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COLD STONE BOYCOTT HALTED

BY MATTHEW BURLINGAME
MGW EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

In early November, after the passing of California's Proposition 8, activists in Sacramento began calling for boycotts against businesses that gave funds to support the "Yes On 8" campaign. Among the companies on the list was Cold Stone Creamery stores, national ice cream chain with a number of locations throughout the Sacramento Valley.

On Nov. 16, gaysacramento.org, an interactive community resource blog for Sacramento and surrounding areas posted a notice about the boycott calls against both Cinemark Movie Theatres and Cold Stone Creamery. The following day a comment was left on the blog-post by Jami Clark, Director of Brand Public Relations, denying Cold Stone or its affiliates made any donations or gave support to the Yes on Prop 8 Campaign.

Clark believes the source of the rumor may stem from an alleged donation made by the original owners of Cold Stone Creamery to the anti-gay amendment in Arizona which also passed on Nov. 4.

"The Sutherlands founded Cold Stone Creamery in 1988," Clark states. "In May 2007, Cold Stone Creamery was acquired by Kahala, and since that time, the Sutherlands have not been store owners, shareholders, employees or otherwise involved in the management of the business. As the founders of a well-known ice cream concept, they are naturally called upon from time to time by the media and others, but never paid by Kahala, to tell the brand's history."

Clark went on to assure that, "While Kahala and Cold Stone Creamery believe each individual has the right to get involved in causes they feel passionate about, the company does not endorse ballot initiatives or contribute to political causes. The personal beliefs of the Sutherlands as well as those of past and present franchisees, crew members and employees are not representative of the company. Cold Stone Creamery welcomes all

ice cream lovers into our stores."

MGW also obtained a copy of the company's Diversity Commitment which does include sexual orientation.

The parent company of Cold Stone creameries, Kahala, has a 15-member committee called Juntos, which focuses on upholding the company's commitment to inclusion by celebrating and promoting diversity amongst employees, franchisees, customers, area developers and suppliers.

"Juntos celebrates the unique talents, strengths and perspectives of our diverse community as we strive to make Kahala a global organization," explains Clark. "This mission is carried out through the establishment of goals, education, employee relations and community outreach. Thanks to the efforts of the Juntos committee, Neil Giuliano, president of GLAAD, recently was at our corporate office as a guest speaker to educate our employees on the issues that affect the LGBT community."

Kahala also extends full spousal benefits to same-sex domestic partnerships. Cold Stone Creamery started offering these benefits in 2004. As soon as possible after the acquisition, Kahala adopted the same policy and began offering these benefits to its employees.

It's important to note that while the benefits and policies Clark referred to are that of the corporate entity, as each store is individually owned and operated by a local small business owner, it's up to each franchisee to implement their own human resources practices and obey all mandated laws.

In an almost ironic twist, several days after Cold Stone was dropped from the boycott list, Sacramento's Leatherby's Family Ice Creamery was added to the list after discovering that owners allegedly donated \$20,000 to the "Yes on 8" campaign.

Meanwhile the boycott against Cinemark Theaters is still ongoing. The new release of Milk has made it clear the film will not be playing in any Cinemark Theaters.

BOYCOTT

THIS IS A LIST OF BUSINESSES IN THE SACRAMENTO AREA THAT ALLEGEDLY ENDORSED OR DONATED FUNDING TO THE "YES ON 8" CAMPAIGN. THESE BUSINESSES ACTIVELY FOUGHT FOR THE PERMANENT REMOVAL OF OUR COMMUNITY'S MARRIAGE RIGHTS THAT HAD BEEN FULLY RECOGNIZED IN 2008 BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA. DO NOT LET YOUR MONEY SUPPORT THEIR HATE.

CINEMARK THEATERS
CENTURY STADIUM 14 (SACRAMENTO)
CENTURY DOWNTOWN PLAZA 7 (SACRAMENTO)
CENTURY 16 GREENBACK LN. (SACRAMENTO)
CENTURY LAGUNA 16 (ELK GROVE)
CENTURY FOLSOM 14 (FOLSOM)
CENTURY ROSEVILLE 14 (ROSEVILLE)

LEATHERBY'S FAMILY ICE CREAMERY
(SACRAMENTO)

RICH BOTT-BOTT RADIO NETWORK
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BUILDEX INC. (GRANITE BAY)

CULP DIVERSIFIED PROPERTIES (RED BLUFF)

ESTHETIQUE DENTAL CENTER (AUBURN)

GFBB BENEFITS AND INSURANCE (ROSEVILLE)

I WANNABE COSTUMES (W. SACRAMENTO)

KERR REAL ESTATE ADVISORS (FAIR OAKS)

LAW OFFICE OF H. CRAIG MILLER (ROSEVILLE)

LAW OFFICES OF KIMBER B. GODDARD
(SACRAMENTO)

SHEPARD & ASSOCIATES INSURANCE
(CITRUS HEIGHTS)

SIBLING SYSTEMS (ROSEVILLE)

SUPERIOR NOTARY, LLC (ROCKLIN)

IF ANY OF THE BUSINESSES LISTED ABOVE ARE LISTED INCORRECTLY OR UNFAIRLY, OR DID NOT DONATE FUNDS TO THE "YES ON 8" CAMPAIGN, PLEASE CONTACT MGW NEWSMAGAZINE IMMEDIATELY SO THIS INFORMATION CAN BE CORRECTED. IT IS OUR INTENTION TO PROVIDE ACCURATE INFORMATION FOR THOSE CHOOSING TO FINANCIALLY BOYCOTT BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORTED "YES ON 8". WE DO NOT ADVOCATE VIOLENCE OR VANDALISM OF ANY KIND, NOR CONDONE ANY MALICIOUS ACTION OR BEHAVIOR TOWARD ANY BUSINESS OR INDIVIDUAL REGARDLESS OF THEIR POLITICAL POSITION ON PROP. 8.

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1988-2008

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Come attend the Sacramento area commemoration of World AIDS Day!

The poster features a large red ribbon graphic on the right side, composed of various images related to AIDS awareness, including people, text like "Live and let live", and "AIDS". At the bottom right is the World AIDS Campaign logo.



MATTHEW BURLINGAME HAS BEEN THE EDITORIAL DIRECTOR OF MGW FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS. HE IS AN AWARD WINNING JOURNALIST AND PLAYWRIGHT AND HAS WORKED WITH, AND WRITTEN FOR MANY PUBLICATIONS IN SACRAMENTO OVER THE PAST 12 YEARS.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK THE STAFF AND WRITERS OF MGW NEWSMAGAZINE FOR THEIR HELP WITH THIS ANNIVERSARY EDITION. IN PARTICULAR I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SONYA COX AND WEST RAMSEY. I COULD NOT HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT THEM.

THANK YOU!

EDITOR@MGWNEWS.COM

This special November-December double issue of Mom...Guess What Newsmagazine celebrates the publications 30th Anniversary. Since 1978, when I was a mere 7 years old, Linda Birner and a handful of friends had a vision to add a new voice to the Sacramento gay community. It was not the first gay publication in Sacramento, but it has lasted the longest—too the surprise of many, I am sure.

MGW printed its first issue just a few short days before California's historical 1978 vote to defeat the Briggs Initiative (Prop. 6) which would ban gays and lesbians from teaching in public schools. Coincidentally, though I was too young to realize this at the time, I was in the fourth grade during the struggle with Prop. 6, and my teacher was a gay man. Many years later Mr. Machado would be someone I would look up to and greatly admire as he became one of the first gay men I was able to speak to about my own sexuality.

Now, 30 years after 1978's Prop. 6 defeat, the pages of MGW hold 100s of pictures of protests and the passionate writings of many voices weighing in on our gay rights battle: Proposition 8 aka the Hate Initiative.

Our Proposition, however, did not have the joyous outcome of the past. Not only did we lose the fight, we also lost a civil right—a slice of human equality—that we had for the roughly five months prior. Our right to marry the person of our choice, a person of the same sex was coldly and brutally stripped away by religious factions dipping their self-righteous hate-covered hands into the world of politics. They took away our civil rights so they could go to heaven, going so far as to lie to make it happen.

Over the past month the majority of our community has been searching desperately for a scapegoat. They need something, or someone tangible to hate, so they can focus their grief and anger toward it.

The first place this anger was aimed was at minority voters. News outlets began carbon copying exit poll results blaming the passing of Prop. 8 on Black and Latino voters. It was all their fault! They have forgotten their own civil rights struggle and want to oppress the gays so they can feel superior!

Sadly some of our community bought into this finger pointing toward minorities. Until the inaccuracies of exit polls, the mass amounts of heterosexual minority voters who spoke out in support of us—all of it started bubbling around in our outraged minds until the next scapegoat became President Elect Obama.

The man many of us had worked so hard to get into office, the man who would bring us change and put the country back on track—he is against gay marriage! The Vice President said so! He sold us down the river! Sarah, I'm sorry! I should have voted for you and your fabulous shoes! Then Obama began including gays in his speeches. After the election, more started trickling out about his plans to make gays equal in the federal system. Not to mention he had continually voiced his opposition to Prop. 8. Hmmmm...foiled again!

The next target of anger became the Mormon church. Who, us? they asked innocently. We were only one of a coalition of over 90 churches. Why blame us? Maybe because over half of the \$40 million raised to get Prop 8 passed came from Mormon churches and church members? Maybe because Mormon church officials frequently went to the houses of their followers and badgered them into working phone banks and

donating sums of money that were often larger than many felt comfortable with. Chunks of life savings were being given to take civil rights away from LGBT people. Let me make the equation simple: KKK leads movement to take rights away from Black people. Mormons lead movement to take away rights from Gay people. Mormons are like the KKK.

When our hearts are filled with anger and intense sorrow, as they have been the past month, comparisons such as the above seem sensible. But as we calm, we realize there are no simple answers when it comes to scapegoating. There were a good deal of Mormon followers who didn't support Prop. 8 and who volunteered and gave money to oppose it. Also, many of us who have not had Mormon friends or family have no realistic understanding of the cult-like grip the church plays in their parishioners lives. It is more than a religion, it is often their entire social structure. Voting against the church is voting against your entire existence, regardless of how you may internally feel.

One 26 year old Mormon man in San Francisco works two jobs to provide for his wife and two kids. One of his jobs is in a gay dominated business. Both he and his wife have always been supportive of their gay friends and coworkers until Prop. 8, when church pressure was so strong, they succumbed and voted yes. When his gay boss and coworkers found out, they began a campaign to make his job so miserable that he would quit. Now, color me a sympathizer...but isn't that what they used to do to us? Isn't that the same discriminatory behavior we have fought so hard to STOP?

Still the Mormon church hierarchy has a lot to answer for. They expected us to run back into the closet, not pick up a picket sign and stick it up their holier-than-thou asses. Indeed a now mobilized, fully networking and extremely pissed off bunch of fags and dykes and all our friends are attacking them full on. Filing lawsuits and complaints to revoke their 501(c)3 status, picketing their churches and digging up the dirt on the church leaders who, it was discovered, had been planning a Prop. 8-style movement as far back as 10 years ago.

Several Mormon donators to the Yes on 8 campaign have spoken out about the fear they feel as they go to worship, wondering if they'll be attacked, or worse, as they go to worship in their temples. Part of me feels bad that anyone has to experience that type of fear. But I'd be lying if a small part of me, a very bitchy queen part of me, doesn't wanna scream at them, "Well now ya know how WE feel EVERY DAY OF OUR LIVES!" But we must remember, violence and fear is NOT the answer!

Instead of finding a scapegoat, the bulk of the LGBT community and our supporters have channeled their anger and sorrow into some of the most incredible displays of gay activism since the 1990s. From out of nowhere we have come together in masses around the country to be seen and heard and let the haters know we are not taking this one lying down. We are going to fight you every step of the way until we have back what you stole from us and have every other right we have been denied!

We are going to march every chance we get! We are going to go after every anti-gay church that sticks their necks into politics and get their non-profit status yanked! We are going to boycott every business that supported Yes on 8! United we stand!

