

outword

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Announcements

Local Author to Discuss Kink and BDSM

Local author Rebecca Blanton will be reading from her new book, *Love Letters to a Unicorn: A Book about Kink, BDSM, and Non-monogamy* at the Lavender Library on Saturday, July 11, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

The book covers topics such as the intersection between feminism and submission, the importance of adopting a national safe word to combat rape, consent, negotiation and good sex.

Copies of *Love Letters* will be available for purchase and autograph during this free event.

Light refreshments will be provided. Donations always welcome.

You can learn more about Rebecca Blanton at loveletterstounicorn.com.



the LGBT Community.

They invite nominations to be as diverse as the Sacramento community around us!

Policy leaders, advocates, entrepreneurs, educators, emerging leaders, vocal allies, businesses, artists, people who bring positive energy and support for others – anyone and everyone who has made contributions to the LGBT community is eligible and they hope you will nominate them.

The Pride Awards committee will select and announce finalists at the end of July and award recipients will be announced at the event on August 18.

Nominations close July 10, and can be made online at SacramentoPrideAwards.com.

Nominations for Sacramento Pride Awards Now Open

The Sacramento LGBT Community Center's Pride Awards celebrate successes and recognize acts of leadership and everyday heroism that make a difference in

“Sodomite Suppression Act” Ruled Unconstitutional

Judge Raymond M. Cadei, of the Superior Court of Sacramento County prevented a proposed ballot initiative known as the “Sodomite Suppression Act” from moving forward in a ruling calling it “patently unconstitutional on its face.”

The June 23rd decision from Judge Cadei is in response to a request from California Attorney General Harris seeking judicial authorization to not issue a title and summary for the so-called “Sodomite Suppression Act.”

By not doing so, the proposal is prevented from advancing to the next stage in California's ballot measure process.

Harris asked the court to relieve her of the official duty of preparing the measure's title and summary, saying she did not want to be “in the position of giving any legitimacy” to the initiative.

The preparation of the title and summary is a necessary step before proponents can collect signatures. The initiative was put forward by Huntington Beach attorney Matt McLaughlin, who did not defend the measure in court.

“This proposed act is the product of bigotry, seeks to promote violence, is patently unconstitutional and has no place in a civil society,” Harris said in a released statement. “I applaud the court's decision to block its title and summary. My office will continue to fight for the rights of all Californians to live free from hatred and intolerance.”

“The court has brought an appropriate end to this disturbing episode,” said Assembly Speaker Toni G. Atkins. “LGBT Californians shouldn't be threatened and our initiative process shouldn't be hijacked. Let's hope it's the last time our system is abused to promote the political equivalent of toxic waste.”

Following the Court's decision, McLaughlin has filed a second attempt at getting the measure on the ballot, which Harris has also rejected. In a letter to McLaughlin, Harris' office informed him that it was not moving forward with his new request and was returning his \$200 processing fee.

Like the first attempt, the second proposal, submitted on June 24, would legalize killing gays and lesbians by “bullets to the head” or “any other convenient method.”

“The language of the previous initiative and your most recent proposal are substantively identical,” initiative coordinator Ashley Johansson wrote to McLaughlin. “Accordingly, issuing any title and summary of the proposal would be inconsistent with the Court's judgment.”

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Sacramento

Study Reveals Need for Positive Support of LGBT Youth

A new study from the Family Acceptance Project, that examined the role of family, peers and community support during adolescence on positive adjustment and well-being in LGBT young adults, confirms the important role of support – especially family support – for LGBT youth and young adults.

The study, "Social Support Networks for LGBT Young Adults," was published in the July issue of *Family Relations* and reports on data from the Family Acceptance Project's young adult survey. The survey included 245 Latino and non-Latino white LGBT young adults, ages 21 to 25.

Little is known about the relationship between multiple forms of social support for LGBT youth and their well-being in young adulthood. In the current study, researchers found that family, peer, and community

support were strong predictors of positive adjustment in young adulthood, including life satisfaction, self-esteem, and sense of self-worth as an LGBT young adult.

Being open about one's LGBT identity to more individuals within their social network was highly linked with satisfaction with their life situation and with having positive perceptions of their LGBT identity. However, acceptance by their family during adolescence had the strongest influence on overall adjustment

and well-being, compared with other forms of support.

The study points to the need for increasing social support for LGBT young people during childhood and adolescence, starting with education and guidance for parents, families and caregivers; increasing peer-based supports, including school diversity clubs and access to LGBT community resources; and expanding community and public education initiatives to increase awareness, understanding and accurate information about sexual orientation and gender identity and the importance of family and peer support among social institutions, congregations and agencies that serve children, youth and families.

For more information, visit familyproject.sfsu.edu.



Bea Arthur leaves \$300,000 to Help LGBT Homeless Youth

Bea Arthur left \$300,000 in her will to New York's Ali Fornay Center, an organization that aids homeless gay youth, providing services to more than 1,000 each year, and that is planning to buy a building to house 12 young people – and name it in honor of the *Golden Girls* actress.

"We work with hundreds of young people who are rejected by their families because of who they are," said the center's Executive Director Carl Siciliano. "We are overwhelmed with gratitude that Bea saw that LGBT youth deserve as much love and support as any other young person, and that she placed so much value in the work we do to protect them, and to help them rebuild their lives," he said.

