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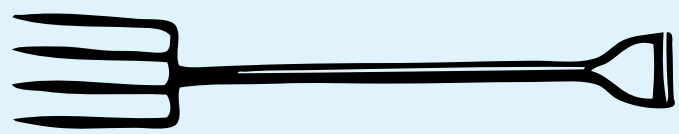
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Giorgio Armani, Legendary Italian Fashion Designer, Dies at 91

Italian fashion icon Giorgio Armani has died at the age of 91, his company confirmed this week. No cause of death was disclosed, though Armani had withdrawn from Milan's Fashion Week this summer for the first time in his storied career while recovering from undisclosed health issues.

Born in 1934 in the northern Italian town of Piacenza, Armani began his career modestly as a window dresser before working under designer Nino Cerruti. In 1975, alongside his business partner Sergio Galeotti, he launched the Armani label—an enterprise that would redefine modern fashion. Armani revolutionized menswear with softer tailoring, unlined jackets, and luxurious fabrics, and he pioneered the women's power suit, a look that became synonymous with professional authority in the late 20th century.

By the 1980s, Armani's signature clean lines and understated elegance came to embody the era's corporate style. His reach soon extended beyond the runway. The brand branched into fragrances, cosmetics, eyewear, home goods, and sportswear. Armani also left his mark on global athletics, designing uniforms for the Italian Olympic team and other major sporting events. Today, the company is valued at more than \$10 billion, a testament to his lasting influence.

Armani's designs became a fixture on red carpets and Hollywood screens, with credits in more than 200 films, including American Gigolo—a movie that cemented his reputation in American fashion. Over his lifetime, he was recognized with Italy's Order of Merit, France's Legion of Honor, and an appointment as a United Nations goodwill ambassador.



Known for both his disciplined minimalism and quiet charisma, Giorgio Armani leaves behind a legacy that reshaped

global style and culture. His name will remain synonymous with elegance, confidence, and timeless design.

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Photo by Rahn

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Federal Judge Finds Trump's Use of Troops in Los Angeles Violated the Posse Comitatus Act

In a ruling issued on September 2, 2025, U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer of the Northern District of California determined that the Trump administration's deployment of approximately 4,000 National Guard troops and 700 Marines to Los Angeles during June's immigration-related protests constituted a clear violation of the Posse Comitatus Act—a federal law that prohibits the use of military forces in domestic law enforcement, absent specific exceptions like an insurrection.

Governor Gavin Newsom and state Attorney General Rob Bonta had originally filed suit, arguing that the federal deployment exceeded presidential authority and threatened the constitutional balance between federal and state powers. In his opinion, Judge Breyer emphasized that the troops were directed to perform law enforcement functions—such as establishing protective perimeters, conducting traffic control, crowd control, and aiding in arrests or raids—actions explicitly banned by the Act.

Although the ruling does not force immediate withdrawal of the remaining ~300 Guard troops still stationed in the city, it strictly limits their activities to guarding federal property, effectively barring them from participation in any domestic enforcement roles. The court also issued a stay of the decision, pending

appeal, which is set to take full effect on September 12.

This ruling applies solely to California and does not affect other troop deployments—including those in Washington, D.C., where presidential authority over the National Guard is broader. Nonetheless, the decision could carry major implications in pending or future legal battles over plans to deploy troops to cities such as Chicago, Baltimore, New York, and San Francisco—locations Trump has publicly signaled interest in mobilizing forces toward.

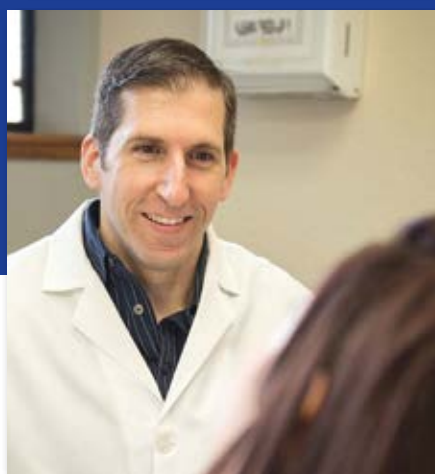
Legal analysts and state officials have praised the decision as a robust defense of civil-military separation and state sovereignty. Critics, including representatives of the White House, have denounced Judge Breyer as a "rogue judge" and asserted that the deployment was both necessary and lawful.

Equality California Endorses Proposition 50

Equality California, the nation's largest LGBTQ+ civil rights organization, has endorsed Proposition 50, the Election Rigging Response Act. The measure aims to ensure fair congressional representation and protect democracy from attempts by Donald Trump and MAGA Republicans to manipulate district maps in 2026.

Executive Director Tony Hoang emphasized that Proposition 50 would protect fair redistricting, giving power to voters instead of politicians. The organization highlighted the risks to LGBTQ+ communities if congressional manipulation succeeds, including attacks on rights and increased discrimination.

California voters can begin receiving ballots on October 6, 2025, with early drop-off starting October 7 and Election Day on November 4, 2025. More information is available at stolectionrigging.com.



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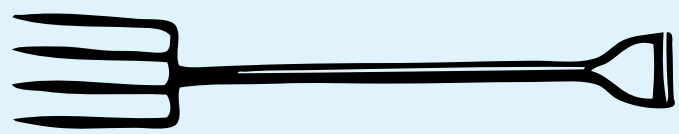
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Welcome to Our Farm to Fork Special Issue! Food - Yum!

by Fred Palmer

It is no secret that the *Outword* team loves food, and since this is our Farm to Fork issue, we'd like to share some of our local favorites. Over the years, in our more than 700 issues, we've enjoyed many longtime advertisers and their great food. Ernesto's was a staple for many years, as were Hamburger Patty's, Lucca, and many more. We miss Lucca more than anything—our office used to be right across the street, so we were there often.



We miss the patio at Lucca.

Of course, [Scott's on the River](#) feels like our second home, and we love their ever-changing menu. Other favorites include [Paesano's](#), [Hawks](#), [Mulvaney's](#), [Dawson's](#), [La Cosecha](#), and, of course, [Roscoe's](#) for a great burger. When I first moved here from San Francisco in the early '90s, the food scene was not as vibrant, but we had a few good spots and some late-night greasy spoons to enjoy in Midtown and Downtown.

The Sacramento food scene has exploded in recent years, giving folks many more choices with locally sourced ingredients from our surrounding agricultural region. The local produce can be seen in award-winning restaurants that cater to a wide range of tastes and budgets. Our local food scene has been featured in magazines—from New York to San Francisco—and I often have to pinch myself and say, "Wow, Sacramento has come a long way!" We also enjoy that we now have a couple of [Michelin-starred restaurants](#) and other local mentions—see the Visit Sacramento website for more information.

Let's start with the best bread, in my opinion: [Faria Bakery](#). On their website, they say, "Make it rain whole grain," and they sure do. I love the miso bread, the spelt, or the whole wheat. Of course, while you're picking up bread, enjoy one of their many sweet treats too. If you don't feel like visiting one of their locations, you can find them at the Midtown farmers market on Saturdays.

Scott's on the River has a couple of chairs at the corner of the bar where you'll often find me having a lunch meeting a few times a month. Scott's menu is updated frequently and might include surprises such as grilled Spanish octopus and, until this week, an amazing seasonal peach and burrata salad. I recommend starting with oysters or a cup of chowder. They also offer a fun happy hour menu at great prices, and the view can't be beat.

A longtime Sacramento favorite that has survived decades is [The Waterboy](#). Their homemade pastas with seasonal ingredients, paired with the best service in town, make this one of our favorite spots for lunch or dinner. Start with the focaccia bread and oysters, then move on to a first-course salad featuring fresh, local, seasonal ingredients such as lettuces, beets, and vegetables. The specials and daily fish often tempt me to change my order from the regular menu, but that's half the fun. A little champagne, wine, or a Manhattan is perfect to sip as you relax and enjoy your meal. And if you have room, try one of their amazing desserts.

For breakfast, we love [Orphan](#). Arrive early, as there's usually a line. Try the blueberry cornmeal pancakes or the Zen breakfast, though they offer an abundance of options, including vegetarian choices, at reasonable prices.