WAIT! Hold on. No, no, no. We can't do

that. We can't fight for our rights and hold boycotts and stuff. Not without our leaders. And according to a number of articles in the "liberal" media as of late, our leaders are telling us to stop speaking out. They want us to be quiet and are reiterating the call for complacency that the politicians are calling for. Stop all this screaming and yelling, damn it! We must not scare the people who took away our rights, we must work with them and try to teach them to tolerate us. Don't protest! Don't boycott! In Nazi Germany people who said things like this were called "collaborators". Today they are called "community leaders".

For years these self-proclaimed leaders have complained that our community is too apathetic. They have bellyached that LGBT youth are not committed to the civil rights movement because they have it "too easy" now. Yet in the wake of the passing of Prop. 8 the LGBT community, lead in many places by its youth, took to the streets and declared that they were no longer going to tolerate government-sanctioned hate. They marched, they chanted, they yelled and screamed and cried and put a face to our community and put a purpose behind this community we have not seen in decades.

Now our leaders are turning to the youth and telling them to stop, be silent and let the grown ups get back to their endless meetings and organizations and patting each other on the back with their never ending and incestuously given awards and plaques and certificates of recognition. Meanwhile every youth they tell to be quiet is another passionately lit flame they've snuffed out. Maybe our community and youth aren't as apathetic as our leaders seem to think. Maybe these "leaders" just have the doors to their tiny gay castles bolted so firmly—so no one can question their leadership—that no one can ever get in.

However, when boycotting businesses who endorsed or gave funds to Yes On 8, we do need to be careful that we are boycotting businesses and not individuals.

In the case of CMT's former Artistic Director Scott Eckern resigning, I have to admit I was initially torn. While his support of Yes on 8 was a personal choice, and in my belief should not have been called into question in regards to his employment, he was also the public face of the theatre. Regardless, the question is, should he have been badgered into resigning? No. Those who called for his resignation threatened a boycott on the business because of the personal beliefs of an individual.

I fully endorse and support the boycotting of businesses who take our money and give it to campaigns and organizations who actively seek to repress us. Cinemark Theaters, Leatherby's Family Ice Creamery—these are businesses whose owners—OWNERS—or governing body gave thousands of dollars to strip away our civil rights. No self-respecting LGBT person should give these businesses one dime of our hard earned money.

I do not, on any level, endorse the boycotting of a business because they happen to have an ignorant, hate-filled bigot working for them. Please make certain you know the difference, and please do your best to support the businesses that do support your rights. They deserve your dimes and your appreciation.

Remember, we're all in this together. In 30 years, hopefully the person writing this column will wonder what all the fuss was about. We CAN make that happen.

ABOUT THOSE BOYCOTTS

I would like to take an opportunity to thank all of those people who have been admonishing the street activists to avoid conflict with the people who stole our civil rights by abandoning street protests and boycotts.

These folks, including some of our own community "leaders" have put our new generation of activist in very august company indeed, for their complaints are almost identical to those hurled at past street activist and boycott advocates, people like Henry David Thoreau, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King Junior, and Harvey Milk.

Oh, and I have a suggestion to these folks. Get yourself a copy of On Civil Disobedience by Thoreau and A Letter From Birmingham Jail by King. Read them. Buy yourself a ticket to the new movie Milk. Watch it. And when you have educated yourself, come back to the table and we'll talk. Until you do, talk to the hand.

For Peaceful Protest in the Cause of Justice,

MICHAEL R. GORMAN

THANKS FOR 30 YEARS OF NEWS

Sacramento Valley LeatherCorps would like to congratulate Mom...Guess What on your 30th Anniversary! Our LGBT community has changed and faced much over the past 30 years. MGW has been there covering the good, the bad, the beautiful, and yes, the ugly. Your longevity is a testament to your dedication to our community.

While we know that newspapers of all

kinds face uncertain times in the years ahead, it is our sincere hope that Mom... Guess What will continue on for at least another 30. We hope that our fellow community members join us in appreciating and supporting the importance that LGBT media has in the fabric of our community.

To all the MGW staff—past and present—thank you and many best wishes for many more successful years!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SACRAMENTO VALLEY LEATHERCORPS

A Church For All congratulates MGW for being a leader in our community for the last 30 years. MGW recognizes we are not only physical beings but spiritual as well. You've been a resource, setting a foundation for LGBT people of Sacramento to be well rounded, healthy and whole.

We pray for prosperity and success for you in the years to come.

REV. DORETHA WILLIAMS-FOURNOY
SR. PASTOR
A CHURCH FOR ALL

I just picked up the last issue of MGW Newmagazine and wanted to thank you for your diversity in political coverage.

While as a publication you chose to endorse an almost straight democratic ticket, it was nice to see several variations. I have also enjoyed reading the opinions of Chris Crain and the Libertarian Perspective. It is good to see MGW representing the diversity of the gay community.

MARK STANISHE



FRANCISCO "MISS KITTY" AYALA

On Nov. 26 Francisco Ayala, also known by the drag name "Miss Kitty" passed on after a difficult battle with cancer. Ayala was surrounded by his family, including his husband Joey "Mystique De Lussa Facade" in his last hours.

CGNIE will be hosting a memorial to honor the life of Miss Kitty next on Dec. 6. Additional details for the memorial will be posted on gaysacramento.org as well as mspace.com/cgnie. The Court will also host a Drag fundraiser that evening. Proceeds will be given to the family to help cover funeral costs.

Miss Kitty had a long history with the Sacramento Court and was a past Ms. Gay Sacramento.

IN MEMORY ...



Ms. Kitty will always be remembered for her fabulous costumes and performances that always proved that big girls can move too.— CGNIE Board Member Bruce Bedrich

He will be greatly missed by all of those individuals whose lives he touched. Sacramento has lost one of their beloved and our hearts go out to you all. — Her Imperial Majesty Empress 1 + Dowager Empress 4 Pia Mess-Robben Tasse DeBall & His Imperial Highness Imperial Crown Prince Ultimate 4 for Life Brad Robben Mess Marnier Stahr Powers, Chicago, IL

On behalf of The Imperial Family of Alameda we send our thoughts and prayers to the Family and Friends of Miss Kitty may she soar with the Angels above forever more.— Vice Chairman for the 30th Reign, Absolute Dowager Sapphire & Diamond Empress XXVIII Jessica Avalon

It is with heavy hearts and sadness that we learn of the passing of our dearest Miss Kitty. She was one of the main reasons that we did not leave Sacramento until we did. We will remember her with all the love and fond memories in our hearts.— Grand Duke 17 & 26 Cowboy John & Grand Duke 27 Robert Ashley, Reno, Nevada

On behalf of the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Czaristic Dynasty, we send our heartfelt condolences to Joey, Kitty's family and CGNIE. We loved Kitty and will miss her. She is now a free spirit, no longer suffering and resting safely in God's hands.— Emperor 17, Eileen and Empress 17, Sharon, The Imperial Sovereign Court of the Czaristic Dynasty, Chico The Court of Many Colours

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latest gossip?**

**Are you MGW's
Perez Hilton?**

editor@mgwnews.com



CHRIS CRAIN IS FORMER EDITOR OF THE WASHINGTON BLADE AND FIVE OTHER GAY PUBLICATIONS AND NOW EDITS GAYNEWSWATCH.COM.

A MODEST MARRIAGE PROPOSAL—PROP 9: A FEDERAL CIVIL UNIONS LAW FOR ALL FIFTY STATES

CITIZENCRAIN.COM

With the click of a mouse and boots on the street, hundreds of thousands of newly minted activists across the country last weekend declared independence from the top-down, black-tie, this-cutesy-logo-brought-to-you-by movement for gay civil rights. It took the political perfect storm: the "Yes We Can" spirit behind Barack Obama's election, running smack up against the "Oh No You Don't" passage of Proposition 8 banning gay marriage in California.

The result was Stonewall 2.0. No corporate sponsors, no tony Washington, D.C., offices, and not a single poll or focus group. Just tech-savvy young activists pulling off day after day of street protests in California, followed by a massive mobilization on Nov. 15, a National Day of Protest in big cities and small towns across these United States. In handmade signs signed off on by no one, gay and straight alike made their case for equality, and rejected en-masse the inane "stratery" of avoiding words like "marriage," "discrimination" and "gay" because they didn't poll well.

"No More Mrs. Nice Gay"

"OMG CA, WTF?"

"Keep your church out of our state"

"Would you rather I married your daughter?"

"You get married in your church, I'll get married in mine."

"Hey California, Jim Crow called. He wants his Proposition 8 back."

These protesters weren't buying the namby-pamby "gay agenda" our so-called leaders have already agreed to behind closed doors in Washington. Those Beltway-based Democrats have collected our checks and counted our votes for a decade with promises to pass hate crime and employment non-discrimination laws. Belatedly keeping their word is a beginning, not the end.

"The Gay Agenda:

1. Equality
2. See item 1."

What does that mean, exactly? Repealing Proposition 8, of course, but that's not even an option until 2010, at the earliest, and may well be taken care of by the legal eagles already challenging the ballot measure in the courts. Even if Prop 8 is reversed, we are only back to where we were on Nov. 3, leaving the vast majority of same-sex couples across America with little or no recognition for their relationships or prospects for same.

That's why a growing number of us have our own modest marriage proposal. Call it Proposition 9, or Prop -8, if you'd like. It would instantly confer more than 1,200 rights and benefits to same-sex couples in every single city, state and small town in the U.S., and it's already supported by two-thirds of Americans.

What is it? A federal civil unions law.

What would it do? A federal civil unions law would say that all the rights and benefits enjoyed by heterosexual married couples under federal law would be extended to same-sex couples whose relationships are recognized under state law.

What kind of rights are we talking about? Hundreds and hundreds – 1,269 to be exact, according to the G.A.O. – including "real life" benefits like equal access to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, food stamps, welfare, veterans and disability survivor benefits, access to health insurance, rental and other housing insurance, education grants and programs, first-time home buyer credits, property transfer rights, consumer credit protections, domestic violence protection, and a wide range of tax benefits and protections.

It also includes immigration and asylum rights, which means no more "love exiles," LGBT Americans forced to make a heartbreaking "Sophie's Choice" between remaining in the U.S. and the non-American partner they love.

Who would it include? Everybody! It doesn't matter where you live. There are no residency requirements for lesbian and gay couples to marry in Massachusetts or Connecticut, enter into civil unions in Vermont, New Hampshire and New Jersey, or domestic partnerships in California, Hawaii, Washington or Oregon. For the price of a round-trip ticket to any of these places, a same-sex couple can solemnize

their relationship under state law and receive the same recognition under federal law as a heterosexual married couple.

What about the Defense of Marriage Act? What about it? A federal civil unions law does not run afoul of foul-smelling DOMA, and does not require its full or even half-repeal. DOMA says only that the U.S. government can't use "marriage" or "spouse" for gay relationships, and one state can't be forced to recognize another state's gay marriages. A federal civil unions law does neither.

What would the public say? A federal civil unions law does what the people say they want, since for years surveys say two-thirds favor gay couples having the rights and benefits of marriage, just not the "M-word" itself. Even a majority of delegates to the Republican National Convention this year told pollsters they support civil unions for same-sex couples.

What would Obama say? The president-elect and his running mate don't support gay marriage, but both have been on record for months supporting fair and equal treatment of gay couples under federal law. Even Sarah Palin didn't object when Joe Biden in effect promised federal civil union protection in the vice presidential debate.

"Look," Biden said, "in an Obama-Biden administration, there will be absolutely no distinction from a constitutional standpoint or a legal standpoint between a same-sex and a heterosexual couple."

Say it's so, Joe. The Prop 8 protesters couldn't have put it better.



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FOR MONTHS WE HAVE BEEN TOLD IT IS OUR CIVIC DUTY TO VOTE ON ELECTION DAY. HOWEVER, VOTING IS NOT ENOUGH.

I am certainly generally happy with the outcomes in the 2008 contests for elective office. Obama won the presidency and Democrats increased their majorities in Congress and California's legislature.

We might assume that, with the Democrats in charge everything will get much better. However, I am here to say that it "ain't necessarily so."

