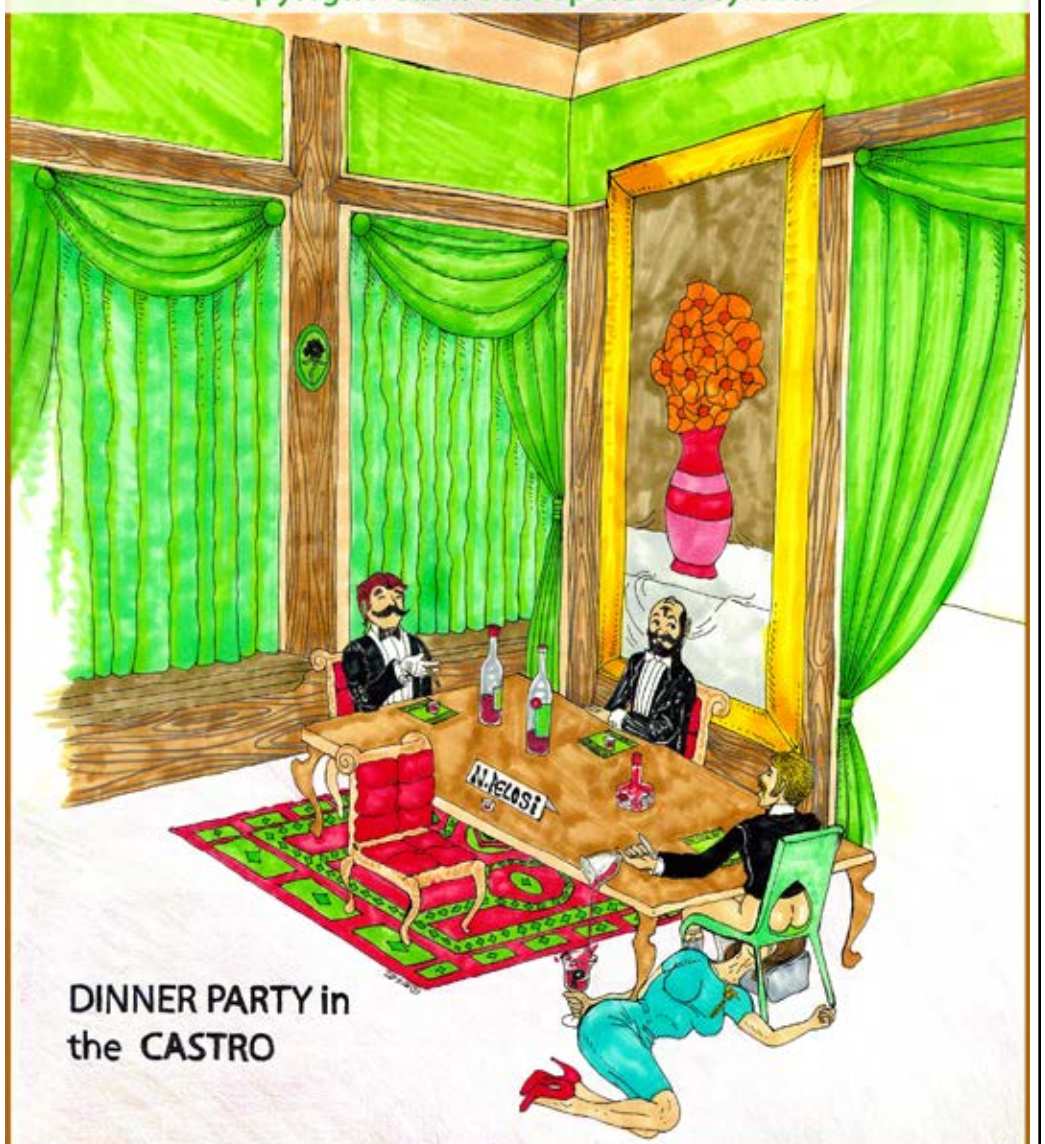

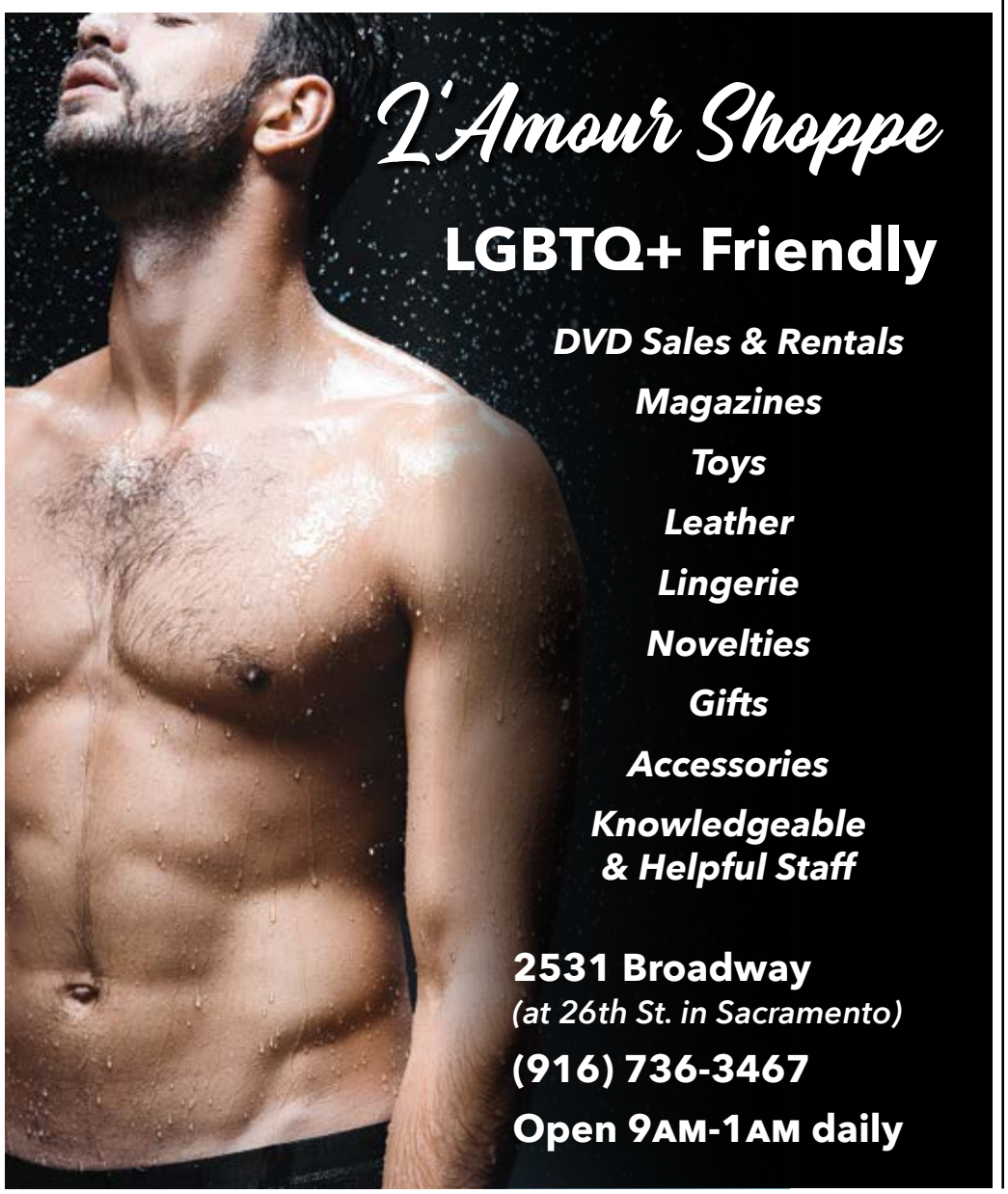

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The Word is out.

The Sacramento County Fair Returns…
Discounted Pre-Sale Tickets Available April 4

After a record-setting year in 2022, The Sacramento County Fair returns to Cal Expo May 25 – 29, 2023.

Established in 1937, the Fair is dedicated to the safe, fun education of greater Sacramento and its youth. A value-driven family event, Fair guests enjoy a friendly atmosphere, traditional fair competitions, agricultural displays, hands-on activities, midway rides and games, specialty food and festival-style entertainment.

This year, the Fair is Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow: Fairgoers can reunite with corn dogs and dinosaur-sized turkey legs and enjoy tomorrow's favorites like deep fried peaches.

Fair experiences will delight and entertain guests of all ages. Crowd-pleasers like EXTREMEDOGS and ALL ALASKAN RACING PIGS return, while new favorites like the cycling talents of TURN-N-BURN TRICK RIDERS and mind-bending magic performed by Murray Hatfield and Theresa—Canada's favorite magic duo—promise something new and exciting every day! Also, California's friendliest carnival, Midway of Fun, offers classic favorites like the Ferris Wheel as well as all-new, high-tech thrill rides!

Music fans rejoice! Fresh acts take the stage every day of the Fair free of charge. From classic rockers FAN HALEN, to hip-hop sensation BANDED FUTURE, the Latin sounds of MAYA LATIN ROOTS BAND and more, there is music for every taste.

Over 2000 head of livestock from 4-H and FFA will be on display for their biggest event of the season. Competitors also answer questions about livestock husbandry and implementing tomorrow's agricultural advances today.

The roar of Monster Trucks and Demolition Derby plus two rodeo events are at the Fair's Big Arena. Separate event tickets are required. Seating is limited for these events, and they sell out fast, so check the schedule and get yours today.

All ticket sales start April 4 at www.sacfair.com. For a limited time, adult tickets are just $12, kids 12-17, $10, and kids under 12 are ALWAYS FREE. All You Can Ride one-day Carnival wristbands are only $30.00.