Another relatively new find is Hawks. Start with the miso deviled eggs and a nice glass of wine. I love their pastas—fusilli and rigatoni are always winners—but they also have great fish options and a delicious herb chicken.

There's only so much space here, but other longtime local favorites include Cacio in the Pocket neighborhood (a little slice of heaven), Dawsons at the Hyatt for old-school elegance, Mulvaney's for their always-fresh menu, [Cafeteria 15 & L](#), Café Bernardo, [Zócalo](#), Paesano's, [Il Fornaio](#), Piatti, Tapa the World, and Masullo in Land Park. Gosh, I'm hungry just thinking about it!

Sacramento has so many long-standing places and exciting new options. Lately, it seems competition keeps restaurants on their toes. Some, unfortunately, have had to close their doors because they couldn't keep up or didn't market themselves effectively to retain regulars and attract new patrons.



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Sacramento's 48th Annual Jewish Food Faire: A Delicious Tradition Continues

On Sunday, October 12, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the long-cherished Sacramento Jewish Food Faire—hosted by Congregation Beth Shalom—returns with a fresh new location: the Scottish Rite Masonic Center at 6151 H Street.



Photo courtesy of sacjewishfoodfaire.com

Celebrating nearly five decades of culinary and community spirit, this year's gathering marks the 48th edition of the food faire. Since its roots, the event has stood firmly on the theme "From Generation to Generation" (l'dor v'dor), honoring beloved family recipes while embracing inventive reinterpretations that bridge tradition and today.

Highlights to savor:

- Bagel Contest: Fun and flavor collide as bakers compete for the title of Sacramento's Best Bagel.
- Live Music & Family Activities: Performances and kid-friendly fun ensure a festive, community atmosphere.
- Wine & Beer Garden: Relax and unwind in the courtyard with a curated selection of beverages.
- Vendor Market: From crafts to culinary treats, shop local offerings that spotlight the region's makers.
- The Faire foregoes pre-ordering this year—making the event entirely in-person and welcoming all attendees to come hungry and ready to explore.

Congregation Beth Shalom, a warm and inclusive Reform synagogue in Sacramento, nurtures the Faire as both a beacon of cultural connection and a celebration of Jewish culinary heritage. Through this event, they foster understanding, community bonds, and cultural storytelling—all woven together through the universal language of food.

Whether you're drawn by nostalgia, the chance to sample cherished family dishes, or simply a lively Sunday full of great food and community, the 48th Annual Jewish Food Faire promises a rich and memorable experience for all.

So mark your calendar for Sunday, October 12, 2025, and come nosh on the tastes of tradition at Sacramento's newest gathering spot.

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- Develop and foster an environment of trust and confidence between community, stakeholders and City Council.

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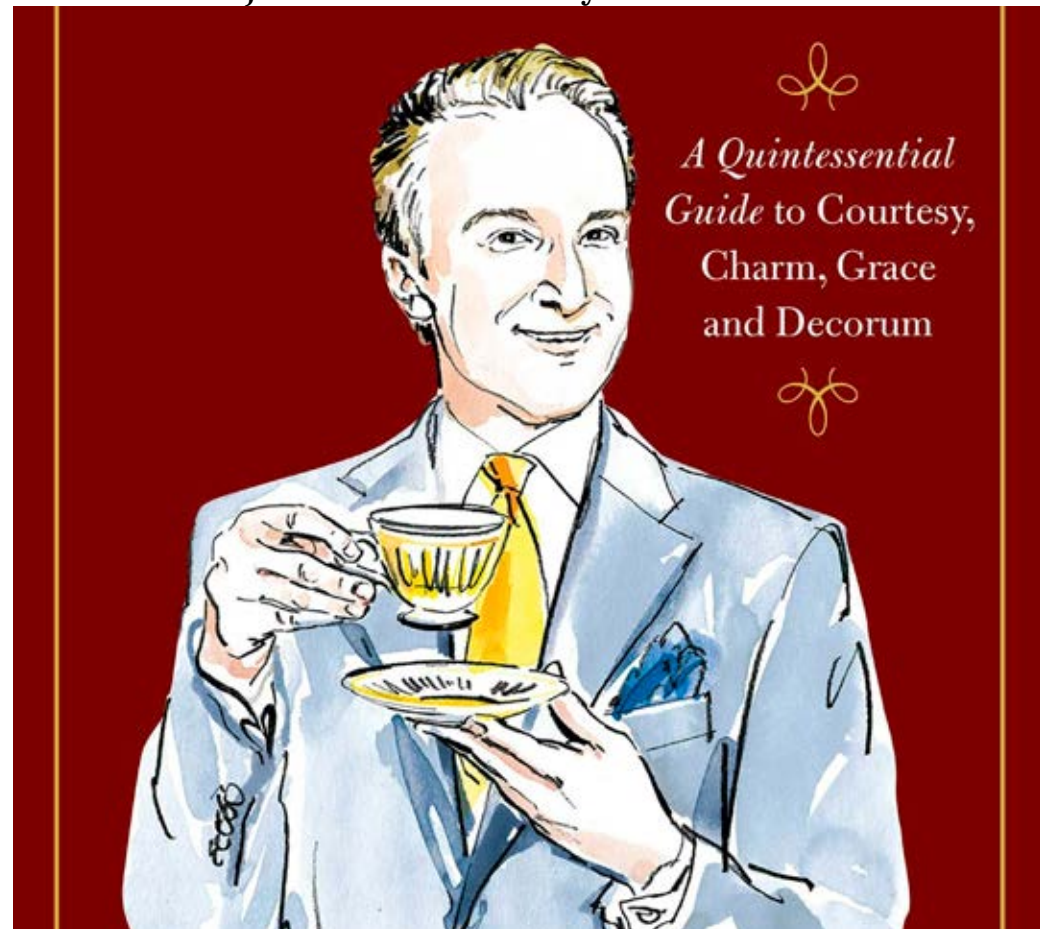
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“Just Good Manners: A Quintessential Guide to Courtesy, Charm, Grace and Decorum” by William Hanson

reviewed by Terri Schlichenmeyer

So. Many. Forks. You're glad you're not doing the dishes at the end of this dinner – but in the meantime, what's protocol? If this event wasn't a make-or-break, filled-with-repercussions kind of deal for you, you wouldn't care; you'd use one fork, one spoon, and enjoy your meal, thank you. So please pass the salt and the new book “Just Good Manners” by William Hanson.



Dining at a restaurant not long ago, Hanson noticed a glaring difference between how his fellow Brits order a meal, and how Americans do it. We might share a language, he says, and we're a lot alike but we're also different in many ways. Manners are one of them.

It may seem that formal manners are archaic, even quaint, but Hanson says that they're needed now more than ever. Manners help smooth social transactions. They leave room for grace in many situations, and they help put people at ease.

“Contemporary etiquette,” he says, “is rooted in six key principles.”

Humility is what ensures that everyone at your meeting or dinner is comfortable, not just you. Hospitality welcomes everyone to the table. Knowing one's rank shows respect. Says Hanson, “politeness takes patience” and humor, as manners evolve. And although it sounds counter-intuitive, manners are somewhat based on passive-aggressiveness, which helps you be direct, but not too much.

Here, you'll learn how to deal with introductions in different situations and what to do with a pronoun faux-pas. You'll see that merely greeting someone can be fraught with danger, so be sure you know who's who before you enter a room. Learn to avoid five “taboo” topics when engaging in small-talk. If you're interrupted, know how to kindly gain control of a conversation again. Find out how the use of slang tells a listener who you really are. Know how to be a good guest, and the kind of host people appreciate.

And yes, you'll learn about those many, many forks...

You do not live in a bubble. You don't work in one, either, and smoothing ruffled feathers is needed more than ever in today's world so maybe it's time to learn how to do that from a very unruffled source. With “Just Good Manners,” it could even set you apart.