Legislative LGBT Caucus Honors LGBT Californians

The California Legislative LGBT Caucus celebrated June 2015 as LGBT Pride Month with the adoption of House Resolution 24 in the Assembly and Senate Resolution 33, which recognized 10 Californians for their contributions to the LGBT Community.

"Today, we recognize 10 outstanding people who are making a difference in our communities," said Assemblymember Susan Talamantes Eggman (Stockton), chair of the LGBT Caucus. "They are the strength of our movement, and they also show the growing breadth of support and variety of experience behind the struggle for LGBT equality."

California has a long history of LGBT activism. In 1950, the Mattachine Society was founded in Los Angeles, becoming the first national gay rights organization. Five years later, the Daughters of Bilitis, the first lesbian rights organization, was formed in San Francisco.

Starting in the 1960s, these burgeoning communities began to combat the rampant homophobia of the time and ushered in the modern LGBT rights movement. The 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riots in San Francisco marked one of the first transgender protests of police harassment.

"Our honorees are leaders in business,

politics and civil rights, health and social enterprise and represent the rich diversity that makes up the LGBT community," said Eggman. "They prove that inclusive, welcoming movements are also strong and effective ones, necessary to help all Californians be the best they can and want to be."

This year's honorees include:

Donald Abrams, MD, Cancer and Integrative Medicine Specialist, UCSF Osher Center for Integrative Medicine Chief of Hematology-Oncology, SF General Hospital; Sue Conley and Peggy Smith, Founders, Cowgirl Creamery; Dr. Robert Garcia, Mayor, City of Long Beach; Virginia Gurrola, Councilmember, City of Porterville – Inaugural Ally Award; Kris Hayashi, ED, Transgender Law Center; Dr. Delores Jacobs, CEO, San Diego LGBT Community Center; Joanne Keatley, Dir., Center of Excellence for Transgender Health, UCSF; Mattheus E. Stephens, Lawyer and Lecturer, UCSD; and Ken Yeager, Supervisor, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

Originally formed in 2002, the LGBT Caucus serves as a forum for the California Legislature to discuss issues that affect LGBT Californians and to further the goal of equality and justice for all residents in the State. Comprised of both Senate and Assembly members, the LGBT Caucus members include: Speaker Toni G. Atkins, Assemblymembers Richard S. Gordon (Chair), Tom Ammiano, Susan Talamantes Eggman, Speaker Emeritus John A. Pérez; Senators Cathleen Galgiani, Ricardo Lara, and Mark Leno. The Caucus' formation made California the first state in the country to recognize an official caucus of openly-LGBT state legislators.

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Briefly Put

VA To Extend Benefits To Same-Sex Couples

On Monday, June 29, the Veterans Administration confirmed they would begin extending benefits to legally married same-sex couples nationwide as a result of the historic marriage equality ruling by the Supreme Court last week.

Previously, the VA had denied some benefits to same sex couples who lived in states where their marriages were not recognized.

"We are thrilled the VA is acting so quickly to implement the Supreme Court's ruling and are ready to do right by ALL our nation's veterans," said the American Military Partner Association's President Ashley Broadway-Mack. "These are important benefits our nation's veterans have earned and it was unconscionable that some were denied based solely on where they lived."

For more visit www.MilitaryPartners.org.

DOJ Filing Supports Transgender Student's Right to Appropriate Restroom Facilities

The Department of Justice on July 1st filed a statement of interest in federal court explaining that transgender students must be allowed to use the restroom that corresponds with their gender identity under Title IX of the U.S. Education Amendments of 1972.

The filing, in *G.G. v. Gloucester County School Board* and brought by the ACLU, states "There is a public interest in ensuring that all students, including transgender students, have the opportunity to learn in an environment free of sex discrimination."

"The Department of Justice filing makes crystal clear that the Gloucester County School Board's transgender restroom policy violates Title IX," said Joshua Block, senior staff attorney in the ACLU's LGBT and HIV Project. "All students - including transgender students - should be able to use the restroom without being stigmatized and humiliated for being who they are."

OPM Bans Trans Exclusions In Federal Health Plans

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) called on all Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) plans to ban general exclusions that target transgender federal employees and dependents.

Starting in January 2016, insurance plans for federal workers will no longer be permitted to maintain blanket exclusions of transition-related care for federal employees and their dependents.

"The Office of Personnel Management's action eliminating blanket trans exclusions represents a huge step toward ending one of the last remaining ways the federal government itself discriminates against transgender people," said National Center for Transgender Equality Executive Director Mara Keisling. "Until now, ... Transgender workers have been required to pay out of pocket to cover care deemed necessary by their doctor - often for services that are covered for non-transgender people. This is completely out of step with the medical consensus on this issue and it is discrimination, plain and simple."

LGBT Studies Course at SF High School May Be 1st In Nation

A San Francisco high school may be the first in the country to offer an LGBT studies course. The course will cover terminology, and the broad history of LGBT issues.

"We'll look at what it's been like for gay men, what it's been like for lesbian women, what it's been like for transgender people," Ruth Asawa High School Social Studies teacher Lyndsey Schlax said.

Schlax has been working with human rights activist Cleve Jones, who was mentored by San Francisco's Harvey Milk. The curriculum stretches back to ancient times.

"Twenty eight percent of our students identify as LGBTQ," Schlax said.

The class begins this fall.

Chicago's Henry Gerber House Designated a National Historic Landmark

In recognition of LGBT Pride month, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has announced that the Henry Gerber House in Chicago, has been designated a National Historic Landmark, becoming the nation's second LGBT related property to achieve such recognition.