Sure the Democrats are much better on LGBT rights, and on many other issues. But they have been far from perfect, and once elected, they need to be closely monitored, regulated, and motivated by an involved public.

Here are some examples of the problems we've had with Democratic legislators in the past. In 2006 the voters gave control of Congress to the Democrats. The voters did so with the clear understanding that a Democratic controlled Congress would get us out of Iraq promptly. No progress has been made on that issue.

In 1973 Bella Abzug introduced the first federal legislation to ban sexual orientation based employment discrimination. The Democrats have controlled the US Senate in 21 of the 35 years since then. They have

controlled the US House of Representatives for 24 of those years. And yet the bill has never been sent to the President for signature.

In the 1990s Democratic President Clinton signed the Defense Of Marriage Act banning federal recognition of same sex marriages. He also signed the Don't Ask Don't Tell bill which prohibits lesbians, gays and bisexuals from serving openly in the US military.

In 2000 Assembly Member Keeley introduced the first California state bill (AB 2142) to ban employment and housing discrimination against transgender people. The bill passed the Assembly.

But it failed in the Senate Judiciary Committee when the Democratic Chair of the committee, Senator Schiff, refused to cast the fifth vote in favor of it needed to get the bill out of committee. He abstained because he was running for Congress and feared voting for it would cost him the election.

In 2001 the State Senate was controlled by Democrats, yet another bill to ban transgender discrimination, AB 1649, died in the Senate.

The bill passed all votes needed except for final approval by the full Senate. The Senate never voted on it. Apparently the Democratic Senate majority did not consider it important enough to vote on and approve.

It wasn't until 2003 that the state legislature finally passed a bill (AB 196) to ban employment and housing discrimination against transgender people.

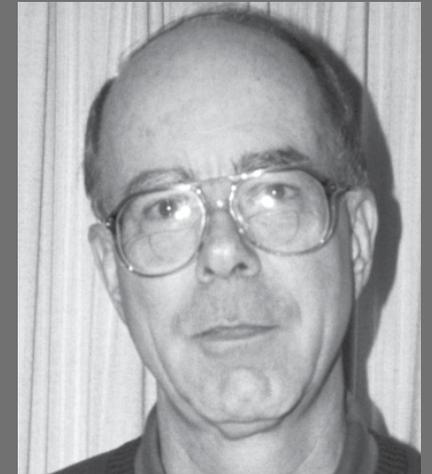
More recently, in 2005, Assembly Member DeVore introduced a bill, AB 12, that, among other things, would have made it easier for someone to transfer ownership of their home to his or her same sex partner. This bill was killed almost immediately when the Democratic majority of the Assembly Judiciary Committee refused to support it.

DeVore introduced a new version of the bill, AB 250, in 2007. This time it was approved by the Assembly without a dissenting vote, but died in the Senate Judiciary Committee when the Democratic majority in that committee refused to support it.

Ironically, Lesbian Democratic Senator Sheila Kuehl was the first to speak out against the bill in the Committee.

The LGBT community has made immense progress in the state legislature since the year 2000. That progress occurred because of the concentrated effort of several community organizations backed up by many active involved individuals in the community. Committee hearings on LGBT bills frequently had 50-100 individuals attending and expressing their support for these bills.

This progress demonstrates that electing good people to office is only the first step. A vibrant healthy democracy also requires an informed, involved public closely monitoring, regulating, and motivating legislators. Our community has many organizations which will help people do these things. I urge you to join one or more of them and get involved.



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VOTING ISN'T
ENOUGH

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ANTHONY GREGORY IS A WRITER AND MUSICIAN LIVING IN BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA. HE EARNED HIS BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN HISTORY AT U.C. BERKELEY, WHERE HE WAS PRESIDENT OF THE CAL LIBERTARIANS. HE IS A RESEARCH ANALYST AT THE INDEPENDENT INSTITUTE (INDEPENDENT.ORG), A POLICY ADVISOR FOR THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM FOUNDATION (FFF.ORG), AND A COLUMNIST FOR LEWROCKWELL.COM. HIS OWN WEBSITE IS ANTHONYGREGORY.COM.

After requesting a \$7 billion loan from the U.S. Treasury, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger is likely relieved now that the state has been able to secure \$6 billion in loans from the credit markets. Politicians had feared California's credit history would make such a loan difficult.

But the fact is, the loan was not nearly difficult enough. In a supposed era of tight and "frozen" credit markets, why is a government that goes further into debt every year, which finances its lavish operations with ever more bonds and budgetary trickery, able to get such an enormous loan? Credit is probably not as tight as is claimed, and governments in particular have far too easy a time obtaining more. In the long term, this is terrible for the taxpayers who have to pay the interest.

Furthermore, when a government borrows money, it competes with private borrowers for credit and drives up interest rates. This situation slows down economic growth. Politicians, a notoriously spendthrift class with no sense of responsibility since they are borrowing on behalf of others, should be the last ones able to get loans.

What's notable here is that Schwarzenegger has given up even the thin pretense of being the budget hawk that he portrayed himself as five years ago. Since being elected he has foisted on the state economy bond after bond, spending increase after spending increase, in everything from education to infrastructure. He was

onto something earlier this year when he contemplated releasing some nonviolent prisoners — people who shouldn't even be in jail in a free society, and whose detention annually costs the state tens of thousands of dollars each. Then the prison guard union went after him.

From the looks of the last budget, a staggering \$103.4 billion that was instituted almost three months late, prisons and schools are two areas where Sacramento will resist any cutting. But "those are the two services we spend the most money on," as state Senate President pro Tem Don Perata recently pointed out. With the police state and welfare state as the two third rails of local politics, it appears there's not really much else remaining to cut.

On the national scene, the Republicans have proven themselves equally devoted to big government across the board—devoted to the police state, the welfare state, and, of course, the warfare state. Everyone knows the Republicans stand for an ever-growing and exorbitantly expensive military apparatus and for incredibly pricy wars. But the insidious myth that they are otherwise for free markets persists.

President Bush came in and immediately began doubling the Department of Education budget and inaugurating the largest expansion of entitlements since Lyndon Johnson, in the form of the prescription drug benefit for seniors. In eight years he has doubled the national debt.

In the past month, both Bush and presidential candidate John McCain backed the most significant government intervention into the market in several decades, perhaps longer, when they signed and voted for the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. This act gave the Treasury virtually dictatorial powers and nearly a trillion dollars to buy up practically any American financial instruments it deems desirable, making it the biggest player in the market and essentially nationalizing the entire financial sector.

McCain has gone on to propose an enormous plan for Washington to buy up troubled mortgages directly, at a price tag of hundreds of billions of dollars by conservative estimates. He copied the plan almost exactly from Hillary Clinton, called her to ask her advice on it, and has pitched it as resembling her proposal. Even Barack Obama thinks it is unwise and reckless. Meanwhile, McCain continues talking about reforming earmarks, a drop in the bucket constituting half a percent of the national budget and probably some of the least absurd things the government finances.

The conventional wisdom is that Democrats are socialistic big spenders who love huge government programs and economic regulation, while Republicans are somewhat less profligate in their spending and somewhat more committed to the free market.

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MGW NEWSPAPER BEGAN THE SAME YEAR PROPOSITION 6 "THE BRIGGS INITIATIVE" THREATENED TO PROHIBIT GAY AND LESBIAN TEACHERS FROM WORKING IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. IT WAS DEFEATED WITH A TWO THIRDS MARGIN BY CALIFORNIA VOTERS. 30 YEARS LATER MGW CELEBRATES A MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY WITH ANOTHER CIVIL RIGHTS BATTLE: PROPOSITION 8: THE REPEALING OF OUR CIVIL RIGHT TO MARRIAGE EQUALITY. THOUGH THIS BATTLE DID NOT HAVE THE HAPPY OUTCOME WE HOPED FOR, IT IS BY NO MEANS AN END TO OUR STRUGGLE FOR COMPLETE EQUALITY AS AMERICAN CITIZENS. ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE TIMELINES, PHOTOGRAPHS AND PERSONAL ACCOUNTS OF 30 YEARS OF OUR HISTORY. MGW NEWSPAPER, IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER, HAS BEEN THERE TO REPORT OUR VICTORIES AS WELL AS OUR DEFEATS AND IS PROUD TO BE PART OF THIS COMMUNITY'S LIVING LEGACY.

1978

- Linda D. Birner and David C. Weinerth publish the first issue of Mom...Guess What! Newspaper in Sacramento, CA. The publication is named after a popular coming-out catch phrase.

- AB 1, the first legislation in California to prohibit discrimination in employment and housing based on sexual orientation is introduced.

- The Briggs Initiative, which would have prohibited gay and lesbian teachers in public schools, is defeated with a two thirds margin by California voters.

- The Rainbow Flag is designed by Gilbert Baker.

- Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone are assassinated in San Francisco City Hall by fellow supervisor Dan White.

- Gay-rights ordinances enacted in the past few years repealed, one after another city - St Louis, Wichita, Eugene, OR.

- Michel Foucault's "The History of Sexuality," Volume I appears in English and creates a sensation in U.S. academic circles.

- Rootworks, another founded at Sunny Valley, OR, Jean and Ruth Mountaingrove create feminist magazine, WomanSpirit.

- A Question of Love, ABC made-for-TV movie airs in November with Jane Alexander and Gena Rowlands and based on lesbian mother Mary Jo Risher and her struggle for custody of her children. Represents part of trend toward more positive TV images of gays and lesbians as a direct result of gay activists, considered by TV execs to be the most organized and effective of all special-interest groups.

- "Gays and the City," 13-part series runs in San Francisco Examiner, beginning Oct. 30, the most in-depth look at homosexuality up until then.

1979

- Governor Jerry Brown issues Executive Order B 54 79 prohibiting discrimination in state employment on the basis of sexual orientation.

- Over 100,000 people take part in the first March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay

Rights in Oct. but coverage is skimpy.

- Off-duty police officers force their way into a San Francisco dyke bar, Peg's, beat the bouncer and harass women. Results in immediate and widespread censure but none of the officers involved are punished.

- Lesbian and Gay Asian Alliance founded, in part, to address impact of racism on gay and lesbian communities and activism.

1980

- Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos (GLLU) founded from which Lesbianas Unidas, originally a GLLU committee, becomes a separate group in 1984.

- "Gay Power, Gay Politics" presented April 26 by CBS Reports and produced by George Crile, draws criticism for inaccuracies and slanting of news.

1981

- First cases of gay cancer or Gay Related Immune Deficiency (GRID) are reported among gay men in Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York. When it is realized that large numbers of heterosexuals are also infected, its name is changed to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). In 1983, researchers isolate the virus that causes AIDS, calling it the Human Immuno deficiency Virus (HIV).

- Larry Kramer and others found the Gay Men's Health Crisis, the first grassroots AIDS service organization in the country. Targets media for more coverage.

- Both gay and mainstream press are slow to cover early stages of AIDS.

- Lawrence Mass, gay physician and writer, publishes first mention of AIDS in New York Native, "Disease Rumors Largely Unfounded," May 18. L.A. Times ran first mention in mainstream American press on day June 5, day of CDC's first report, "Outbreak of Pneumonia Among Gay Males Studied." San Francisco Chronicle article on June 6, Advocate runs in July. New York Times runs first story July 3, "Rare Cancer Seen in 41 Homosexuals." Mass continues articles in the Native.

- The Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press is founded by Barbara Smith, Cherrie Moraga, Audre Lorde, Hattie Gossett, and



OPENLY LESBIAN POLITICIAN SHEILA KUEHL



OPENLY LESBIAN POLITICIAN CAROLE MIGDEN

Myrna Bain in New York City. That same year, Moraga and Gloria Anzaldúa co-edit "This Bridge Called My Back: The Writings of Radical Women of Color."

- Christine Madsen, lesbian journalist is fired after seven years employment from Christian Science Monitor because she is gay.

1982

- Wisconsin becomes the first state to enact civil rights legislation for gays and lesbians.

- First Gay Games, an international festival of athletic competition, open in San Francisco.

- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is founded.