Indeed, author William Hanson makes a case for politeness-as-diplomacy here, in a book that's very Brit-centric but that includes anecdotes about disastrous situations in other countries. Tales like those are fun to read, in a Schadenfreude way, but they also illustrate why it's essential to understand other cultures in business settings as well as in many casual events. If that sounds daunting, rest assured that Hanson uses his own advice, putting readers at ease with humor and charm and by taking the scariness out of manners by making them an easy, maybe even enjoyable, challenge.

You won't feel scolded when you read “Just Good Manners,” but you will learn enough to be someone people want around. It'll give you confidence. Before your next big event, it'll give you something to chew on.



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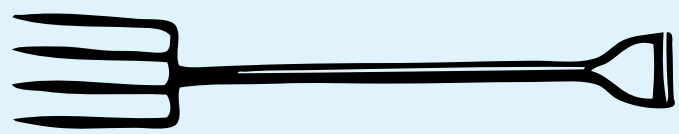
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Sac Open Studios Turns 20

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Sac Open Studios attracts over 200 participating artists and around 30,000 attendees annually. The tour, which is celebrating its 20th Anniversary, begins on Sept. 13 and concludes on Sept. 21.

So, get your art on, and visit: sacopenstudios.com

A Royal Flush in the Redwoods

The Skunk Train has just taken "luxury on the rails" to a whole new level. Meet The Whizzle Stop, the gleaming new bathroom-on-wheels now stationed at Glen Blair Junction—and yes, it's as fancy as it sounds.



Housed in a converted boxcar, this mobile marvel comes complete with running water, full-sized stalls, and real sinks—a far cry from the porta-potties of yesteryear. Visitors can now enjoy the legendary Redwood Route without crossing their fingers, thanks to a restroom that's as thoughtful as it is stylish. Clean design, practical fixtures, and plenty of space make it a welcome stop for passengers—and a huge relief for event planners scouting venues in the forest.

The Skunk Train itself has been chugging through Mendocino County's redwoods since 1885, evolving from a freight line hauling timber to one of the country's most celebrated rail experiences. Covering 40 miles and 30 bridges, the journey blends scenic splendor with family-friendly charm. And now, with The Whizzle Stop, it adds another layer of comfort—proving that even a historic train can embrace a little modern luxury.

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photos by Rahn and Juli

Out & About

More on pages 14 and 15!







Out & About

Outword Magazine's 30th Anniversary celebration on September 9, 2025, at Badlands was truly a night to remember! It was wonderful to see so many friends and supporters come together to mark this milestone in *Outword's* journey. A special thank you goes out to TJ and Badlands for hosting the first round of beverages and to Marilyn's Pizza for keeping everyone fueled with delicious bites. Shoutout to Drea's Mobile Sweet Treats for the beautiful cupcakes. And we also want to acknowledge everyone that sponsored this event - Thank You so much! The energy, laughter, and love in the room reminded us why *Outword* has thrived for three decades, because of the incredible community that stands with us. Here's to the next 30 years!



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Sacramento Actually has Michelin-Starred Restaurants

Sacramento has entered the Michelin Guide spotlight with two restaurants earning stars: The Kitchen and Localis. These recognitions mark significant milestones for the city, known for its farm-to-fork focus and growing culinary scene.



Featured Localis dish. Photo courtesy of localissacramento.com

The Kitchen was the first Sacramento restaurant to receive a Michelin star, earning the distinction in 2019. Located on Broadway and led by Chef Kelly McCown, the restaurant offers a six-course tasting menu in an open-kitchen setting. The format allows diners to observe the preparation of dishes that make use of seasonal ingredients sourced from local farms. The Kitchen's approach reflects the region's agricultural resources and emphasizes a structured, multi-course experience rather than casual dining.

[Localis](#), awarded a Michelin star in 2022, is a smaller restaurant on S Street led by Chef Chris Barnum-Dann. The restaurant provides an evolving tasting menu that changes with the seasons and focuses on local ingredients. While the menu is creative, the presentation is relatively understated compared to more theatrical fine dining. Localis has gained attention for its consistency and attention to ingredient quality, highlighting seasonal produce in concise, well-composed dishes.

The Michelin stars earned by these restaurants reflect the growth of Sacramento's food scene. Historically, the city has been

overshadowed by larger culinary markets like San Francisco and Los Angeles. These distinctions signal that Sacramento can support fine dining at a level recognized on an international scale. While only The Kitchen and Localis hold stars, the Michelin Guide also lists other local establishments with distinctions such as Bib Gourmand or Michelin Plate, showing broader recognition of quality across the city.

The impact of these stars extends beyond prestige. They have drawn increased attention from food enthusiasts and contribute to the local economy by highlighting regional produce and supporting the farm-to-fork ecosystem. Additionally, the presence of starred restaurants provides benchmarks for other chefs in the area, encouraging higher standards in service, presentation, and culinary technique.

Together, The Kitchen and Localis demonstrate that Sacramento can sustain fine dining while remaining connected to its agricultural roots. The stars highlight the city's capacity for consistent quality and offer insight into the evolving landscape of Sacramento's culinary offerings.

What IS Michelin?

A Michelin star is a prestigious rating awarded by the Michelin Guide to restaurants that demonstrate exceptional quality. Restaurants can earn one, two, or three stars:

- One star: A very good restaurant in its category, worth stopping by.
- Two stars: Excellent cooking, worth a detour for the experience.
- Three stars: Exceptional cuisine, worth a special journey.

The rating focuses on the quality of the food, mastery of technique, consistency, and the personality or creativity of the chef, rather than the décor or service. Earning a Michelin star is widely regarded as one of the highest honors in the culinary world.

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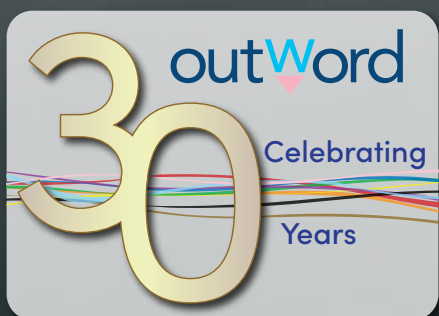
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We are proud to be one of the LGBTQ+ voices for the Sacramento community over the years, and we are committed to continuing for years to come. Let's not let our voices be silenced. Help us continue getting the Word Out.

Thank you, from the Outword team.

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What's On Stage This September?

by Chris Narloch

Whether your arrow points male or female or somewhere in between, *Outword* has you covered this month, theatrically-speaking. The first play features an all-male cast, while the second is made up entirely of women, trans, non-binary, and gender-diverse performers.



The Capital Stage cast of "The Lehman Trilogy"
Photo by Charr Crail

The Lehman Trilogy

Sacramento's Capital Stage tackles another ambitious play this month – ambitious in scope and ambitious in length, at almost three-and-a-half hours. Not surprisingly, the theater notches another win with this highly acclaimed 2022 Tony winner for Best Play.

"The Lehman Trilogy" is a three-act drama by Italian novelist and playwright Stefano Massini that follows the lives of three immigrant brothers from when they arrived in America and eventually founded an investment firm, through the collapse of Lehman Brothers more than 150 years later, in 2008.

The play is a great showcase for three superb actors (Matt K. Miller, Jackson Goldberg, and Andrew Fridae) who perform all the roles. You will find out more than you ever thought you needed to know about the Lehman brothers, and you will be glued to your seat, despite the length.

Special mention must go to Michael Stevenson's clean direction, Ethan Hollinger's very effective lighting, and Ian Wallace's terrific scenic design and projections.

"The Lehman Trilogy" performs through Sept. 28. Go to: capstage.org

Men on Boats

I was unable to catch this promising play by Jaclyn Backhaus before our deadline, but I will be rectifying that situation very soon. Here's the intriguing-sounding synopsis:

Ten explorers. Four boats. One Grand Canyon. "Men on Boats" is the true(ish) history of an 1869 expedition, when a one-armed captain named John Wesley Powell and a crew of insane, yet loyal volunteer explorers set out to chart the course of the Colorado River.

But there's a twist: though the characters are based on historical men, the cast is made up entirely of women, trans, non-binary, and gender-diverse performers. Sign me up to see that!