Once the residence of noted gay rights activist Henry Gerber, the home was where the nation's first chartered LGBT rights organization, the Society for Human Rights, was formed in 1924.

"The National Park Service is America's storyteller, and it is important that we tell a complete story of the people and events responsible for building this great nation," said Secretary Jewell. "As we honor the pioneering work of Henry Gerber and the pivotal role this home played in expanding and fighting for equality for all Americans, we help ensure that the quest for LGBT civil rights will be told and remembered for generations to come."



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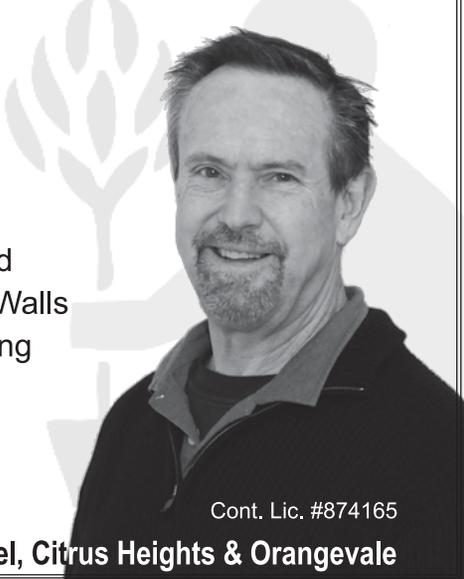
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Anti-Bullying Legislation Introduced in Congress

Legislation that would require school districts to adopt codes of conduct specifically prohibiting bullying and harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and religion has been introduced in the Congress.

Titled the Safe Schools Improvement Act, the bill was introduced on June 25th by Rep. Linda Sánchez (CA-38) and Rep. Chris Gibson (NY-19), and is supported by the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN), and 19 other members of Congress joined

"As a mother, my heart breaks every time I see a news report of another child taking their life after being bullied at school. Schools must be a safe place for our children to learn and grow and be protected from bullying," said Rep. Linda Sánchez. "The Safe Schools Improvement Act will give parents like me some peace of mind to know all our children have an educational environment where they can learn without the threat of harassment. I thank Rep. Chris Gibson, GLSEN, and my colleagues for joining me in standing up for safer schools."

The Safe Schools Improvement Act has garnered support from nearly 150 organizations, including the National PTA; the American Federation of Teachers; the American Library Association; Big Brothers Big Sisters of America; the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network; the Human Rights Campaign; the National Council of La Raza; and the Anti-Defamation League.

The Act was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA) On January 29, 2015.



Rep. Linda Sánchez (CA-38)

"This legislation is crucial for the thousands of students, a disproportionate number of whom are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT), who face bullying and harassment each year in America's schools and is a resounding statement of support for LGBT youth across the country," said Dr. Eliza Byard, GLSEN's Executive Director. "LGBT-inclusive anti-bullying and harassment policies work. Students who attend schools with LGBT-inclusive anti-bullying policies experience lower levels of victimization, have lower rates of absenteeism and higher grade point averages, and report that teachers intervene in bullying incidents more than twice as often."

National HIV Testing Day Collaborative a Success



Golden Rule Services, in collaboration with the Capital City AIDS Fund and Badlands Dance Bar, hosted a "National HIV Testing Day" event at Badlands on June 27, one of hundreds of HIV testing events that occurred nationwide. The theme this year was *Take the Test. Take Control*. The CDC recommends that individuals who are sexually active should be tested every three to six months. Pictured are volunteers Deshawn, Lincoln, Jenny and Scott. Photo by Clarmundo Sullivan. For more info, visit GoldenRuleServiceSacramento.org



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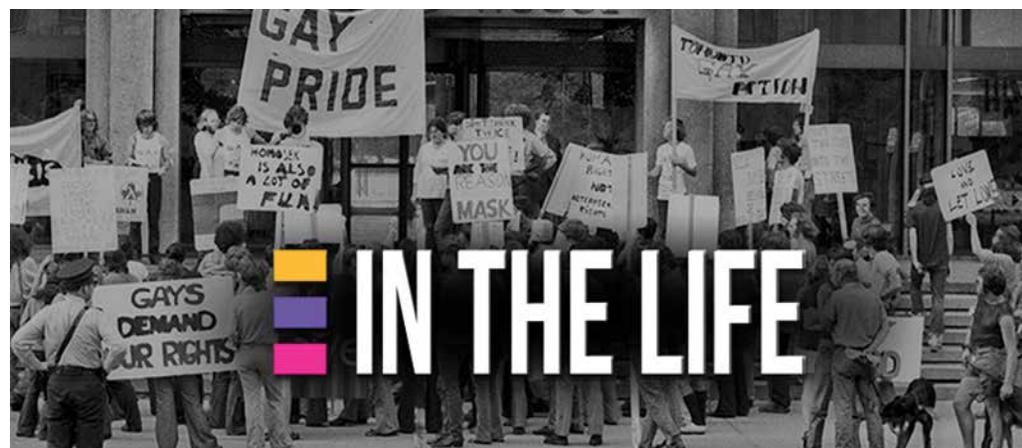
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Groundbreaking TV Coverage of LGBT Milestones Online

Comedian Kate Clinton's "coming out" remembrance, coverage of the watershed 1993 march on Washington and the story of murdered transgender teen Fred Martinez are just a few examples of a remarkable new digital portal created by the UCLA Film and Television Archive.