Tiny Homes

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… This is a community issue, and we must continue to work as a community to address it."

Spencer Bowen, communication and strategic policies manager for the City of Woodland, added, "While we still have a lot of vulnerable people to support, a growing proportion of folks are sheltered. Having a roof over your head, like at the new tiny homes at East Beamer, is often the first and most important step towards achieving better health, economic, housing and wellness outcomes for unhoused individuals."

Friends of the Mission, a nonprofit based in Woodland that develops affordable housing and shelters for those in need, was central in the East Beamer site's development. Woodland's Cutting Edge Modular Inc. constructed the tiny homes. Public support also came from Yolo County, the state's California's Homekey program, and the Department of Health Care Services' Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program. Other funds came from Partnership HealthPlan of California, Dignity Health and the Sutter Foundation.

Woodland Mayor Vicky Fernandez said she's proud to be part of the solution to this crisis. "We have invested in the East Beamer Neighborhood Campus because we believe in the opportunity it will provide those in need. I hope that we are 'the light in all the darkness' for those struggling with life's challenges, and that we are providing a safe and healthy place for them to call home."

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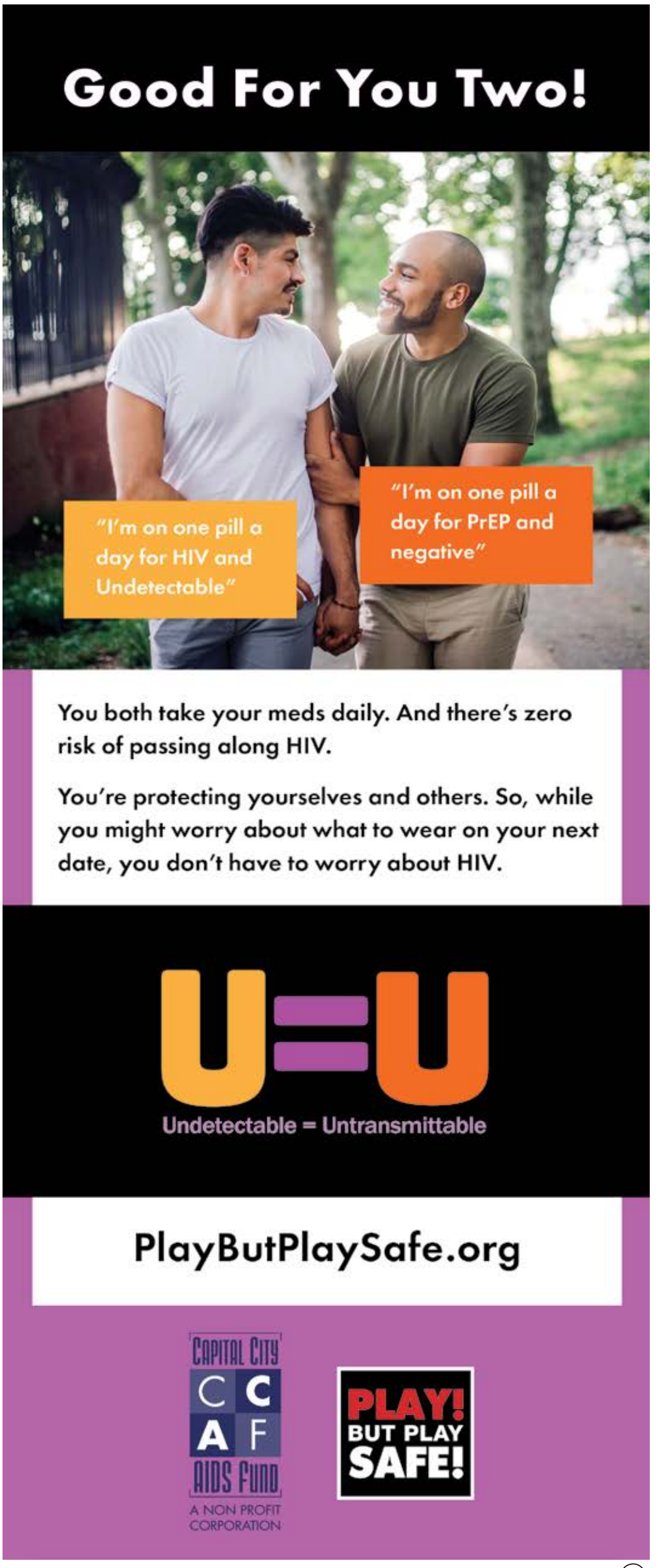

Free COVID-19 Vaccines & Boosters

One Community Health is a primary healthcare and specialty care provider dedicated to improving the health and well-being of our community.

Our mission is to create a healthier Sacramento by increasing access to care for all members of our community, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, orientation, or ability to pay.

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- Comprehensive Vision Tests

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