Directed by Jennifer Adler, "Men on Boats" performs through Sept. 20 at Big Idea Theatre on Del Paso Blvd in Sacramento.

For more information, www.bigideatheatre.org



What's New at The Movies?

by Chris Narloch

If you were born after 1975, you probably never saw “Jaws,” Steven Spielberg’s classic summer blockbuster, on the big screen. That killer thriller about a bloodthirsty shark recently reopened in theaters to celebrate its 50th anniversary, with a digitally remastered version featuring improved picture and sound.

If you can find a theater where the spruced-up “Jaws” is still playing, I recommend seeing it on the big screen, and if it’s gone then you can check out one, or more, of these newer theatrical releases.



Together

If you enjoyed “The Substance,” Demi Moore’s recent comeback movie, then you should like this bizarre body horror film about a young couple who move to the country and encounter an unnatural force inside a remote, underground cave. Before long, the pair is behaving strangely, and their bodies are connecting in ways they never imagined.

Real-life couple Dave Franco and Alison Brie play the married folks, which adds an extra layer of realism and intimacy to an allegory about a couple who literally get too close to each other. First-time director Michael Shanks gets terrific performances out of his leads, and his script and direction are both first-rate, as are the shocking special effects. “Together” has left theaters and is now available to stream.



Tina

This very moving tearjerker drama follows a Samoan New Zealander who starts a new job at an elite private school, after her daughter is killed in an earthquake. She eventually forms a close bond with her students and transforms their lives and her own.

A couple of the other teachers are stock villains, but the movie steers clear of melodrama for most of its runtime, and it features an outstanding lead performance by Anapela Polataivao as Mareta, the grieving mother who finds purpose again as a choir director. This movie opened at Sacramento’s Tower Theatre on Sept. 5.



Caught Stealing

I admit it. I have a movie crush on Austin Butler, the handsome, 34-year-old actor who played Elvis in a terrific 2022 biopic and then followed up that hit with equally sexy performances in “The Bikeriders,” “Dune: Part Two,” and “Eddington.”

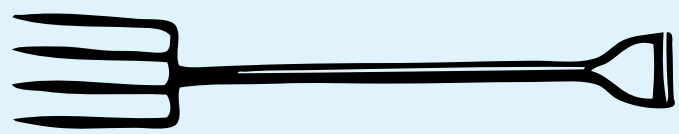
Darren Aronofsky, who has made fine films (“Black Swan,” “Requiem for a Dream”) and some very bad films (“The Fountain,” “Mother!”) directs Butler in this violent but entertaining dark comedy about a New York City bartender who is pursued by gangsters after a neighbor asks him to watch his cat. Currently in wide release and well worth seeing if, like me, you are an Austin Butler fan.



Splitsville

I was unable to see this one before my deadline, but I will be visiting a theater near me soon to check it out, since the trailer looks very funny. “Splitsville” is currently in limited theatrical release and has a Rotten Tomatoes score from critics and audiences in the upper 80s.

Dakota Johnson, Adria Arjona, Kyle Marvin, and Michael Angelo Covino star in the wild-looking comedy about two couples whose friendship erupts into conflict when the husband of the divorcing couple sleeps with the wife of the couple with an open marriage.



Acitvating Taste Buds in Napa

by Ron Tackitt

What started as a simple idea—a day trip to take my car for a drive—quickly turned into a two-night stay in Napa and a couple of days of indulging my taste buds. My original plan was simply to drive my electric car out of the Sacramento city limits, something I had never done, to see what it was like on the open road and to experience relying on public chargers that weren't just a few miles from home.

Once I mentioned this to my friend Fred, he immediately got on his computer and started looking at hotel options in Napa. Since tourism is down across the country, he figured there might be some inexpensive options—and he was right. He found a couple of hotels that were far less expensive than they had been a few years ago. I ended up booking two nights at the Hotel Indigo in northern Napa, where a king room cost \$151 per night. Staying two nights obviously opened up options that my initial day-trip plan didn't allow.

I drove through Winters, then up into the mountains along the edge of Lake Berryessa, taking a turn at Turtle Rock before heading down into the Yountville-Napa area. My little electric car performed brilliantly, even regenerating miles on the descent thanks to its regenerative braking—a very cool feature. After about two hours of twisting, two-lane roads, I was ready for a nice lunch at R+D Kitchen.



R+D Kitchen



Lunch at R+D Kitchen started with an order of three deviled eggs, a California roll, and, of course, a cocktail—after all, this was a mini vacation. As expected, the food was outstanding, and the service impeccable. The menu is limited, but the patio, shaded by trees, offers a relaxed, casual vibe. My only minor adversary was a persistent bee trying to snatch a piece of sushi. I love R+D Kitchen and still miss its sister restaurant in Sacramento, Bandera.

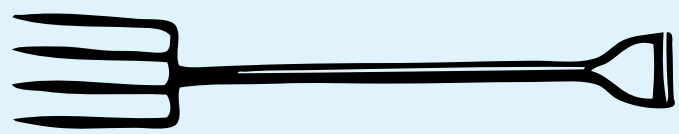


Hotel Indigo



click images for web links

Since I had charged my car to 100% the night before, I was in no rush to find a charging station. I headed straight to the hotel, checked into my room, unpacked, and made dinner reservations for that evening based on an online recommendation I had researched beforehand.



Cole's Chop House



For my first dinner, I chose Cole's Chop House in downtown Napa, said to be a local favorite. The restaurant was filled with couples celebrating special occasions—birthdays, anniversaries, and the like. I don't eat at steakhouses often, so this was a treat. White tablecloths, weighted silverware, and excellent service set the scene. I started with an Iceberg Wedge salad topped with Applewood smoked bacon and thin, crispy onion rings. The combination of flavors, dressing, and Point Reyes blue cheese made it easily the best wedge I've ever had.

Next up was their Lobster and Shrimp Bisque in Puff Pastry, a delicious and elegant soup with a light, flaky topper reminiscent of a fancy pot pie. Highly recommended. For the main course, I ordered the Black Angus Petite Filet (7 ounces), cooked simply and perfectly. I added a side of Yukon Gold and Gruyère Gratin, served family-style—a dish of sliced, cheesy bliss. Considering the quality and quantity of food, the \$100+ bill was very reasonable for one person and one cocktail. Cole's is clearly a local favorite for a reason.

Lunch the next day was much more casual. I visited Oxbow Public Market, eager to try Hog Island Oyster Company. Parking can be tricky, so arriving early or parking a bit farther away may be necessary. The market was bustling, and Hog Island was no exception. I found a seat at the bar, which offered a perfect view of the cook in action.

I ordered the Hog Island Clam Chowder, featuring chunky potatoes, bacon, and lots of clams, in their shells, all floating in a light cream sauce—a twist on the traditional thick chowder. Removing the clams from their shells made for a very different chowder-eating experience, but it was delicious. Unfortunately, I couldn't finish the large portion, and as I had no way to store leftovers, I had to leave what was left behind. However, next time I'm in town I have every intention of returning.



Hog Island Oyster Co



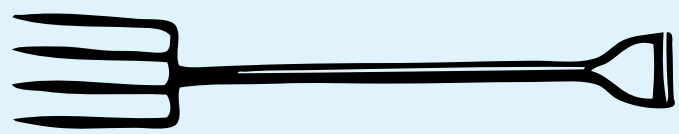
Oenotri

After a long nap, I went out for dinner again, this time Italian, at Oenotri. The rustic, warm atmosphere made for a pleasant evening. I tried the Intenso Pizza, topped with red onion, plenty of cheese, and pistachio nuts. It was good, though the pistachios weren't quite to my taste. The carpaccio, however, was excellent. Service was friendly but somewhat distant, and the bill included an unusual 3% "kitchen appreciation" charge on top of a tip—something I hadn't encountered before, and personally think the food and drink prices should cover the kitchen staff.



My two days in Napa were very enjoyable. I skipped touristy activities like wine tasting or hot-air ballooning, and appreciated Napa's relaxed, comforting vibe. Bonus: the local Trader Joe's has an actual parking lot—a rare treat compared to East Sacramento! On my way out, I stopped at Costco to charge my car at one of their ten new stations before heading home with plenty of juice.