The videos – and a wealth of other resources – are now publicly accessible online as part of a new LGBT moving-image research area featuring episodes of the Emmy-nominated LGBT public television series "In the Life."

In addition to episodes from the TV program, the portal also features other contextualizing material, including a commissioned essay, "The Time of Our Lives: In the Life - America's LGBT News Magazine," by Stephen Tropiano, Ithaca College; an oral history with seminal indie filmmaker Pat Rocco; a lecture by LGBT scholar Lillian Faderman; and a list of LGBT media, history and advocacy resources.

Created by John Scagliotti in 1992, "In the Life" began as a variety-type show, but quickly evolved into a newsmagazine format, becoming an award-winning and respected source for LGBT journalism at a time when

LGBT people were often invisible in media.

Produced by In The Life Media, the series was the first – and remains the only – LGBT newsmagazine broadcast on public TV. "In the Life" ran in more than 200 markets around the country; its final episode aired in December 2012.

The archive has 15 seasons of the show available online now. All 21 seasons – along with outtakes, interviews and other significant video content – will be available this fall.

Jayne Baron Sherman, a board member of In the Life Media, said, "This living legacy of 'In the Life' provides generations with documentation and history that exists nowhere else and helps chronicle and explain the LGBT movement over the past 20-plus years."

Visit www.cinema.ucla.edu/collections/inthelife.

Stay Cool and Save Money this Summer

The heat is on! Which begs the question, what's the best way to keep cool and save money this summer? While SMUD has secured enough power and does not expect any problems to meet summer loads, air conditioning needs can drive up usage and customer bills.

So here are some tips from SMUD to help you keep cool and save money by simply changing the way you do things around the house:

- Keep your windows and drapes closed during the heat of the day.
 - Set your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher in the summer. (For every two degrees you raise your thermostat, your cooling costs will decrease by about 10 percent.)
 - Change your HVAC filter regularly. Systems with dirty filters can use five to 10 percent more energy.
 - Use small fans, box fans or ceiling fans in one room instead of air conditioning. Fans use 90 percent less energy.
 - Adjust ceiling fans to turn counter-clockwise so they blow air down during the summer.
 - Turn off unneeded lights.
 - Give appliances a break during heat spells—many, like clothes dryers, create more heat. Consider using a clothes line instead.
 - Prepare cold meals that don't require cooking. If you must cook, use the microwave.
 - Get rid of that old fridge or freezer in the garage. SMUD will give you cash and come pick it up for free!
 - Set timers on pool and spa pumps to run before 1:00 p.m. or after 9:00 p.m.
- To learn more energy-saving tips and find out how to take advantage of our energy-efficiency rebates and incentives, visit smud.org.

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Lesbians Who Tech Awarded \$165,000 Grant

Lesbians Who Tech, an organization that supports and connects LGBTQ women in the field of technology through gatherings across the county, was awarded a \$165,000 grant from the Arrillaga-Andreessen Foundation.



Some of the Lesbians Who Tech at a conference in San Francisco.

Run by a husband and wife team, the Foundation awarded the grant to Lesbians Who Tech with the goal of raising the visibility of sexual orientation and gender identity in the technology world.

Lesbians Who Tech's Founder and CEO, Leanne Pittsford, recognizes the grant as an achievement for an underrepresented community, saying: "The reality is that we don't have any real data on whether or not

LGBTQ people face discrimination in Silicon Valley and we need that data."

The grant money will be used for two innovative pilot programs. Pittsford will be starting a mentorship program called Bring a Lesbian To Work Day where participants will be matched with mentors in the tech field for a one day on-site program focused on showing the women involved what it takes to be leaders in the respective fields.

The second program is a Coding Scholarship Fund which will subsidize tuition for women who need financial assistance to attend coding academies.

Pittsford's goal is to make women more visible in tech and to connect them with one another. "We all know that you can't be what you can't see and queer women need more role models," Pittsford said. "We want to lift the names and faces of queer women into the discussion so that they are being talked about. It is about changing the face of the demographic that has belonged solely to men."

Visit LesbiansWhoTech.org.

With New TVs, Bigger is Better and Greener

by Doug Moss & Roddy Scheer, EarthTalk

Each U.S. household spends around \$200 per year for electricity to power their TVs and related equipment, but while we may not be giving up our TVs anytime soon, there is some light at the end of the tunnel, as the consumer electronics industry has started to prioritize reducing its environmental footprint and some models are greener than others.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, Americans' 275 million TV sets burn through some 65 billion kilowatt hours of energy each year, representing four to five percent of U.S. household electricity consumption.

While screen size has continued to increase, the overall mass of televisions is much smaller than back in the days of boxy cathode ray tube (CRT) sets. And many new flat screen models (LCD, OLED or plasma) sport hyper-efficient screens that can be tweaked even further by the user to reduce their power needs.

Some of the energy-saving features that this new generation of greener TVs makes use of include screens back-lit by light emitting diodes (LEDs), automatic brightness controls that adapt the picture to the light intensity of the room, "local dimming," where sections of backlighting are dimmed or turned off when not needed, and the ability to pre-determine picture settings optimized to save energy.

All of the major TV makers - Vizio, LG, Samsung, Panasonic, JVC, Sharp, Toshiba, Sony - now offer power-sipping models.