- GRID which implies it is restricted to gay men, is changed to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). Death toll at more than 200.

- AIDS Project Los Angeles is founded and later becomes the second largest such organization in the United States.

- Response to AIDS still slow from mainstream media, even by end of year with more than 300 dead and 800 infected.

- AIDS makes front page for first time in L.A. Times story May 31, "Mysterious Fever Now an Epidemic." SF Examiner front page

Oct. 24. Journal front page Dec. 10 when a 2-year-old girl comes down with AIDS from a transfusion. Advocate cover in Feb. plus assignment of Nathan Fain to health with focus on AIDS.

- First network mention, NBC, June, Tom Brokaw: CDC study shows that the lifestyle of some male homosexuals has triggered an epidemic of a rare form of cancer.

1983

- Researchers discover the virus (Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV) that causes AIDS.

- Failure of NY Times to cover April fundraiser for Gay Men's Health Crisis in Madison Square Garden which filled the 11,000 seat stadium and was covered by AP, UPI, newspapers in other cities, and television, prompts delegation to discuss with Times Exec. Ed. Abe Rosenthal. Result is apology from Rosenthal.

- Randy Shilts assigned to cover AIDS for San Francisco Chronicle, first reporter from a mainstream paper.

1984

- Legislation: Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn signs an executive order protecting gays in city employment and city. Berkeley,

CA, City Council passes a domestic partnership bill granting equal benefits to long-term gay and unmarried heterosexual couples.

- West Hollywood incorporates and a majority of openly gay City Council members are elected, making it the first gay-run city.

1985

- The Times of Harvey Milk, a documentary about the career and the murder of the gay San Francisco city supervisor, wins an Academy Award. The first test to detect HIV is licensed in the United States. Nearly 9,000 people are diagnosed with the disease, half of them already dead. By end of year, AIDS now has killed 6,000 and 12,000 cases reported.

- In July, actor Rock Hudson acknowledges that he has AIDS and in October is announced dead. The news marks a watershed in AIDS coverage, prompting widespread public attention on the epidemic.

- Washington Blade runs 11-part series in spring (pre-Hudson death) on Washington lawyer with AIDS.

- New York gay and lesbian writers organize to create the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Defamation League, later changed to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). Hold a town hall meeting in Nov. that attracts 700.

1986

- Propositions 64 and 102 are defeated. The two LaRouche initiatives propose the quarantining and tattooing of people with HIV and AIDS. Out of this effort comes the first statewide gay and lesbian civil rights advocacy group, the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE Lobby).

- In Bowers v. Hardwick, the Supreme Court rules that the Constitution allows states to pass and enforce sodomy laws targeting homosexuals.

- Conservative activist Terry Dolan dies of AIDS. His funeral is attended by conservative political associates such as Senator Orrin Hatch and Pat Robertson, as well as by Dolan's gay friends.

- GLAAD holds demonstration at New York Post with 500 demonstrators who protest anti-gay op-ed pieces and editors agree to meet, the first success for GLAAD.

- In October Abe Rosenthal retires and next year, the NY Times lifts ban on the use of "gay" instead of "homosexual." Under new editor Frankel, Times AIDS coverage increases with a four-part, page one series.

1987

- Randy Shilts best selling history of the early years of the AIDS epidemic, And The Band Played On, is published.

- The NAMES Project Quilt, memorializing those lost to AIDS, is displayed for the first time. As of 2008, 565,927 Americans have died of AIDS.

- The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) is established. Because of ACT UP's organized protests to demand that life saving experimental drugs be released early to those whose illness could not survive the years long wait for safety testing that

was standard at the time, thousands of people with cancer and other ailments as well as HIV disease have benefited from the government's new programs to make medications available during their trial period. ACT UP is followed by the protest group Queer Nation, which promotes gay visibility.

- Professor John Boswell helps form the Lesbian and Gay Studies Center at Yale University.

- National Latino(a) Lesbian and Gay Activists is created in Oct. which later becomes Latino(a) Lesbian & Gay Organization- LLEGO.

1988

- October, ACT UP stages a "die-in" in the street in front of FDA headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. More than 1,000 people participate in the nine-hour protest; 176 are arrested.

- The governing board of the City College of San Francisco approves the creation of the first gay and lesbian studies department in the United States.

- Victor Zonana gets AIDS beat at L.A. Times.

1989

- AIDS coverage drops substantially, by about two-thirds compared to 1987. Reason is that editors believe nothing new, no cure, too depressing.

- Roy Aarons undertakes American Society of Newspaper Editors survey of gay journalists.

- San Francisco Examiner runs "Gay in America" series from June 4 to June 25.

- AB 63, the Comprehensive Hate Crimes bill, which includes sexual orientation, passes the California Legislature and is signed by Governor Deukmejian.

- "Common Threads," a film about five people with AIDS wins best documentary at the Academy Awards.

- Outweek magazine makes national headlines with "The Secret Gay Life of Malcolm Forbes."

- "Queer Nation" founded in June and July. Legislation: In April, President George Bush signs into law the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, requiring the federal government to keep track of crimes relating to sexual orientation, as well as other bias. Several states and communities passed tougher laws against anti-gay crimes, including California, Iowa, Connecticut, Atlanta, St. Louis and Montgomery County, MD.

- Policies restricting the immigration of lesbians and gays to the United States are rescinded. Immigration restrictions on people with HIV and AIDS, however, remain in place.

- Los Angeles Unified School District approves use of GLAAD's Anti-Homophobia curriculum in conjunction with the Anti-Defamation League's "A World of Difference" program.

- The American Society of Newspaper Editors announces the result of a survey of gay and lesbian journalists, "Alternatives: Gays and Lesbians in the Newsroom," which prompts creation of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Assn. The process and the result. Coming out, forming NLGJA, Aug 1990.

- Out/Write 90, first national Lesbian and Gay Writers Conference is held.

- Term "outing" is coined by Time Magazine to describe Michelangelo Signorile's campaign to identify closeted celebrities and elected officials.

- KGO-TV reporter Paul Wynne, who has AIDS, tapes weekly segments as his illness progresses. Robert O'Boyle, Seattle Times reporter does same thing with a weekly column, "Living with AIDS," from June to Feb. 1992.

- CBS-TV suspends Andy Rooney for three months and reprimands him after GLAAD protests his homophobic statements on 60 Minutes in Dec. 89 and Rooney responds with a letter of apology in which he insults African Americans "I've believed all along that most people are born with equal intelligence, but blacks have watered down their genes because the less intelligent ones are the ones that have the most children. They drop out of school early, do drugs, and get pregnant." Gays upset because network takes action for racist, but not homophobic remarks.

1991

- AB 101, a bill to ban sexual orientation discrimination, passes the California Legislature, but is vetoed by Governor Wilson.

- Lesbian Natural Resources, nonprofit founded to help keep the feminist lesbian collective movement going by awarding grant money to those who start new communities or try to revitalize older ones.

- Tony Kushner's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "Angels in America, A Gay Fantasia on National Themes," plays in Los Angeles

before going on to Broadway and winning the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for drama.

- Linda Villarosa, Essence magazine's senior editor, reveals to readers that she is a lesbian. She goes on to become executive editor in 1994.

- The Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies is formally established at the City University of New York.

- Karen Thompson is named legal guardian of her lover, Sharon Kowalski, eight years after a car accident left Kowalski paralyzed and speech-impaired. Kowalski's family had refused to recognize the pair's relationship, and the ruling was a major victory for lesbian and gay couples.

- The Advocate reports that Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams, who represents a military that ousts gay employees, is himself gay.

- In August, Simon LeVay, a neuroscientist who now directs the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in Southern California, published in the magazine Science findings from autopsies of men and women of known sexual preference. He found that a tiny region in the center of the brain—the interstitial nucleus of the anterior hypothalamus (INAH) 3—was, on average, substantially smaller in nineteen gay men who died from AIDS than among sixteen heterosexual men. The observation that the male brain could take two different forms, depending on one's sexual preference, was a stunning discovery.

- Three same-sex couples apply to the Hawaii's State Department of Health for marriage licenses and are denied. They sue the State the next year, contending that Hawaii's marriage law is unconstitutional because it bars same-sex couples from obtaining the same marriage rights afforded

heterosexuals and denies them equal rights.

- Roy Aarons retires from the Oakland Tribune and travels around the country speaking to gay and lesbian journalists. By the time the NLGJA newsletter is created, chapters exist in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston, New York City, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Seattle and Texas.

1992

- AB 2601, an alternative non discrimination bill adding sexual orientation protections to the Labor Code, passes the California Legislature and is signed by Governor Wilson.

- Colorado passes the anti-gay Amendment 2, which seeks to throw out gay-rights legislation in various Colorado cities, thus allowing discrimination in housing and employment, and to ban such legislation in the future.

- Deb Price, Detroit News Washington editor, begins gay and lesbian issues column, a first for general-circulation daily newspapers.

- Gay rights legislation is passed in seven states – California, New Jersey, Vermont, Connecticut, Hawaii, Massachusetts and Wisconsin.

- The National Lesbian and Gay Law Assn. becomes an affiliate of the American Bar Assn.

- Black lesbian poet Audre Lorde dies of breast cancer. At the time of her death, she was the poet laureate of New York State.

- With marketing reports that suggest gays have more expendable income than heterosexuals, mainstream advertisers began funneling money into gay publications, like "The Advocate", whose advertising revenues nearly double, and newcomers "Genre", "Deneuve" (now called "Curve"), and "Out." Garrett Glaser comes out on air while hosting PBS' gay magazine, In the Life.

- GLAAD conducts an exit poll during the 1992 general elections to assess how the lesbian and gay community voted, with the Los Angeles Times reporting the results.

1993

- President Clinton implements a compromise Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy for gays and lesbians in the U.S. military, still in effect.

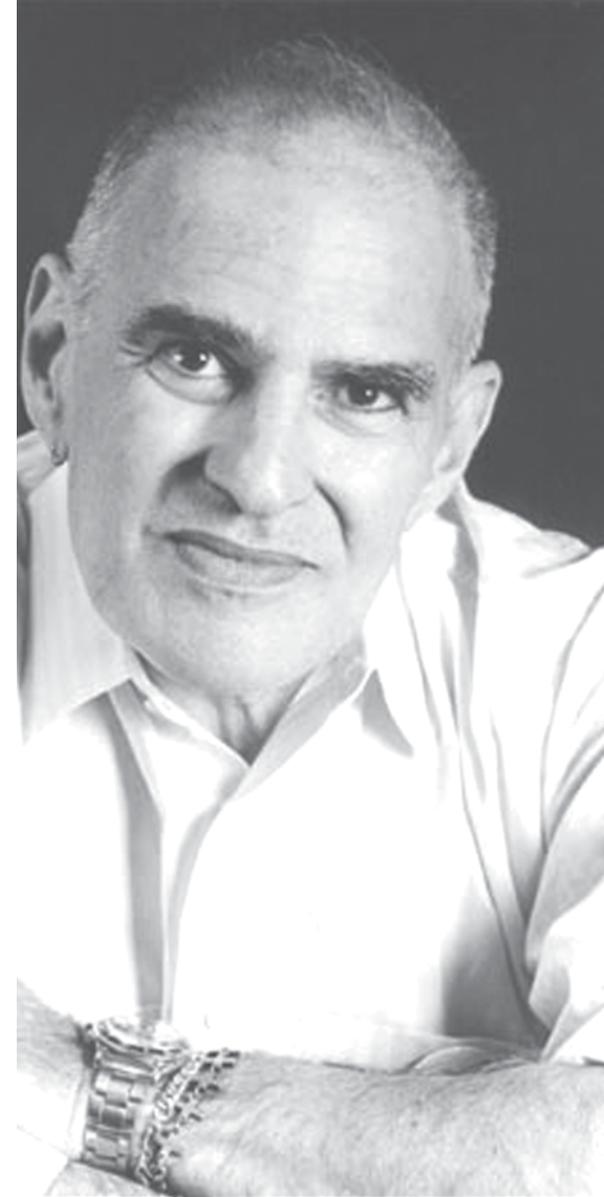
- Roberta Achtenberg is the first openly lesbian presidential appointee to complete the U.S. Senate confirmation process to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

- The Third Lesbian and Gay March on Washington draws over 1 million participants.