If you're considering a visit, now might be the perfect time—great weather, smaller crowds, and more reasonable overnight accommodations. I'm certainly glad I treated myself to this little two-day getaway.



Out & About

with Matthew Burlingame

As summer winds down, Sacramento has given us a season of milder temperatures than in recent years. In the City of Trees we now look ahead to autumn's crisp mornings and golden afternoons. From shaded streets to lively gatherings, the coming season reminds us that each moment is a gift worth cherishing. We are blessed in this city to have so many events to help us create those wonderful memories.

Sept. 11

Miss Apple Adams hosts Drag Bingo at Tippy Putt Sacramento, 630 K St., Suite 120, on Thursday, Sept. 11, from 7 to 9 p.m. For just \$5, guests can play bingo with a sassy, comedic twist and compete for prizes. The lively evening blends laughs, drag flair and friendly competition. Tippyputt.com

Sept. 12

Join us at Outword's monthly happy hour at 2003 K St. for a dose of Liquid Therapy! Everyone is welcome to enjoy the fun on Sept. 12 from 5:30-7 p.m., with chances to win prizes and enjoy drink specials. Reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Badlandssac.com

Sept. 13

The inaugural Sacramento Black Lit Book Festival takes place Saturday, Sept. 13, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Underground Books and The Guild Theater, 2814 35th St. The historic celebration of Black literature and culture features author meet-and-greets, engaging panels, book browsing and community connection. Organizers invite readers to support and celebrate Sacramento's vibrant Black literary community. Underground-books.com

The Sacramento Area Regional Theater Alliance will host a Community Costume Sale on Saturday, Sept. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 3945 Franklin Blvd., Suite A. Shoppers can browse a wide selection of costumes from SARTA, Broadway Costumes and other community vendors, perfect for theater productions, Halloween or creative projects. Sarta.com

Sept. 19

Urban Roots Brewing & Smokehouse, 1322 V St., hosts its Oktoberfest Kickoff Weekend Sept. 19-21. The celebration features guest beers, food specials, gravity pours, stein-holding contests and Sunday's popular weenie dog races at 10:30 a.m. Guests can also snag exclusive merch and reserve tables in advance for this lively annual tradition. Urbanrootsbrewing.com



Sept. 19

Jammin' Jo Productions presents Let's Dance on Friday, Sept. 19, at the Sky Room, 2600 Watt Ave., Sacramento. The evening runs from 6 to 11 p.m., with a special hour of country tunes from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Guests 21 and older are invited to enjoy a lively night of music, dancing and mingling. Jamminjo.com



Sept. 20

Sept. 20

The Crest Theater will host Dan Savage's 2025 HUMP! Film Festival on Saturday, Sept. 20, at 7:30 p.m. at 1013 K St., Sacramento. Now in its 20th year, the world's best indie erotic film fest features 22 brand-new, five-minute shorts that celebrate sex-positivity, diversity and creative storytelling. Tickets support ethical filmmakers and inclusive representation. Cresttheater.com

Sept. 20

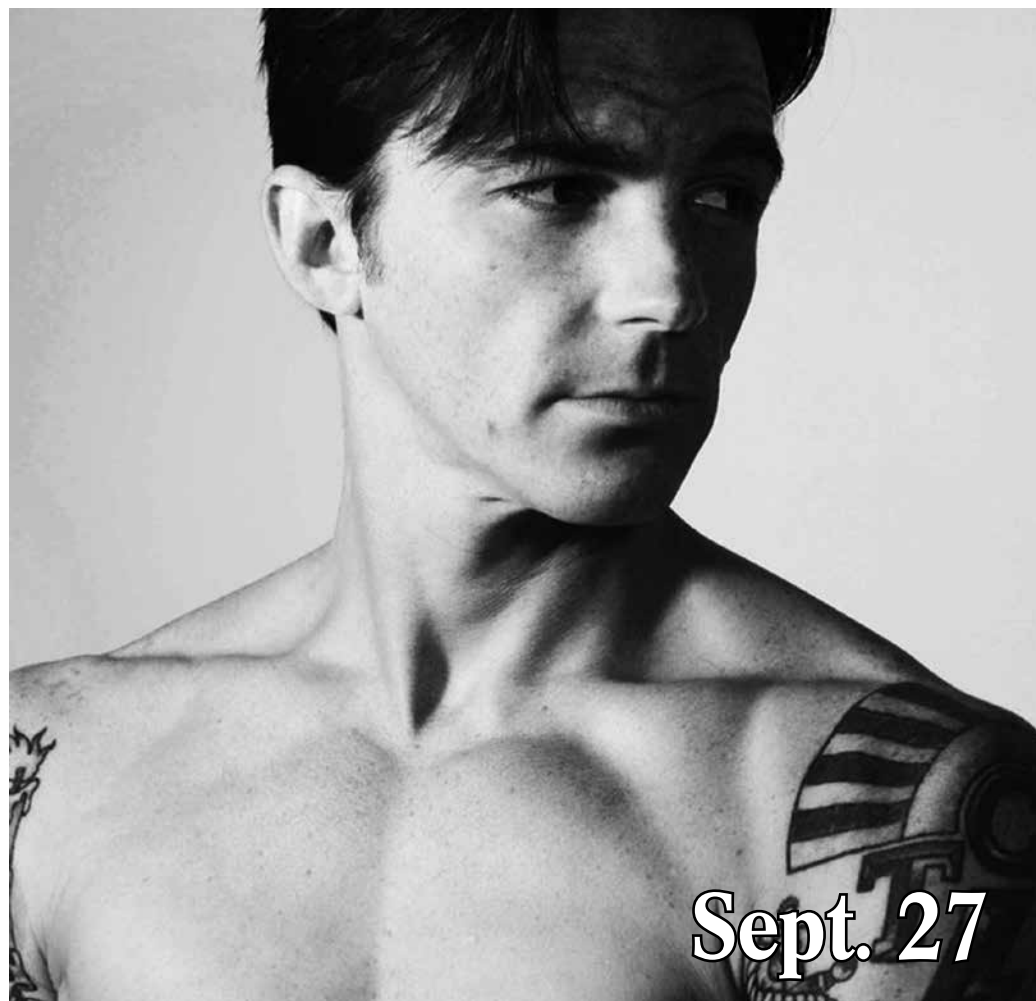
The Fair Oaks Recreation & Park District presents the 20th Annual Fair Oaks Chicken Festival on Saturday, Sept. 20, from noon to 6 p.m. at 11549 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks. The day features live music, food trucks, kids' activities, contests, vendors and more. A pancake breakfast kicks off at 7:30 a.m. at 5807 Walnut Ave. Forpd.org

The Sacramento Old City Cemetery Committee and FLOMM will host Movie in the Cemetery at 1000 Broadway, Sacramento, on Saturday, Sept. 20. The outdoor program features the silent horror classic *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* (1920) and Buñuel and Dalí's surreal short *Un Chien Andalou* (1929). Chairs are provided; bring a picnic (no alcohol). Historicoldcitycemetery.org

Ongoing

The Sacramento LGBT Community Center hosts a weekly Men's Support Group for LGBTQ+ men on Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Sacramento LGBT Community Center, 1015 20th St. The group offers a welcoming space for connection, support and community. For questions, email mentalhealth@saccenter.org

Roscoe's Bar & Burgers hosts its Saturday Themed Drag Brunch every first and third Saturday at 2326 K St. With two shows at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., each performance features a brand-new theme, from *Golden Girls* to *Shrek*. Costumes are encouraged. Roscoes916.com



Sept. 27

Sept. 27

Bar Crawl Nation brings Sacramento's biggest 2000s party on Saturday, Sept. 27, starting at Cafeteria 15L, 1116 15th St. The event features themed cocktails, DJs spinning 2000s hits, and a live Drake Bell performance of the Drake & Josh theme song at Mix Downtown. VIP perks include a meet-and-greet, selfies, autographs and an exclusive pre-party. BarCrawlNation.com

Do you have events, birthdays, or announcements to share? Feel free to send them to matthewburlingame@gmail.com.