"Even though televisions are the most widely owned device in the U.S., with a 97 percent household penetration in 2013, their total annual electricity consumption dropped 23 percent from 2010," reports the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA), the trade group for electronics manufacturers that puts on the annual Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ENERGY STAR program certifies appliances, electronics and other energy-efficient

consumer items to help Americans save money and protect the climate through saving energy.

If you're shopping for a new TV, start your search at EnergyStar.gov, where you can find and compare new models that are all at least 25 percent more energy efficient than conventional ones. The easy-to-use site allows you to check-off which brands, screen sizes, technology types, resolutions and other features you're looking for before it

serves up a list of matches complete with estimated energy use over a year.

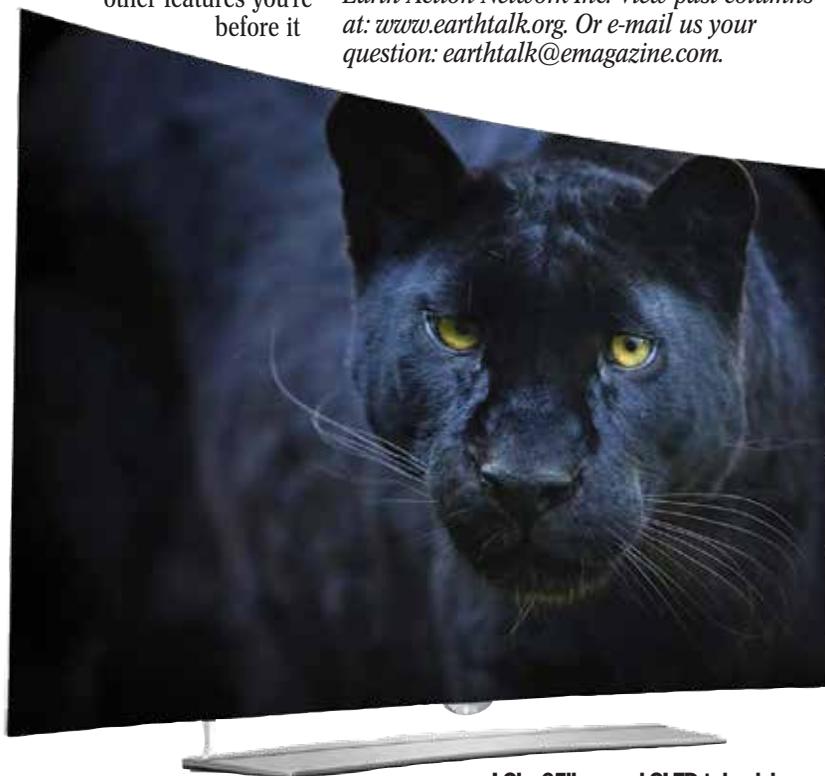
The EPA reports that if every TV, DVD player and home entertainment system purchased in the U.S. this year qualified for an ENERGY STAR label, consumers would keep some 2.2 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions out of the atmosphere, the equivalent of

taking 200,000 cars off the road.

Of course, buying a new TV introduces another potential environmental hazard: that associated with the disposal of your old set. Throwing your old TV in the garbage where it will end up in a landfill is not only bad for the environment, given the risk of chemical and heavy metal leakage, it is also typically illegal.

If you're buying your new TV from a local store, ask them if they can take back your old set. Also, the CEA's Greener Gadgets website provides an up-to-date list of resources to find out how to responsibly recycle old TV sets and other electronics directly with the manufacturers or through third-party recyclers.

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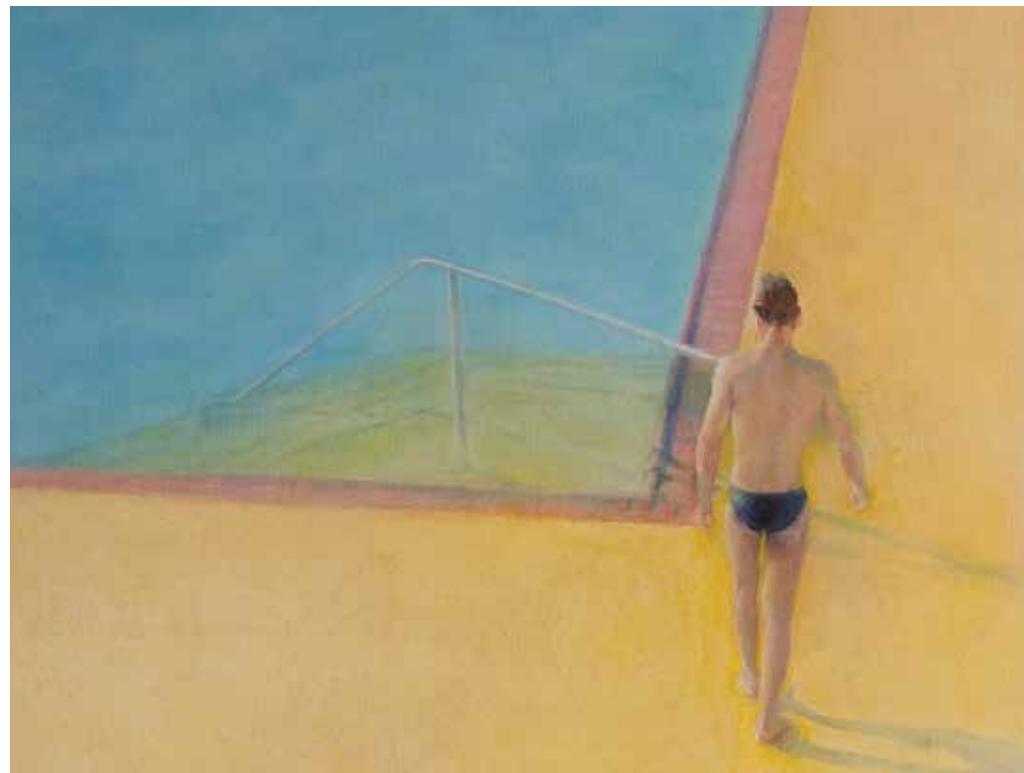