- GLAAD and Hollywood Supports initiate "Sexual Orientation in the Workplace" seminars for the entertainment industry.

- The Hawaii state high court finds that the marriage law prohibits the couples from getting a license because of their sex; the justices say this may deny the couples their equal protection rights under the Hawaii Constitution. The case is sent back to circuit court to resolve the issue.

- Canadian cartoonist Lynn Johnston introduces a gay character into her nationally syndicated strip, "For Better or For Worse," and 19 papers cancel the strip, 40 ask for substitutions.



AUTHOR LARRY KRAMER



OPENLY LESBIAN POLITICIAN CHRISTINE KEHOE



OPENLY GAY COMEDIENNE TELEVISION CELEBRITY ELLEN DEGENERES

- The movie, "Philadelphia," which deals with an attorney facing job discrimination because of AIDS, opens in theaters. Actor Tom Hanks goes on to win an Academy Award for his performance.
- GLAAD works in coalition with MANAA (Media Action Network for Asian Americans) to protest negative stereotypes in the film "Rising Sun."

1994

- Sheila James Kuehl becomes the first openly lesbian or gay member of the California State Assembly.
- John Boswell's "Same-Sex Unions in Premodern Europe" provokes widespread public debate, moving concepts in lesbian and gay studies out of the "ivory tower" and into the public eye.
- Martina Navratilova retires from tennis, having won nine Wimbledon singles titles in her career. She continues her work as highly-visible gay-rights activist, as she did after coming out in 1991.
- Wisconsin representative Steve Gunderson becomes the first Republican Congressman to come out.
- A federal court orders Army colonel and former Vietnam nurse Maragethe Cammermeyer reinstated to the National Guard.
- The Hawaii state legislature reacts to the Hawaii Supreme Court decision by amending the marriage law to specify that marriage is between a man and a woman. Other states

- soon follow with laws defining marriage.
- The Washington Blade reports similarities in a series of murders along the East Coast and FBI credits the gay paper with being the first to suggest the crimes are the work of a serial killer targeting gay men.
- Journalist Steven Gendel outs himself during an NBC broadcast on the Stonewall Celebration.
- Roseanne TV episode features a kiss between two women.

1995

- President Bill Clinton signs an executive order forbidding the denial of security clearances on the basis of sexual orientation. Being closeted and vulnerable to blackmail, however, is still a possible grounds for a clearance denial.
- "Unspeakable, The Rise of the Gay and Lesbian Press in America," written by American University professor Rodger Streitmatter, is published.

1996

- The U.S. Supreme Court declares Colorado's Amendment 2 unconstitutional. This stops an unfair attempt to halt the creation of anti-discrimination laws for gays and lesbians.
- The American Defense of Marriage Act is signed by President Clinton, defining marriage as a legal union between one man and one woman.
- Openly lesbian Carole Migden is elected to the California State Assembly.
- Kelli Peterson founds a Gay-Straight Alliance at East High School in Salt Lake City, Utah. The city school board bans all "non-curricular" student clubs in order to keep the group from meeting.
- San Francisco ordinance allowing gay couples to be recognized as domestic partners spurs hundreds to register.
- The Employment Non-Discrimination Acts is defeated in the U.S. Senate.
- The full AIDS quilt, 43 tons and the size of 43 football fields, is displayed on the Washington Mall, bringing 1.2 million viewers.
- Candace Gingrich, half-sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, is grand marshal of the Long Beach, CA, gay and lesbian pride parade.

1997

- Sheila James Kuehl becomes the first woman and first openly lesbian to be appointed Speaker Pro Tempore of the State Assembly.
- Ellen DeGeneres' character Ellen Morgan comes out as a lesbian on the popular sitcom Ellen, drawing 36 million viewers.
- Designer Gianni Versace is murdered, sparking sensational stories on Andrew Cunanan, his murderer, and the gay community.

1998

- AB 1999, a bill adding transgendered

TRANSGENDER MURDER VICTIM BRANDON TEENA

- people to the Hate Crimes statute, is passed by the California Legislature and signed by Governor Wilson.
- Violence against LGBT people is brought to national attention with the brutal torture and murder of 21 year old Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming.
- The East High School Gay-Straight Alliance's suit against the Salt Lake City School Board goes to trial in Utah.

- Tammy Baldwin, a Wisconsin Democrat, is elected to the House of Representatives, the first open lesbian, non-incumbent candidate to be so.
- "Gay Parent" magazine begins online.
- Legislation: Alaska and Hawaii votes approve measures to block same-sex marriages.
- In June, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) calls homosexuality a "sin," likening lesbian and gay people to alcoholics, sex addicts and kleptomaniacs. GLAAD issues a statement, compiles quotes from some 35 progressive organizations denouncing the remarks and posts the compendium online, providing an important resource to journalists and community members.

- A national ad campaign is launched in July by religious political extremists promoting so-called "conversion" for lesbians and gay men. In August, GLAAD meets with Newsweek editors and staff to discuss the news magazine's problematic coverage of the ad campaign which ran throughout July and August promoting "conversion" for lesbians and gay men.
- In Dec. GLAAD coordinates a meeting with newly appointed Washington Post ombudsman, Pulitzer-Prize winner E.R. Shipp, to discuss diversifying coverage, using accurate terminology and other issues of inclusiveness.

- Two-thirds of Hawaii voters pass a measure to amend the state constitution to define marriage as a compact between a man and woman. A similar measure passed that year in Alaska.
- The comedy series *Will & Grace* debuted in September on NBC and became one of it's most popular series. The show ran for eight seasons.

1999

- AB 26, a bill establishing the first statewide Domestic Partnership registration, is passed by the California Legislature and signed by Governor Davis.
- AB 537, a bill protecting gay and lesbian students from harassment, is passed by



AP

the California Legislature and signed by Governor Davis.

- AB 1001, a bill adding sexual orientation to the Fair Employment and Housing Act, is passed by the California Legislature and signed by Governor Davis.

- June ceremony held in Greenwich Village as the Stonewall Inn is officially placed on the National Register of Historic Places, the first gay site in the country to be listed.

- The Vermont Supreme Court rules that the state must grant gay and lesbian couples the same rights as heterosexual couples.

- In December, Vermont's Supreme Court ruled that gay couples deserve the same rights as heterosexual married couples, but it stopped short of legalizing gay marriage and left that to lawmakers

- Hilary Swank wins the best actress Oscar for her role in "Boys Don't Cry," a film based on the story of Brandon Teena a woman who lived as a young man.

- Fox Files – "Gay Underworld" draws fire from GLAAD and represents part of trend toward sensationalist, tabloid TV

2000

- Sheila James Kuehl becomes the first openly lesbian or gay California State Senator.

- Openly lesbian Christine Kehoe and Jackie Goldberg are elected to the State Assembly.

- Vermont becomes the first state to offer civil unions for same sex couples.

- U.S. Supreme Court rules in a close 5-4 vote that the First Amendment allows the Boy Scouts of America to expel a gay scout leader in New Jersey.

- California voters pass Proposition 22, the Defense of Marriage Initiative, denying recognition of same sex marriages even if they are legalized in other states.

- Showtime debuts the American version of *Queer As Folk* which sets a new quality level in gay entertainment. The show runs five seasons.

2001

- AB 25, a bill which provides additional domestic partner benefits, is passed by the California Legislature and signed by Governor Davis.

2002

- The first legislative Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Caucus in the country is officially formed in the California Legislature with the following members: Senator Sheila James Kuehl and Assembly Members Jackie Goldberg, Christine Kehoe, and Carole Migden.

- John Laird of Santa Cruz and Mark Leno of San Francisco become the first openly gay men elected to the California Legislature, and become members of the LGBT Caucus.

- Carole Migden becomes the first openly lesbian elected to the California State Board of Equalization and is named chairperson.

2003

- In *Lawrence v. Texas*, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that laws against private, consensual, non-commercial sex between

adults are a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment. The decision overturns sodomy laws in the 13 states that still retain them.

- AB 196 passes, prohibiting employment and housing discrimination based on actual or perceived gender identity, expression, or behavior; signed by Governor Davis.

- AB 205 passes, extending to registered domestic partners nearly all the same rights and responsibilities provided to spouses under California law; signed by Governor Davis.

- AB 17 passes, prohibiting discriminatory employment benefits in state contracts; signed by Governor Davis.

- The Massachusetts Supreme Court rules that same sex couples cannot be denied equal access to the civil institution of marriage.

2004

- AB 1967, the California Marriage License Non Discrimination Act, is introduced to make marriage a civil contract between two adults.

- In acts of civil disobedience led by San Francisco, localities in New York, New Mexico, and Oregon issue marriage licenses to same sex couples. Courts halt the issuance of these licenses, but cases are filed in these jurisdictions questioning the constitutionality of laws that allow only—different sex couples to marry.

- The U.S. Supreme Court refuses to intervene as Massachusetts issues marriage licenses to same sex couples in the state. Gay and lesbian couples begin exchanging vows.

- *The L Word*, a lesbian drama makes its debut on Showtime and breaks new barriers in programming for lesbians.

2005

Civil unions become legal in Connecticut in October.

2006

Civil unions become legal in New Jersey

2007



- In November, the House of Representatives approves a bill ensuring equal rights in the workplace for gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals.

- Gay domestic partnerships are legalized in Washington state on July 22.

- Oregon, Colorado, Ohio, and Iowa ban discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in the private sector.

- On Aug. 9, Logo hosts the first presidential forum in the United States focusing specifically on LGBT issues. Six Democratic Party candidates participate in the event, including Democratic nominee Barack Obama.

2008

- In February, a New York State appeals court unanimously votes that valid same-sex marriages performed in other states must be recognized by employers in New York, granting same-sex couples the same rights as other couples.

- In February Oregon passes a law that allows same-sex couples to register as domestic partners allowing them some spousal rights of married couples.

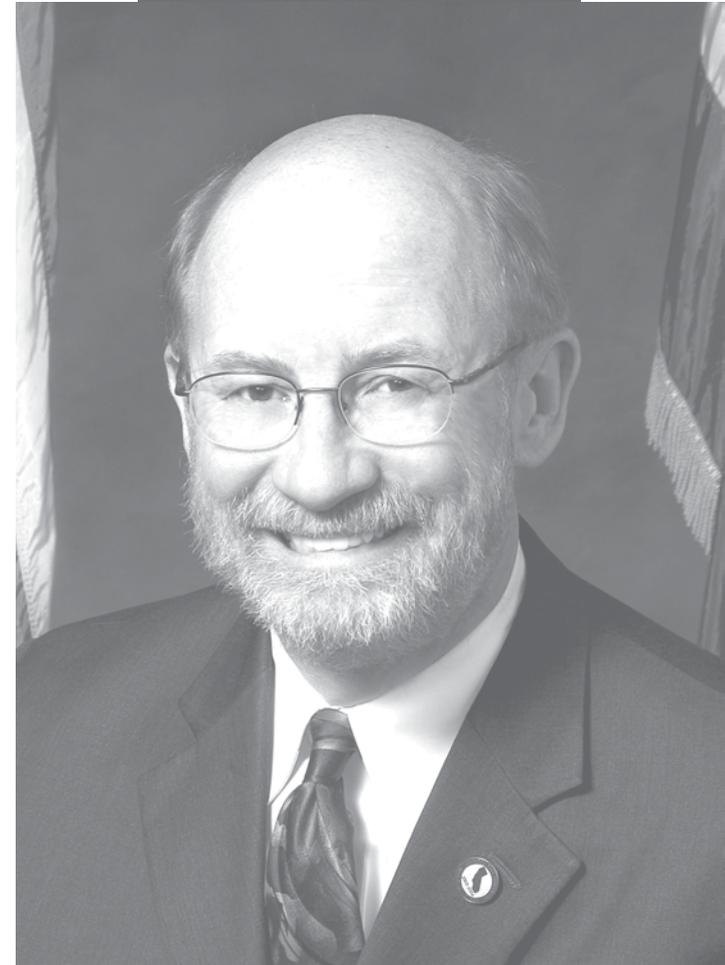
- The civil union law goes into effect in New Hampshire.