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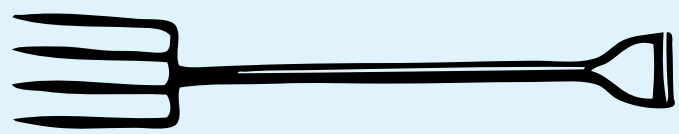
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A World of Flavors is Coming to Sacramento!

*words by Visit Sacramento
photo courtesy of Visit Sacramento*

From September 26–28, 2025, downtown will transform into the largest food festival the city has ever hosted with the debut of Farm to Fork at Terra Madre Americas. This all-new event combines Sacramento's beloved Farm-to-Fork Festival with Terra Madre Americas, the U.S. edition of Slow Food International's renowned Terra Madre Salone del Gusto.

For those who may not be familiar, Slow Food International's Terra Madre Salone del Gusto is one of the world's most influential food events, held every other year in Turin, Italy. It's a showcase of the best of Slow Food, and as Sacramento Chef Ravin Patel has described, going there is like tasting your way through every region of Italy in just a few days—an experience that would otherwise take weeks.

Now, Terra Madre Americas will bring that experience to Sacramento, filling the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center and the surrounding streets. This is the first time an event of its kind will be held in the western hemisphere, uniting flavors and traditions from the North Pole to the tip of South America in one unforgettable experience.

Inside the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center, visitors will discover a lineup of experiences. At the Terra Madre Americas Marketplace, guests can sample artisan foods, wines, coffees, and spirits from across North and South America while meeting the makers behind every bite and sip. Wine lovers can head to the Enoteca, presented by Bank of America, where they can try over 100 wines from North and South America. Those looking for something more exclusive can book a seat at the Terra Madre Americas Bistro, powered by SMUD. This intimate three-course tasting experience is curated by celebrity and acclaimed chefs from across the Americas, offering a dining experience you won't want to miss.

Of course, the bites and sips are a big draw, but the festival is also a chance to discover the stories and passions behind them. Throughout the weekend, attendees can dive deeper into the rich stories behind the food they love through celebrity chef demonstrations from icons like Alice Waters and Jeremiah Tower, interactive exhibits, and engaging educational panels led by culinary leaders from North and South America.



Grand Tasting at Terra Madre.
Photo courtesy of Visit Sacramento

The weekend kicks off with the Grand Tasting, a ticketed 21+ event highlighting Sacramento's rich culinary scene with tastings from over 20 acclaimed chefs, libations, and live entertainment. Tickets include unlimited tastings and two drink tickets and are available for purchase at TerraMadreUSA.com.

While the indoor programming offers an incredible variety of experiences, the excitement doesn't stop there. On Saturday, September 27, and Sunday, September 28, the event will spill into the streets, transforming the area surrounding the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center into a vibrant street festival. Many favorite Farm-to-Fork Festival vendors will be there showcasing the best of Sacramento's local flavor with fresh food, craft beer and wine, handmade goods, interactive exhibits, and more. To top it all off, the Golden 1 Live Music Stage will keep the energy high with a stacked lineup you'll be dancing to all day long. This year's lineup includes The War on Drugs, Spoon, Big Head Todd & the Monsters, Jade Bird, Passion Pit (Solo Acoustic), and a host of local bands. The full lineup, including set list times, can be found at TerraMadreUSA.com.

Admission to the indoor and outdoor portions of Farm to Fork at Terra Madre Americas is admission-free thanks to sponsors like Wilton Rancheria, UC Davis Health, and Bank of America.

Looking ahead, Farm to Fork at Terra Madre Americas will return every other year, alternating with Terra Madre Salone del Gusto in Turin.

So, what are you waiting for? Whether you're sampling flavors from across the Americas, sipping wine at the Enoteca, learning from culinary legends, or dancing under the stars to your favorite band, Farm to Fork at Terra Madre Americas is set to be Sacramento's biggest and boldest food festival yet.

Keep up to date with the latest Farm to Fork at Terra Madre Americas news at TerraMadreUSA.com.

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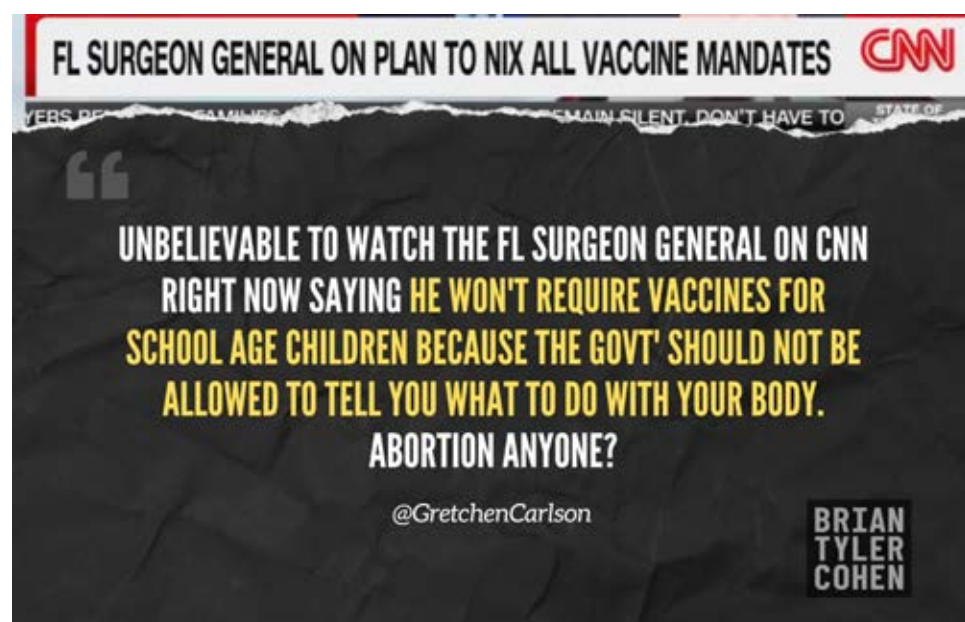
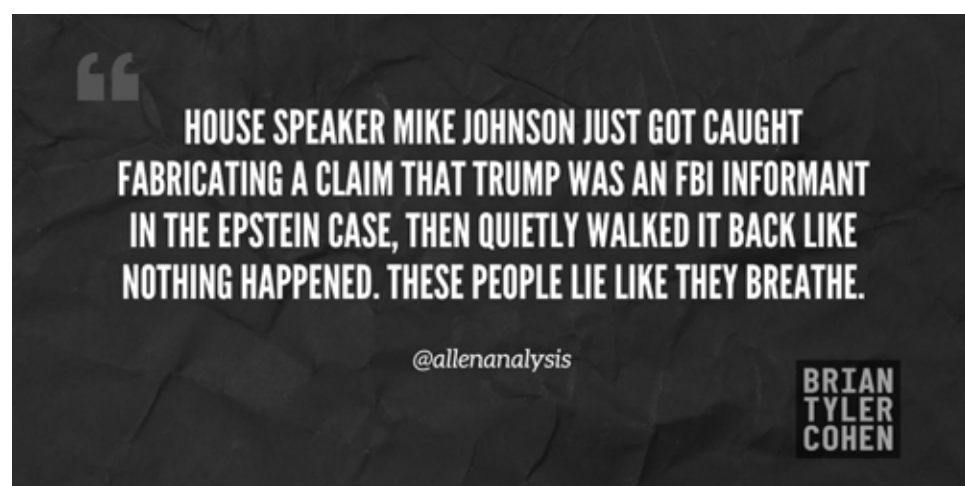
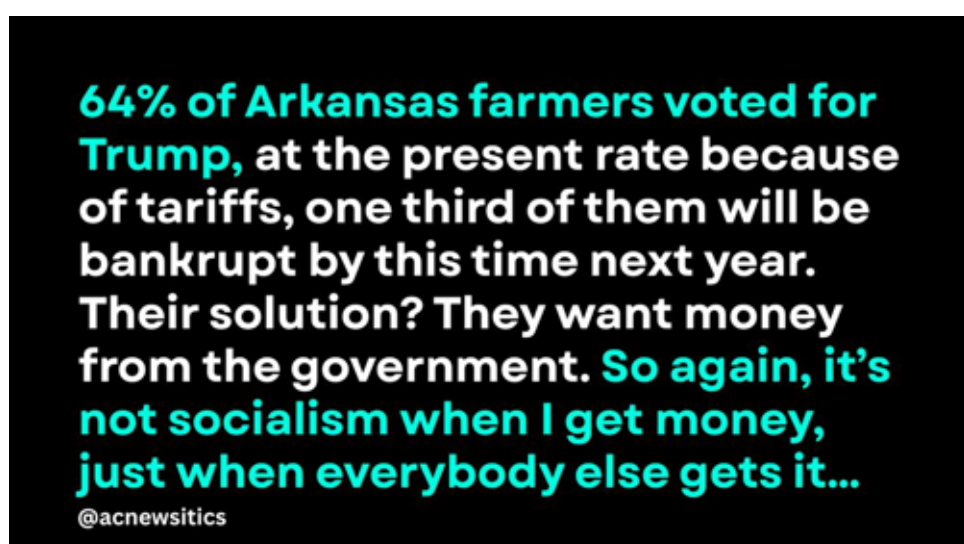
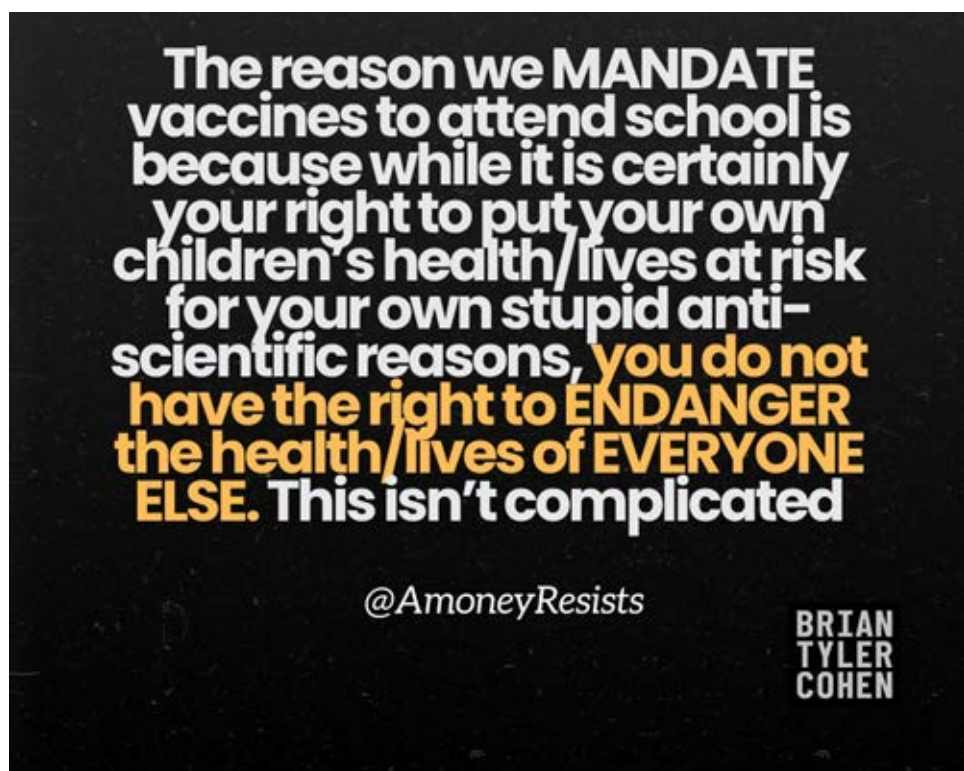
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Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Returns