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Four Local Artists Featured in Gallery Exhibit



The July show at artspace1616 will feature works by Julian Faulkner, Richard Blackburne, Reece and Anne Veraldi. Each of these four artists uses distinctly different visual language that initiates an engaging dialog. An artist reception will be held on Thursday July, 9th at 6 p.m. at artspace1616, 1616 Del Paso Blvd. The above image is a detail of Behold by Reece. The exhibit runs through August 2nd. www.facebook.com/artspace1616.

Spandau Ballet to Play the Mountain Winery *by Chris Narloch*

Spandau Ballet fans should be in hog heaven this summer what with the news that the famed British band will embark on a North American tour and also has a documentary film on the way.



The group was responsible for such global smashes as "True" and "Gold" during the '80s, and the new tour marks the first time all five original members of Spandau Ballet will tour North American in nearly 30 years.

The tour is entitled "Soul Boys of the Western World," which is also the name of the band's new documentary, directed by George Hencken. The movie is a voyage through the '80s in the company of one of that decade's most iconic bands. Watch the trailer here: <http://youtu.be/ncf0coYimo0>.

You can see Spandau Ballet live on July 31, 2015, at the Mountain Winery in Saratoga, CA. For a complete list of concerts at that venue, please visit www.mountainwinery.com.

Ann Kraemer Is an Amador County Vineyard Artist

by Diana Kienle

Talk to any winemaker, and they will tell you that wine is made in the vineyard. Some will even say that 80 percent or more of what you taste in the bottle is actually crafted in the vineyard.

There is much work involved in having the grapes ready to be picked, and many factors influence the quality of the crop itself. Imagine the attention that must be given to such things as cover crops, the orientation of the vines to sunlight, the time on the vine, water, the weight of the canopy, the distance between the rows, the number and quality of the grape clusters, and on and on.

Much goes into the individual

distinctive of the vineyard. But the constant and distinguishing factor is the vineyard manager – the artist of the vines.

That is Ann Kraemer. She is the one who oversees the vineyard and works closely with the winemakers who want her grapes, and she orchestrates the whole process.

I have had the pleasure to meet Ann and taste her wines at Downtown and Vine in Sacramento. First and foremost, she is delightful. Her passion for wine and the work that needs to be done to bring in the harvest is apparent.

It is obvious also that she loves what she does, and that shows both in her vineyard and in her own wines, which are marketed under the label of Yorba. These are well-crafted wines that are well-aged and a great value.

You can learn more about Shake Ridge and purchase Ann's wines at Yorba Wines on the at www.YorbaWines.com or visit the tasting room in Sutter Creek.

Enjoy!

Diana Kienle is a freelance writer and blogs about wine at www.dianaswineblog.com. She can be reached at diana@dianaswineblog.com



Ann Kraemer is the artisan behind the fine grapes grown in Amador County vineyards

management of the vines and vineyard. It's in the vineyard where the science and artistry of great wine begins. And it's in her Shake Ridge vineyard in Amador County where you'll find Ann Kraemer.

Personally, Amador County had not been much of a draw for me. I had tasted a few of the offerings from wineries in the foothills and had not been impressed – that is until I found the wines of winemaker Helen Keplinger.

These were beautiful Rhone varietals that were smooth, rich, and deep with flavor. Wow, and she used grapes from Amador County! This was impressive. Next, I found beautiful wines from Favia, one was a wonderful Syrah with great complexity and balance made by Andy Erickson and Anne Favia. Oh my, again – Amador County grapes! Then, I tasted the new Grenache based wine of Rosemary Cakebread. Low and behold again – Amador County grapes.

All of these wines came from one place – Shake Ridge in Amador County.

What makes Shake Ridge such a standout? Well, obviously, there are good soils, elevation, the right climate, updrafts, minerality, and other factors that constitute the terroir that is



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Bear Rapper Big Dipper Discovers His Inner Mer-bear



In his newest EP, *Extra Good*, the gay bear rapper known as Big Dipper proves he sounds as big as he looks, with five super dope songs including "Vibin'" and "Ridikus"; a club banger aimed at getting partiers hyped for a night of ass clapping and grinding. "I absolutely love all the songs on the EP," says Big Dipper. View the music video for 'Vibin'' at youtube.com/watch?v=hqQBoOyPKEI.

Breaking The Code Returns for Limited Engagement in SF



Due to popular demand and great reviews when it played previously in SF, the story of Alan Turing, *Breaking The Code* by Hugh Whitmore, is coming back for a return engagement for 20 performances only Aug. 5 - 29, at Theatre Rhinoceros in SF. Pictured here are Heren Patel as Nikos and John Fisher as Turing. Photo by David Wilson. Visit www.therhino.org.