- May 15 the California Supreme Court rules that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry. By November 3rd, more than 18,000 same-sex couples have married. On November 4th, California voters approved a ban on same-sex marriage called Proposition 8. The attorney general of California, Jerry Brown, asked the state's Supreme Court to review the constitutionality of Proposition 8. The ban throws into question the validity of the more than 18,000 marriages already performed, but Attorney General Brown reiterated in a news release that he believed the same-sex marriages performed in CA before November 4th should remain valid.

- Nov. 4 voters in California, Arizona, and Florida approved the passage of measures that ban same-sex marriage. Arkansas passed a measure intended to bar gay men and lesbians from adopting children.

- Oct 10 the Supreme Court of Connecticut rules that same-sex couples have the right to marry. This makes Connecticut the second state, after Massachusetts, to legalize civil marriage for same-sex couples. The court rules that the state cannot deny gay and lesbian couples the freedom to marry under Connecticut's constitution, and that the state's civil union law does not provide same-sex couples with the same rights as heterosexual couples.

- Nov. 12, 2008 same-sex marriages begin to be officially performed in Connecticut.



OPENLY GAY POLITICIAN JOHN LAIRD

OPENLY GAY POLITICIAN MARK LENO



AUTHOR AND ACTIVIST MICHAEL GORMAN ACCEPTING A LAMBDA LITERARY AWARD. GORMAN WAS AN EDITOR OF MGW NEWSPAPER AT ONE TIME.

THE VIEW FROM HERE

MICHAEL R. GORMAN

MYSFACE.COM/POETDRUIDFAERIELOVER

When you were a kid, did you ever look at your elders and wonder what it would be like to be 35, 40, 50, 70? If you were like me, you found that an almost impossible visualization. Of course, that was close to fifty years ago. Being over a half century old is still hard for me to wrap my brain around. Where was that magical moment when I reached the land of adulthood? I'm not sure it ever came. I'm still the kid I was, only with more wrinkles, a body that is not

nearly as cooperative as it once was, and perhaps more stories to tell. Maybe it is those stories that attach me to my elders, gain me admission into their realm. But the stories, I have found, if told, also create a bond between me and the younger people I know. Everyone loves to be told stories. In the end, that is what this particular piece of writing is about.

I was born the year Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus and energized the Black civil rights movement. It was also the year Disneyland opened. Marilyn Monroe's movie *The Seven Year Itch* was in a three way tie for tenth on the list of top grossing movies; Disney's *Lady and the Tramp* was number one. In a spooky coincidence, my father was associated most of his army career with the Strategic Air Command, we insiders called it Stratcom) and a movie called *Strategic Air Command* was one of the ones tied with Marilyn. It was the year James Dean died, and space flight consisted of shooting a rocket to the top of the earth's atmosphere and watching it fall back down. Still, we called it the "space age" when marketing everything from refrigerators to vacuum cleaners to cars with wings where the rear fenders go. Our television was black and white and you had to get up and go to turn dials to change channels when Elvis appeared on TV for the first time, as did the Mickey Mouse Club, Lawrence Welk, Gunsmoke, Captain Kangaroo, and Alfred Hitchcock Presents. There wouldn't be a gay character on TV for decades unless you count *Liberace*. Kids wanted to be like the TV cowboy Roy Rogers (or for some of us, cowgirl Dale Evans). Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon started the Daughters of Bilitis, initially a quiet social club for lesbians before growing into the first ever civil rights and education organization for lesbians in history. I, and pretty much everyone else except Harry Hay, lived life in the closet.

After I had complained of missing the typical growing up milestones of the first kiss, the first date, and the prom, a young gay man asked me why I didn't just come out of the closet in my youth. I told him because they were still performing lobotomies on gay people at the time, a lobotomy consisting of a wonderful "psycho-surgery" that involved

sticking an ice pick through an eye socket, positioning it's sharp end against the prefrontal cortex of the brain, and driving it in with a hammer. And those were the doctors! Most of us opted for letting the first date wait for another time.

Another young gay man a few years ago asked me, "You were married once, weren't you?"

"Yes," I replied.

"To a woman!" he said with a touch of alarm in his voice.

"Yes."

"A lot of guys your age did that!" Before I could take a breath to speak, he wrinkled his nose and continued exasperated, "I will never understand why you guys did that!"

I wasn't sure whether to celebrate his freedom to do what I never could do, or just slap him. I think I muttered something like, "Young whippersnapper has no idea what we went through for him!" So if you are younger than 25 and reading this, your assignment is to set this article down when you are done reading it and go find an older GLBT person and say thank you. Doesn't matter if they were activists or "just" suffering the indignities of the closet, they deserve your thanks. I'm serious about this assignment. And if you want to be a more powerful advocate for your own equality, stay and listen to that person's stories about being gay "back in the day." You stand today upon a glorious and terrible heritage.

In the 1960's when Jose Sarria was challenging the straight establishment with his militant drag performances and Del and Phyllis were busy empowering lesbian women, and Harry Hay was recovering from his blacklisting in the McCarthy era and exploring new heights in gay consciousness, I was on an Army Fort in the Appalachians dreaming about escaping to San Francisco where I was sure I would find a place to fit in. There was a gay undercurrent in the styles and rebellion and sexual liberation of the 60's and it became my hope, even as Mama Cass Elliot joined Barbara Streisand and Judy Garland on my list of goddesses. I finally got to stroll Height Ashbury with my family (they were gawking at the "hippies and weirdoes.") in 1969. Men in togas wearing colorful beads

JOSE SARRIA WAS THE FIRST OPENLY GAY CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES. HE RAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN 1961. HE LATER DECLARED HIMSELF "HER ROYAL MAJESTY, EMPRESS OF SAN FRANCISCO, JOSÉ I, THE WIDOW NORTON" AND FORMED THE IMPERIAL COURT SYSTEM.



and playing flutes or guitars while some sweet smell wafted over us all: I had found my heaven just a couple months after the Stonewall Riots.

Like most people in the country, I heard only hints of those "homosexual riots" in New York, but my young ears perked up every time the "h" word, so I remember. I didn't know at the time that my own liberation had begun anywhere but in my heart, nor did I know that my reverence for drag queens would one day include the knowledge that they were the first ones to fight back in that sleazy little neighborhood bar in Greenwich Village. Rather than embrace my freedom that year, I grabbed my fears and huddled deeper in the closet. But my elders by a few years kept fighting for me nevertheless. I too owe many thank you's.

It was my fate this time to live the horrors of the closet, always looking over my shoulder, always planning every move and every word so I wouldn't sound "sissy." I lived with the terrible knowledge that if I revealed my true self, I would lose my family. In the end, I only delayed that reckoning. Still, there was my girlfriend Paula who never expected me to kiss her or hold her hand, but palled around with me and was my partner on the ballroom dance floor where we kicked butt.

She eventually left me for Stephanie. I, on the other hand, did not have Paula's courage and retreated further into the closet, abandoning my pre-Vatican II, mass in Latin, bones of the saints, Irish Catholic upbringing and joined the "Jesus Movement," becoming a tie-dyed shirt wearing, sandal walking born again fundamentalist Pentecostal Christian. I found myself a blonde, blue-eyed, buxom, beautiful Christian girl to date, and later marry me, and settled in to wait for God to heal me of the sin of homosexuality.

I spent many a night crying myself to sleep begging to be normal. The internalized homophobia and self hatred was stifling. I remember evangelizing on the street one day and running across a "Chick Tract" against homosexuality. Chick Tracts were miniature comic books designed to teach people on the street how awful they were and how in need



of saving. The gay men in the tract were drawn as overly endowed, lusting, drooling, sexual predators. I surreptitiously slipped that tract into my pocket. It became my first gay porno.

Marriage only made things worse. Now I had to actually perform sexually with a woman. I worked out a cycle of fantasizing about men to get the job done, then wallowing in guilt and shame once I had. God was taking his time with his half of the bargain and I started to get a little pissed. I was the "Drama Minister" at my last two churches (go ahead and laugh!) and my plays became more and more critical of the church and its hypocrisies. All the while the GLBT community was growing stronger and more vocal, making ignoring it much harder. I mourned for the death of Harvey Milk even as I was refusing to admit why. I had a courier job one summer during this time, and I had to drive down Folsom Street in San Francisco every night around midnight. I would lock my doors for fear of those muscled men in leather who seemed to be everywhere...and then drive very, very slowly.

One truly bright spot in all of this was the birth of my son, the little person who taught me that unconditional love was not just a fantasy. It was in defending his freedom to choose his own path that I learned the courage to stand up for the same right for myself. That cost me my marriage. She divorced me, I came out of the closet, and, sure enough, I lost my family, my church, my friends, and my place in that culture. But not my son.

I was thirty and struggling to reconstruct my whole life from scratch. That's when I met a dizzy little drag queen who introduced me to gay love and the community I had never had, a community of lovers, a community of people like me. My family once left me and my partner with little money in an apartment stripped bare of all of my belongings, and within days, the GLBT family refurbished it for us, down to the forks and paring knives. I

began to march in protests, write for the gay press, party at the gay clubs, and meet the chosen family that had been waiting for me since 1969.

I began writing for Mom Guess What! newspaper, and eventually became its editor for a time. That's also when I met people like Marghe Covino and Jerry Sloan who had been gay rights activists since God was a child. I found my home. At some point I wrote and/or edited for Patlar Magazine, The Latest Issue, Frontiers, the Advocate, XY Magazine, and Genre. I could not write enough in praise of my incredible family of fabulous outsiders. There were triumphs in those days, like the defeat of an initiative to ban gay teachers from the schools, and the eternal boycott against the homophobes who owned Coors Beer. There were villains like former beauty queen and orange juice spokesperson Anita Bryant with her toothy bigotry.

We watched the national preachers discover us as a group to vilify and use in fundraising campaigns. I got to debate Reverend Lou "It's a chosen lifestyle" Sheldon and ripped him a new one on a Christian radio station. I helped a lesbian retain her seat on the Riverside Human Rights Commission, and I lost a career and very nearly my life at the brutal hands of Christian extremists. And there was another threat growing slowly that would change the face of gay activism, a previously unknown disease that they first called GRID, or "gay related immune deficiency."

At the time, we lived in a culture that literally would rather see us die than to discuss our lives or even our existence. Funerals seemed to replace the bars as a place to meet up with friends, a group always one fewer in number. We helped skeletal brothers and sisters march or roll down the boulevards during the protests. We saw them use their last reservoirs of strength to fight for us. We saw courage beyond imagining in our fellows and in ourselves. We learned the names of the caregivers in the hospitals, and we built organizations to treat the disease even as the mainstream culture closed its eyes and ears. We gratefully greeted the compassionate faces of the lesbians who became our nurses and our shoulders to cry on.

Gay/Lesbian separatism began to fade like morning mist. Suddenly our silence and our closets meant death, and an entire generation was pushed out the closet door, prepared or not. It was as if on one side we were ushering our friends and lovers across the veil while on the other side welcoming new friends and lovers emerging from the closet. We were all doormen and pilots on the River Styx at the same time.

GORMAN INTERVIEWING WRITER PAUL RUDNICK, WHO WROTE THE 1997 FILM "IN AND OUT".



HATE-CRIME VICTIM MATTHEW SHEPARD WAS BRUTALLY BEATEN AND CRUCIFIED ON A WIRE FENCE IN LARAMIE, WYOMING IN 1998

Our protests took on the strident tones of those desperate to see change before we die. We were the ones who first warned the straight community that they were not safe from this disease, attempting to do for them what they refused to do for us. We were the ones who forced President Reagan to utter the word AIDS after years of stubborn and hateful silence. We were the ones who created the concept of safe sex. And in the end, we moved the most powerful nation in history to listen to us and address the plague.