by Chris Narloch

With inflation continuing to kill our economy, free events become even more precious, and this annual Bay Area concert is always an incredible bargain since it's a three-day, free of charge festival.



The War and Treaty

This year's musical lineup features an especially strong contingent of female artists, including Shawn Colvin, Patty Griffin, Samara Joy, Emmylou Harris, Rosanne Cash, and Lucinda Williams.

There will be no shortage of male artists too, including Buddy Miller and Steve Earle, and one of my favorite newish, "his and hers" duos, The War and Treaty, will also be performing.

More than 50 artists were confirmed at the time of our deadline, and they will grace the stage over three days, Oct. 3–5, in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

My advice is to plan to get there as early as possible, because the crowds get bigger every year.

For more information, visit: hardlystrictlybluegrass.com



Free Day at the Drive-in

by Chris Narloch

Mark your calendars for Thursday evening, Sept. 18, folks! That's the date for Free Movie Night at the last drive-in movie theater in the Sacramento area, West Wind, in Rancho Cordova.

If you failed to make it to the all-digital drive-in this summer, this is your chance to enjoy movies under the stars for free, but bring plenty of money for concessions because West Wind has an extensive menu of snacks and drinks for sale.

All movies are double features and include these recent titles: "Superman," "Lilo and Stitch," "Jurassic World," "Minecraft," "Fantastic Four," and "How to Train Your Dragon."

Family activities on the 18th include face painters, balloon artists, bounce houses, \$2 nachos, and an obstacle course. Free movies go fast though, so get there when the gates open at 6:00 p.m. or you might get turned away.

Movies start between 8:00 and 8:15. Visit: westwinddi.com/free-movie-night



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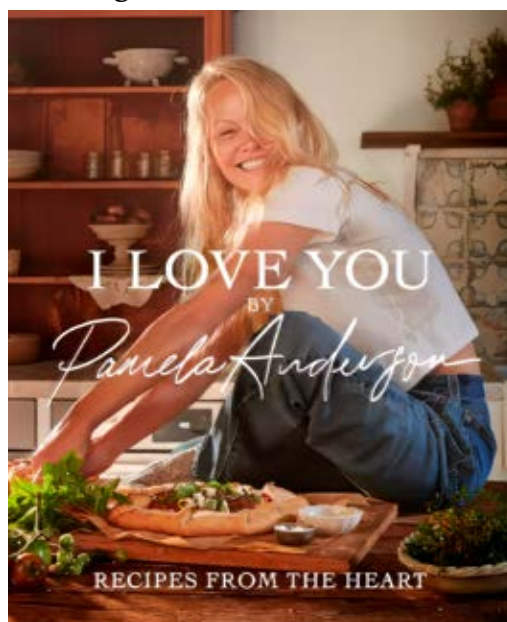


From Hollywood Icon to Nature-loving Homemaker

Pamela Anderson's debut cookbook, "I Love You: Recipes from the Heart," is a heartfelt collection of 80 plant-based recipes that reflect her journey from Hollywood icon to a grounded, nature-loving homemaker. Originally conceived as a housewarming gift for her sons, Brandon and Dylan, the cookbook evolved into a tribute to the women who influenced her culinary path, including her neighbor Mrs. Atkinson, who introduced her to the joy of fresh, homegrown food.

The book showcases Anderson's deep connection to her upbringing on Vancouver Island, featuring dishes like minty pea-potato pierogis, anti-inflammatory lentil soup, and maple-glazed cinnamon rolls. Photographer Ditte Isager's imagery captures the rustic charm of Anderson's 100-year-old farmhouse, enhancing the book's intimate and whimsical tone.

Beyond its culinary offerings, "I Love You" delves into Anderson's personal philosophy, emphasizing sustainability, self-care, and the therapeutic nature of cooking. Her approach is inclusive, aiming to appeal to both vegans and non-vegans by celebrating the beauty of vegetables without adhering to strict dietary labels. The book has received acclaim from various quarters, including a James Beard Award nomination and praise from celebrities like Drew Barrymore and Martha Stewart. Stewart lauded Anderson's interpretation of French cuisine as "simple, beautiful," highlighting the book's accessibility and elegance.



For those seeking a cookbook that marries culinary delight with personal storytelling, "I Love You" offers a nourishing experience in the kitchen. [Barnes and Noble](#).