Well-Strung Releases New Music Video *Chelsea's Mom*



When it comes to either their signature pop-classical mashups — or their politics for that matter — Well-Strung, The Singing String Quartet, wears its heart on its sleeve. Give "Chelsea's Mom," an inventive take on the Fountains of Wayne hit "Stacy's Mom," and the first single from their upcoming new album titled *POPssical*, a listen at www.youtube.com/watch?v=SREmQk3u88U.



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Entertainment

Amy Pays Tribute to Amy Winehouse

by Chris Narloch

They tried to make her go to rehab, but she said no, no, no. Actually, Amy Winehouse, the brilliant British singer who died of alcohol poisoning in 2011 at the age of 27, did enter rehab before she lost her life, but she was unable to kick her dependency on hard drugs and especially alcohol, and the damage to her body had already been done.

The first time I heard Winehouse was in 2007, when her second album, "Back to Black," was released in the United States. I was in Sin City on vacation and had a stack of review CDs with me that I had grabbed on the way out the door.

One disc boasted a picture of a dark-eyed, heavily tattooed young

her friends and family during her childhood and early adulthood to create a wonderfully intimate and personal portrait of Winehouse's life.

Thankfully, before the inevitable sad end comes, the film also features some superb, previously unheard tracks and wonderful footage of her singing in small

pressures of fame coupled with Amy's troubled relationships and precarious lifestyle proved to be too much for her to deal with.

("Amy" has some genuinely scary scenes toward the end that demonstrate how the paparazzi go in for the kill when a performer begins to spiral downward.)

Winehouse's family at first



Amy Winehouse

woman on the cover, and when I popped it in my car stereo, I could hardly believe my ears.

Even coming through cheap rental car speakers, "Rehab" sounded amazing, and I almost rear-ended someone on the Vegas Strip. By the end of that first track, I knew that a star was born.

It's unusual for a documentary to receive a wide release these days, but that is exactly what is happening with "Amy," the highly acclaimed new documentary from BAFTA award-winning director Asif Kapadia.

This amazing new documentary, now playing at Sacramento's Tower Theatre, charts Winehouse's too-short life and career and movingly depicts how difficult it is for a troubled, creative person to survive under the glare of fame.

"Amy" tells the incredible story of the six-time Grammy-winner in her own words, using extensive, previously unseen footage taken by

clubs early on. Even then, she already possessed the intuitive phrasing of a mature jazz singer, as the film points out.

That musicianship is on full display in "Amy," which thankfully puts the emphasis on her gifted songwriting and singular phrasing without shying away from the darker, self-destructive side of her personality.

Winehouse wrote and sang from the heart, using her musical gifts to analyze her own problems, and the raw honesty of both her lyrics and her vocals is what kept fans like me in thrall to her talent.

That combination of authenticity and superior talent resulted in some of the most pleasurable pop songs in recent memory, including "Rehab," "Back to Black," "Valerie" and "You Know I'm No Good."

Her rapid success, however, resulted in relentless and invasive media attention that Winehouse was unprepared to handle. The



participated in the film, but after seeing the finished product, her father wanted "Amy" reedited, apparently to make his scenes in it more sympathetic. The filmmakers have refused to alter the movie.

The controversy in no way diminishes the film's achievement, which clearly demonstrates that mistakes were made by those around her but mostly by Winehouse herself, who, like so many other musical geniuses, burned brightly and flared out way too soon.

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Power Up with Kinetic Energy

by Doug Moss & Roddy Scheer, EarthTalk

Physicists define “kinetic” energy as the energy of motion (as opposed to potential energy, which represents an object’s stored energy). While there is not much that is practical that we can do with potential energy, kinetic energy is another matter.

We can capture energy from all sorts of everyday activities, and entrepreneurs around the world are working hard on ways to make kinetic energy more accessible. But we may be decades from realizing any serious fossil fuel displacement from this age-old energy source, and by then other alternative energy sources may have already made coal, oil and natural gas things of the past.

While the cutting edge revolving door at Natuurcafé La Port in Beerschoten, Netherlands (about 30 miles southeast of Amsterdam) may be one of the best examples of repurposing the kinetic energy that humans generate through their movement into electricity to power their stuff – the door connects the cafe to an adjoining train station and generates some 4600 kWh of electricity annually – it’s far from the only one.

The Soccket is a soccer ball that was designed by Harvard undergraduates for a class project – and since incorporated as the company Uncharted Play – that harvests energy when it is kicked around and can then be used to power an included energy efficient 3-LED lamp that runs for up to three hours after just 20 minutes or so of soccer.

“The more the ball rolls, the more power that’s generated,” reports Uncharted Play, which got the idea for the ball as a way to help eliminate the use of kerosene. The company also makes the Pulse, a portable, emergency battery charging jump rope designed to promote physical activity and spread awareness about the global energy problem.

While the Pulse is a jump rope just like any other, it is also a portable battery charger that can be powered up from a power outlet or even better from using it. For every Soccket or Pulse purchased (\$99/each), Uncharted Play donates one to a kid in a developing country who might not otherwise have access to electricity to provide a light to read at night.



Uncharted Play’s Soccket soccer ball doubles as a kinetic energy power source for an integrated high-efficiency 3-LED lamp.

Another innovative application of kinetic energy is from Pavegen, which produces floor tiles that absorb kinetic energy when people walk on them. The tiles are made with recycled materials and contain small LEDs that light up to show they are working. Meanwhile, KinergyPower is applying the same principal to harnessing the kinetic energy from vehicles through designed road surfaces that turn vehicle motion into electricity.