Before our fight against AIDS and the homophobia that sustained it, any disease that was caused by a virus was not treatable. You just went home, got rest, drank lots of fluids, and hoped for the best. We as a community revolutionized modern medical research, and our entire world has benefited from our struggle to be heard to be addressed.

Our organizations were born and gained strength, our straight supporters found the courage in the eyes of our dying to stand beside us and demand a different world. When HIV finally became a treatable disease with regular funding from all of the developed countries, we grew tired and rested. There were moments when the old sparks kindled, during the political campaigns of gay and lesbian politicians who subsequently won, in the international response to Matthew Sheperd's brutal crucifixion. But now we had so many allies in the straight community that we no longer had to struggle alone. Even that led to a belief that perhaps we had weathered the worst, perhaps we were on the home stretch. Perhaps we had time to rest our weary feet a while longer.

Our rest involved for the first time in history a chance to turn on the TV and watch a hit show based on the lives of gay men and their "fag hags." Actors in Hollywood went from refusing gay roles to seeing gay roles as an essential element in an actor's artistic development. We began to see our own performing out in mainstream venues. MTV



ABOVE, GAY ACTIVIST AND FIRST OPENLY GAY SAN FRANCISCO COUNCILMAN HARVEY MILK

BELOW, HUNDREDS OF PROTESTERS GATHER AT SACRAMENTO'S G & L CENTER AFTER PROP. 8 PASSES

to welcome this old hippy dude and listen to the stories of protests "back in the day." In the midst of them, I could not hold on to my anger, my bitterness, my depression. I was reminded of the powerful days in the past when my contemporaries were the ones dancing and singing defiantly, protesting our exclusion by flaunting our fabulousness.

I remembered the drag queens and dykes who began it all. I remembered the rally after AB 101 when I spoke, determined to give us a chance to vent, and then was asked by the communities political and religious leaders, since the crowd responded well to me, would I lead the crowd in singing "We Shall Overcome" at the end to calm everybody down, but instead I positioned friends in the crowd to start shouting, "Take the Bridge!" I remembered the shouting and half-angry half-satirical chanting about owning the bridge as we gathered in its center and stopped the traffic. I remembered the photographic display of naked-chested women who had undergone mastectomies.

I remembered Harvey Milk, who when confronted with statistics about how many men the average gay man sleeps with replied, "I wish!" I remembered the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence showing up to a protest at Capital Christian Center in a bus with a banner that read "Bring back the lions!" I remembered EJ Byington who defied that church to join the protesters and eventually paid for it with his life, his beautiful, celebratory, flamboyant life. I thought of the drag queens who experienced discrimination even in our own ranks, who when they were told to back off and shut up and dress right, simply smiled seductively as only a drag queen can, grabbed the microphone, and made the magic.

I have since heard men and women of my generation patronizingly admonish the young people to curb their enthusiasm, join an officially recognized organization, be patient and trust their elders to take care of things the right way. I have heard the defensive claims of being closer than we were last time, with the clear subtext of telling the youth that

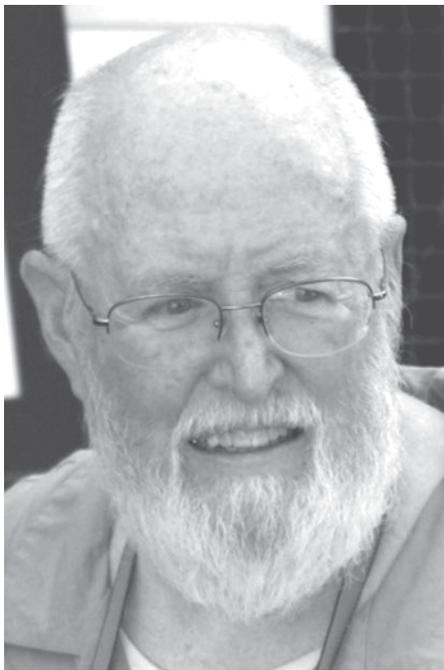
if they were older, they too would be satisfied with half freedom and empty promises. After all, there's Will and Grace. Be happy. Don't worry. But the reality is our last two major political campaigns with their sophisticated talking points and polls and bureaucratic methodology have failed. Failed. And I don't want to hear any "but we were successful before we weren't."

The moment we start shushing our young people and being embarrassed by the flamboyant ones who started our entire modern movement, we are in greater peril than we ever were in our closet days. We are in peril of selling out our souls to a system that refuses to make room for them. I may have to weather defeats and disappointments, and even make allowances for youthful mistakes, but one thing I will never again do is put on a suit and start looking over my shoulder again and speaking only what is "acceptable" to the people who hate me. If that is freedom, you can keep it.

You will find me on the street with the young people who understand the magic of what it is to be gay, lesbian, transgendered, bisexual, questioning or simply straight but not narrow. Perhaps it is time for the elders to back off and be elders rather than scolds. I have learned a great lesson these past few weeks, and it was a lesson, ironically, that many of us learned in the worst times of our forced secrecy: if I never experience true legal equality in my lifetime, I will still bless the universe for having given me the privilege of being a part of this incredible community of lovers.

I remembered this standing in the cold on a sidewalk by the capital building. I learned it by a group of young people, some of them in their very first civil rights action, and from a few old farts who still get it. May we never shush their voices again. It's time for them to start telling the new story to add to our older ones, to let them be a balm for the old warriors who are just tired and cranky. They have it in them, and I for one am looking forward to the story. Now where's my cocktail?





In November, 1978, when Linda Birner published the first issue of Mom Guess What? It was an exciting time. Proposition 6, the Briggs Initiative, which would have banned gay persons and their advocates from working in any California school, had just been defeated at the ballot box.

Gay publications (The Issue, The Patlar, The Star to name three) have come and gone but MGW has persevered for 30 years telling the news of the Sacramento LGBT communities.

When "Mom" was first published there were only a few active gay organizations like Dignity, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), The Valley Knights and The Court of the Great Northern Inland Empire.

Today the list of organizations will fill a page using a # 10 font. The interests of the groups is diverse from the Gay and Lesbian Community Center to the arts, Lambda Players, the various choruses, square dance, sports of all kinds and the vibrant gay/straight alliances in the region's high schools.

While MCC and Dignity have past from the scene there are a number of gay friendly churches and organizations with meetings on a regular basis

As for activism, there are many comparisons to be made as to what happened from "Mom's" first issue with Prop 6's defeat and Prop 8's anti same-sex marriage win thirty years later.

Prop 6 generated Gay (the politically correct glbtqi?/queer terms had not yet been invented) activism for thousands of Californians.

In 1977, Florida orange juice spokesperson Anita Bryant had led a successful campaign to overturn what by today's standards was a very simple ordinance passed in Dade County Florida (Miami) to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Bryant centered her Save Our Children on people's fears that gays were out to recruit children into our ranks.

Thirty years later it came as quite a shock to hear Steve Smith, No On 8 campaign director, at the November meeting of the Sacramento chapter of Stonewall Democrats

express his surprise that the Prop 8 campaign would use children as a way to reach people to oppose same sex marriage.

Immediately after the loss in Dade County, state senator John Briggs who had traveled to Florida to observe and work in the effort to overturn the anti-discrimination ordinance started making noise about some sort of anti-gay campaign in California and he came up with the idea of banning from employment gay school teachers or anyone who worked for any California school from janitor to the most prestigious professor in a California university if they even remotely advocated favorably about homosexuality.

Fortunately we had leaders like the late Morris Kight, founder of the Los Angeles Gay Community Center, the late legendary San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk and the Reverend Elder Troy Perry, founder of the Metropolitan Community Churches, who recognized the danger of Briggs threats and started planning to build a network before Briggs collected his first signature on a petition.

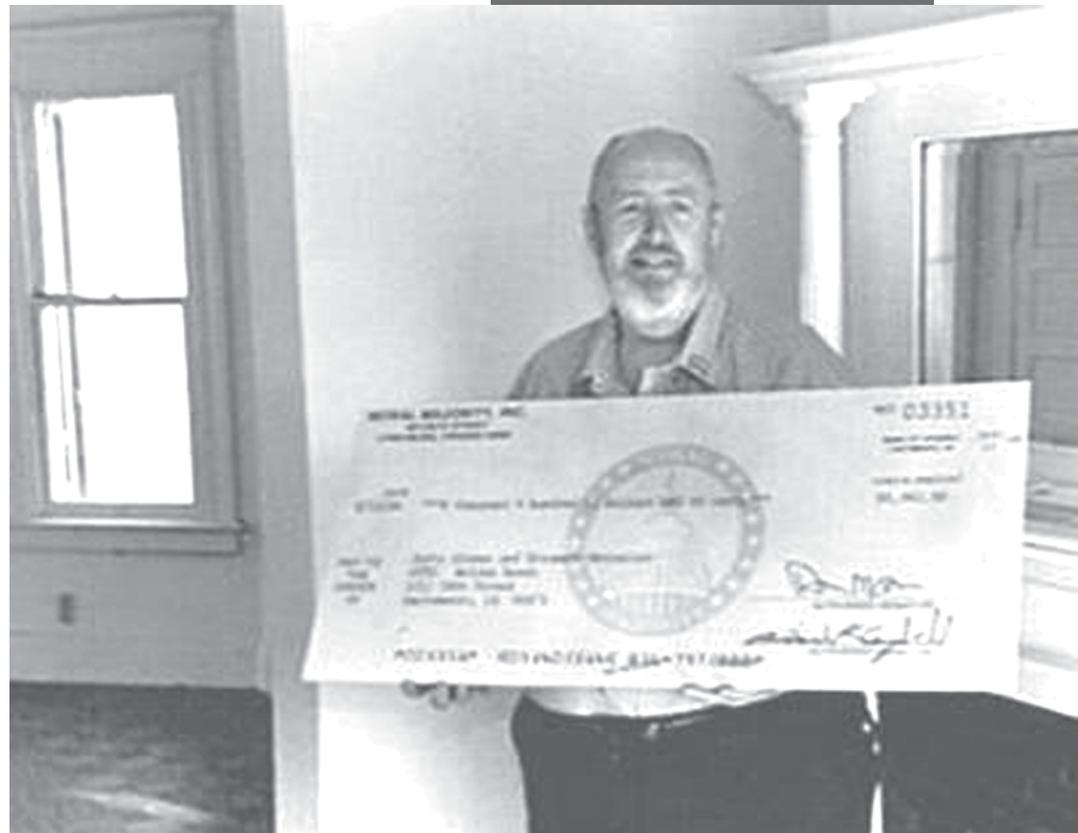
Reverend Perry, knowing the campaign to defeat any Briggs initiative, would cost at least a million dollars, a more than modest sum compared to the 43 millions raised by the losing No On 8, started raising money by fasting on the steps of the Federal Building in Los Angeles for 17 days and raised the first \$ 100,000 for what was to become No On 6.

Steve Smith at the Stonewall Democrats said one of the problems No On 8 faced was not having enough money up front.

Didn't anyone at Equality California/No On 8 study the very successful No On 6 campaign? Kids? Money?

Another very outstanding trait of the No on 6 campaign was the late Harvey Milk who tirelessly traveled the breadth of the state debating senator Briggs.

No debate challenges were issued to homophobe Randy Thomasson of the Campaign for California or the Reverend Jim Garlow, pastor of the Skyline Church, a mega church in San Diego, who organized thousands of churches to support Prop 8.



Robb and Robin Wirthlin, descendants of Mormon elders were brought in from Massachusetts to tour the state unchallenged by chartered bus to tell how first graders in California were going to be indoctrinated about same sex marriage as they claimed was now happening in Massachusetts.

In 1978, then Governor Ronald Reagan spoke out against Prop 6, today Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger tepidly spoke out against Prop 8. The African American governors of Massachusetts, Deval Patrick, and New York, David Paterson, both offered to make TV commercials but for some reason No On 8 did not take them up.

Now, Prop 8 and the passage of anti-same sex marriage constitutional amendments in the last five years in 30 states have generated a wave of activism which has swept the entire country. Hundreds of thousands, gay and non-gay have taken to the streets demanding equality.