Disco Legend France Joli Releases New Music



France Joli

International disco legend France Joli, best known for her 1979 hit "Come to Me," has released My Everlasting Love—a romantic anthem she recorded nearly three decades ago but never shared—now reimagined by Billboard/BMI Songwriter of the Year Lewis Martinee. Available now via Drag & Drop Music/EMPIRE, the track pairs Joli's powerhouse vocals with a fresh, modern dance beat and features remixes from 7th Heaven, Klubjumpers, Yuyo McWizard, Twisted Dee, and Martinee himself. Martinee, famed for hits with Exposé, Vanessa Williams, Debbie Gibson, and Pet Shop Boys, calls Joli a "bona fide superstar" and says now is the perfect time to share their '90s collaborations. Joli adds, "It's always wonderful to bring new music to fans old and new—I hope everyone falls head over heels for My Everlasting Love."

Golden Girls 40th Anniversary Inspires Sustainable Fashion Capsule

Picture this, Brooklyn-based designer Zero Waste Daniel is teaming up with ABC, Disney, and Hulu to honor the 40th anniversary of "The Golden Girls" with a one-of-a-kind fashion collaboration. Known for transforming textile waste into striking, sustainable designs, the queer-owned label has created a 25-piece capsule collection that blends nostalgia with eco-conscious artistry.



The 'Rose' Crewneck Sweatshirt \$395

The collection is entirely gender-free and draws inspiration from the beloved sitcom's iconic characters and settings. Fans will spot playful nods to the show throughout the designs—banana-leaf wallpaper prints, floral couch patterns, cheesecake details, and even clever references to the show's most memorable one-liners.

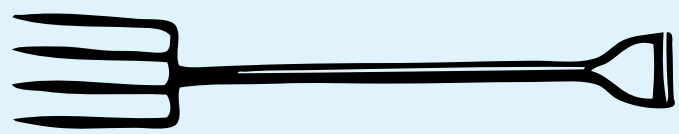
With bold visuals and emotionally resonant details, [Zero Waste Daniel reimagines The Golden Girls](#) aesthetic for a new generation, offering a vibrant way for fans to celebrate the timeless series while embracing sustainable fashion.

BOOK INTRODUCTION

Philip Behrens lived in San Francisco from 1980 to 2018. He took a 10 year break in charming Vacaville from 2001 to 2011. He then moved to Vermont, Cape Cod, and finally Grand Island, New York. Having bought and sold 5 homes over the years, he has a unique perspective on housing in America and how we are not truthful to either ourselves or others where housing is concerned. What is really behind the "charm" campaign of the Cape Cod city of Dennis? He also examines the roots of the emotionality over our abortion policy. Can we be proud as a nation of our policy on housing and our policy on abortion? Along with his discussion of these weighty issues, the author throws in interesting facts on some of the cities he has lived in. To find out which American city has an ACE Hardware with 6 different types of silver polish, "Don't Harm the Charm" is required reading.

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THE DEPOT
2001 K St., Sac, 916-441-6823 TheDepot.net

CHIROPRACTORS

HEALING TOUCH CHIROPRACTIC
Dr. Darrick Lawson, 1210 G Street, 916-447-3344
www.FixMyBack.com

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www.weaveinc.org

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KENDALL HOMER, DMD
9216 Kiefer Blvd., STE 5
916-363-9171 • grovehomerdentists.com

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LaCosechaSacramento.com

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916-898-3631
Roscoes916.com

SCOTT'S SEAFOOD - ON THE RIVER
916-379-5959
ScottsSeafoodontheRiver.com

FINANCIAL PLANNING

STEELE FINANCIAL PARTNERS
Judy Steele, Financial Advisor
916-846-7733
www.steelefinancial.org

HEALTH SERVICES

CAPITAL CITY AIDS FUND
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PlayButPlaySafe.org

RIVER BEND MEDICAL ASSOC.
www.rbmafamlydocs.com

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info@house-2-om.com

LIBRARIES

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916-731-8493

MUSEUMS

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CrockerArt.org

OPTOMETRY

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6407 Riverside Blvd., 916-395-0673
DrCameronYee@aol.com

PERFORMING ARTS

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Safe Credit Union Performing Arts Center
916-557-1999
BroadwaySacramento.com

MONDAVI CENTER
UC Davis
mondaviarts.org

PEST MANAGEMENT

EARTH GUARD PEST SERVICES
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contact@earthguardpest.com

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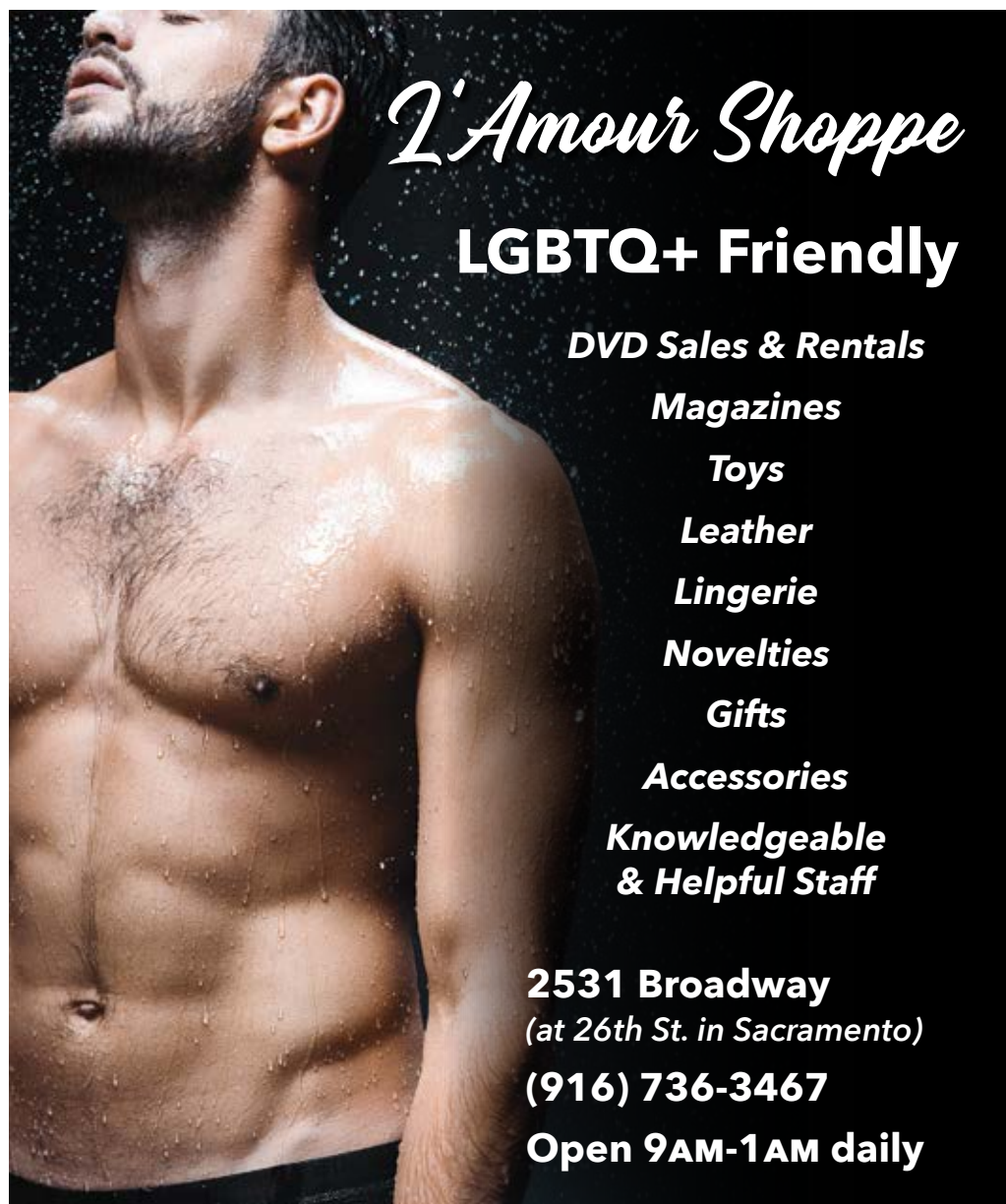
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