But while kinetic energy shows lots of potential for helping transition away from fossil fuels, it may never become more than a novelty if we continue to focus our energy resources on other proven clean renewables like solar arrays and wind farms. Regardless, get used to seeing more and more kinetic energy harvesting from flooring, sidewalks, soccer balls, jump ropes and who knows what else.

Going through a revolving door never felt so good.

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Sharknado 3: Oh Hell No!

by Chris Narloch

Does it get any better (or worse) than *Sharknado 3*? How can they top Part 2, which was even crazier than Part 1? Bring back Ian Ziering and Tara Reid and add Bo Derek and David Hasselhoff – that’s how.

I’m in bad-movie heaven just thinking about it. Unfortunately, I wasn’t able to preview this epic masterpiece before our deadline, but I have no doubt that the folks at the Syfy Channel will not disappoint.

The synopsis alone is enough to make a dead man salivate. The President (Mark Cuban) and Vice President (Ann Coulter) spring into action when ravenous flying sharks unleash their fury in Washington, D.C. (Aren’t there enough sharks in D.C. already?)

Watch *Sharknado 3: Oh Hell No!* beginning July 22 on Syfy. Visit www.syfy.com/sharknado3.



Image from *Sharknado 2*

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Bye Bye Birdie and Hello Peter Pan Plus Jean-Paul Sartre & Edwin Drood

by Chris Narloch

Director Glenn Casale tackles both of the next two shows gracing Sacramento's Music Circus stage, "Bye Bye Birdie" and "Peter Pan." Elsewhere, Big Idea Theatre is currently staging "No Exit," and "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" is being presented as part of the Davis Shakespeare Festival.

BYE BYE BIRDIE

Bye Bye Birdie

The Broadway smash that introduced the world to Dick Van Dyke and won four Tony Awards comes to Music Circus this July 7-12. Musical comedy chaos ensues when pop star Conrad Birdie (think Elvis Presley) arrives in Sweet Apple, Ohio to publicize his Army draft departure by sharing "One Last Kiss"

with a small town fan.

Last at Music Circus in 1999, *Bye Bye Birdie* features such songs as "Put On A Happy Face" and "A Lot of Livin' to Do."

Peter Pan

This beloved musical about the boy who wouldn't grow up has enchanted audiences of all ages for decades.

Peter, Tinker Bell and the Darling children take to the skies on a magical journey to Neverland in this first production of *Peter Pan* at Music Circus since 1986.

For this show only, tickets are available for \$40 in any section for children 4-12 years old. Plays July 21-26.

For more information about Music Circus, visit www.californiamusicaltheatre.com.

The Mystery of Edwin Drood

In addition to *Twelfth Night*, patrons of this year's Davis Shakespeare Festival will

be treated to a production of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, a fine musical version of Charles Dickens' notoriously unfinished novel.

No Exit

If musicals aren't your thing, check out this existentialist play from 1944 by the famous French writer, Jean-Paul Sartre.



Nathaniel Hackmann as Conrad Birdie in *Bye Bye Birdie*, produced by Music Circus at the Wells Fargo Pavilion July 7-12. Photo by Charr Crail.

The audience gets to vote on the ending for the show, which solves the mystery of what happened to orphan Edwin Drood. The Davis production, which plays through August 2, will star Matt K. Miller, Martine Fleurisma, and Susanna Risser. Visit www.shakespearedavis.org

The play is a depiction of the afterlife in which three deceased characters are punished by being locked into a room together for eternity.

No Exit plays through July 25 at Big Idea Theatre on Del Paso Blvd. in Sacramento. Visit www.bigideatheatre.org for more information.

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Out & About

Sacramento Celebrates SCOTUS Decision Day

Sacramento's LGBT community and allies came together on Friday, June 26th at the State Capital to celebrate the U.S. Supreme Courts decision to legalize same-sex marriage in all 50 states.

Participating organizations included the Sacramento LGBT Community Center, Love is Love Movement, Sacramento Stonewall Democrats, California Legislative LGBT Caucus, Equality California, SacLegal, Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, Equality Action NOW!, Marriage Equality USA and PFLAG Sacramento. Photos by Rick Bonilla, EyeMazingEvents.com and Charles Peer.



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**HIV
TREATMENT
WORKS**

“I wouldn’t be enjoying my life like I am today if I hadn’t started my HIV treatment early.”

TAKE THE TEST - Too many people don’t know they have HIV. In the United States, almost one in six don’t know they are infected. Getting tested is the first step to finding out if you have HIV. If you have HIV, getting medical care and taking medicines regularly helps you live a longer, healthier life and also lowers the chances of passing HIV on to others.

GET IN CARE - Getting into care and on treatment will help you learn more about HIV and make decisions that will help take better care of your health. HIV care and treatment not only help you live longer, but they can help you live well.

STAY IN CARE - Learning about and understanding your health care options will help you manage your HIV infection. Support and resources are available to help you find health care, decide what HIV treatment options are best for you, and stay in care so that you can live a longer and healthier life.

LIVE WELL - Being aware of your overall health beyond HIV can help you manage your HIV and improve your well-being. In addition to staying in care and on treatment, there are many things you can do to stay healthy and live well.

Come in to Cares Community Health or call **916.443.3299** to make an appointment for your free, confidential rapid HIV test today. We offer testing Monday through Friday, 9:00AM–5:00PM, and Thursday, 9:00AM–6:00PM.

Cares Community Health is located in Midtown at 1500 21st Street, between O & P Streets.

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