One woman, Amy Balliett, sitting at her computer in Seattle was able to do something neither the Human Right Campaign nor the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force have been able to accomplish i.e., organize a national protest in less than a week. (www.jointheimpact.com)

Locally, Tina Reynolds has been organizing a series of demonstrations at the Capitol Building and city hall which have drawn thousands of people. (equalityactionnow.com)

After being advised by the gay-powers-that-be for us to be good little gay folk, the good little gay folk have said, "Enough!" to the gay-powers-that-be, "You have failed us, we will take it from here!"

Activism is alive and well in Sacramento!

JERRY SLOAN, 68, A 26 YEAR RESIDENT OF SACRAMENTO CA, HAS BEEN A GAY ACTIVIST FOR OVER 40 YEARS AND IS ORIGINALLY FROM KANSAS CITY, MR. SLOAN OBTAINED A GRADUATE OF THEOLOGY DEGREE (TH.G.) FROM BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE, SPRINGFIELD, MO., IN 1957. HE SERVED AS A MINISTER OF THE UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES IN SACRAMENTO, DES MOINES, IA., WICHITA, KS., AND FT. WORTH, TX. IN SACRAMENTO HE IS THE COFOUNDER OF THE LAMBDA FREEDOM FAIR, LAMBDA COMMUNITY CENTER AND PROJECT TOCSIN. HE HAS TRACKED THE POLITICAL MONEY TRAIL OF THE RADICAL RELIGIOUS RIGHT SINCE 1980. HE IS THE CO-AUTHOR OF WITHOUT JUSTICE FOR ALL: A LOOK AT THE CHRISTIAN RIGHT IN CALIFORNIA AND BEYOND (1994). SLOAN IS CURRENTLY A VERY ACTIVE MEMBER OF ATHEIST & OTHER FREETHINKERS OF SACRAMENTO

**FROM PROP 6
TO PROP 8:
30 YEARS OF
ACTIVISM**



COMMUNITY ACTIVIST MARGHE COVINO WITH ART GALLERY OWNER MICHAEL MISHA KENNEDY AT JERRY SLOAN'S 70TH BIRTHDAY PARTY IN 2007

WE HAS MET THE ENEMY...AND HE IS US

MARGHE COVINO

Looks like we finally did it! We "niced" ourselves right into second class citizenship. I know, I know, hindsight is always 20/20. But I was asking these questions during the campaign but no one was listening. So I want to hear some answers now that our community is active once more.

I had questions like, "Where is our response to the Mormon hypocrisy?" Their leadership is so anxious to join the "mainstream" churches so they'll stop calling them a cult, that they're willing to fork over foot soldiers, doctrine and money any time the Catholic Church says, "jump." Where was the outrage when these people dared to judge us? Where was the snappy dialogue for religious leaders who allow women to be commodities married into bondage? Oh yes, I forgot, Mormons think so much of marriage they sell off 12 and 13 year olds to men old

enough to be their grandfathers in multiple marriages. Don't even try to convince me that those powerful 'disciples' in Salt Lake City can't root out those supposedly "outlaw" fundamentalist Mormon enclaves in Utah where self-proclaimed prophets rule their families like tyrants and disobedient children "disappear" and statutory rape and child molestation is the order of the day.

We can always count on the Roman Catholic Church to, you should pardon the expression, "pontificate" about homosexuality and then to refuse to address the pedophilia that is rampant in their midst. The church has protected, hidden, transferred, coddled and defended these pedophile priests for years. Then, when backed against the wall, they pay out the hard-earned money of their parishioners and cry as if it is their own. They then dare to take the moral high ground

to send out pastoral letters just before the election, to tell the faithful to vote against our right to marry. Where was the outrage? Where was the "face" of our community to tell our story and to make these, and other, points?

So pervasive is the homophobia in the black community that even though there is a pandemic of HIV/AIDS among women in that community – they close their eyes to gays, lesbians and others in their community. They never think that if black civil rights were left up to a populist vote in America – they would still be riding the Jim Crow train, not the Freedom Train! Second class citizenship is a bitch, ain't it? Where was the outreach, the outrage, the fire in the belly that would allow a debate to happen, that would utilize the Governors of New York and Massachusetts (both Black, who offered to reach out to the Black community for us)? Where was our outreach to minority celebrities who would reach out, speak out and come out for us?

What happened to Frank Pacey, who ran the successful campaign against Proposition 6. He was on the campaign one minute and gone the next. Pacey was an excellent grass roots, long-range planner who knew the Christian Right inside and out. What happened?

To top it all off, we lost one of the best friends to our community. Heather Fargo was a big reason that Sacramento was named the most diverse city in America—and it included us! Now the big money boys and the arena crowd dug up another Teflon Celebrity to fulfill their dreams at taxpayer expense. Imagine what would have happened if Heather Fargo was accused of molesting teenage boys. Imagine what would have happened if her personal lawyer were sequestered with one of the teenage boys for hours before parents or authorities were notified. Imagine what would have happened if there were accusations of mismanagement of funds which engendered an FBI investigation. We'd still be trying to get the tar and feathers off!! So now we have it. We voted in someone who is in the good ol' boys club. He meets all the requirements: a few inches of erectile tissue, a set of extraordinary reflexes, challenged syntax, and a rampant libido. Oh yeah! Sacramento is gonna be on the map! Yee haw!



LEFT: SARAH PRICE, JIM "FINGERS" JORDAN, JAMES OZANICH, GAYIEL VON, AND COVINO AT CABARET NIGHT (CIR. 2005-06) BELOW: COVINO WITH MICHAEL GORMAN, NATE FELDMAN AND DEAN COPSEY

VOLUME ONE: ISSUE ONE, NOVEMBER 1978

Mom...Guess What started as a monthly newspaper in the year 1978. Publisher Linda D. Birner and Editor David C. Weinerth based the publication on the Daily Sacramento Bee Newspaper and named the publication after a popular coming-out catch phrase of the day.

It was a turbulent time in California as gay and lesbians found themselves under fire politically from Proposition 6 "The Briggs Initiative" which threatened to prohibit gay and lesbian teachers from working in public schools.

MGW was first run out of Birner's garage before finding itself in a small office in downtown Sacramento. After several office locations, including one on S street which was vandalized shortly after the AIDS crisis began, MGW came to rest at 1701 L Street, where it remained for many years. I the

early it again moved. The 1103 T Street office would find itself playing a pivotal part in MGW's history. It was the office where after 25 years, Birner decided to retire, handing over the reigns to Jeffrey A. Davis.

Davis has been with the newspaper on and off over a 10 year period, since he was just 18 years of age. Davis took over the company for two years before absorbing a local newspaper known as Q-Ragg that was going out of publication. Just four months after the merger another merger took place, one that would change the face of MGW in many ways. Davis partnered with FACES Nightclub owner Terry Sidie to form Guess What Media, LLC.

Together Davis and Sidie changed MGW into a monthly gloss magazine. The magazine ran for nearly three years, during

the last of which the company relaunched a newspaper version of MGW.

Due to a worsening financial climate, MGW Magazine was placed on an indefinite hiatus with a planned relaunch sometime in 2009. Meanwhile the relaunched MGW newspaper struggled to reclaim its identity amid a temperamental political and financial climate. Coupled with corporate restructuring, the publication was only released in its online format for several months during the summer of 2008. The print version returned to stands in August 2008 with Davis taking a step back due to personal issues.

Sidie, along with Editor Matthew Burlingame, took the reigns of the publication and pledged to return to MGW's original mission: to be the voice of the people; the voice of Sacramento's LGBT community.



IT'S ABOUT TIME!!!

No on 6 Benefit

Holly Near/Meg Christian

On Saturday November 4th at 8:00 p.m., Holly Near and Meg Christian are performing their music at Sacramento City College Auditorium. Along with J.T. Thomas, they are presently on a statewide tour designed to entertain, advocate, and raise funds for organizations working for the defeat of Proposition Six. This measure, also known as the Briggs Initiative, is on the November ballot and would require investigations into the private lives of any public school employees who are accused of supporting, advocating, or being homosexuals.

Both Holly Near and Meg Christian have received overwhelming grassroots support for their continued individual efforts to promote human rights. Their musical talents have been combined for this Saturday evening pre-election concert. The original music of both women will be accompanied by Meg's highly-polished guitar playing and J.T. Thomas' piano performance.

Holly Near is a singer, songwriter, and cultural worker who has three albums out on her own label, Redwood Records. Her voice is powerful and clear as she sings songs that speak to the joys and struggles that are familiar

to women around the world. Meg Christian is a feminist singer, songwriter, guitarist, and autoharpist. Her style encompasses aspects of classical, folk, country, mountain, and contemporary music. She has written and collected a large and varied repertoire of women's music: music that talks about what it's really like to be a woman. She has two albums out on Olivia Records, an Oakland-based women's music collective.

The performance at Sacramento City College Auditorium is produced by Crystal Moon Productions in conjunction with Olivia Records, Redwood Records, Roadwork, Women's Alliance for Change and Sacramento Valley No on Six. Part of the proceeds from this concert will be going to organizations working against Proposition Six.

The auditorium is wheelchair accessible and doors will be open at 7:15. Tickets are on sale at the Sacramento Women's Center — 1230 'H' Street, Sacramento Valley No On Six office, 1107 Ninth Street, Suite 1019; and in Davis at Eucalyptus Records, the U C Davis Boxoffice, and the Davis No On Six office located in the Cal Aggie Christian Association House, 433 Russell Blvd.

NO on 6 Update

No on 6 has just a few more days to get years worth of work done. We can use all the volunteers we can get from now to Election Day, Tuesday, November 7.

Our Specific Needs:

— People to go house to house, anytime during the day, dropping off literature.

— People to pass out literature downtown on street corners at lunch, or anywhere there's a crowd.

— People to walk precincts, evenings and on the weekend, going door to door talking to voters about 6.

— And finally, the big bottom line, money. The last few days are the important days for media, which means \$\$. Anything you can spare could be put to good use.

Come by or send your contributions to the No on 6 office at 1107 9th Street, room 1019, or call us to find out how and when to help. No on 6 — 448-6006.

You may not know it but there has been a Gay presence in the State Capitol for the last year and a half. The group's called California Human Rights Advocates, which is a professional, full time Gay Rights lobbying organization. What you probably also don't know, which is our fault for not getting the message out, is that CHRA can exist only if enough Gay people in California support it with time and money.

This election points out the critical need for a Gay organization to keep a watch on the Legislature. Whether 6 wins or loses next week, the Gay Lobby will become the most important

statewide Gay Rights Organization in California. If 6 passes we will need a strong Lobbying Presence in Sacramento to keep Senator Briggs and his friends from pushing more anti-Gay legislation through. If we win, 6 loses, the climate for the first time will be right for getting action out of the legislature.

CHRA has a statewide Board which sets policy for the organization; a paid full time staff lobbyist, Steve Badaeu; and local chapters which are responsible for raising money, doing community outreach, education and helping the lobbyist by doing Constituent Lobbying. Sacramento has a chapter which meets on the first Thursday of each month at 630 I Street, 7:30 PM. The next meeting will be Thursday, November 2.

Twice a year CHRA has Statewide meetings to elect board members and plan strategy. The next statewide meeting will be here in Sacramento, January 14. The local Sacramento Chapter will host the meeting and has lots of work to do to get ready. The statewide meeting has been set to coincide with the next Gay Rights Citizen Lobby Day, Monday January 15. Last year more than a hundred Gay men, Lesbians and Gay Rights supporters lobbied their Legislators and talked with the Governor's legislative aide. It was a very positive event and should be even better this year.

Remember, to get involved with the only statewide Gay Rights Lobby be at 630 I Street at 7:30 PM on Thursday, November 2.

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JOSETTE MONDANARO
SAT. NOVEMBER 18th
Sacramento Women For Equality announces that Josette Mondanaro will be speaking for Focus Lecture Series on Saturday, November 18th rather than December 2nd, as previously planned. Mondanaro's topic will be "Women In The Work Force" and it will be an outstanding program. Tickets \$3.50 may be purchased at the door at 10:00 A.M. at the Redwood Room, University Union, Cal. State University, Sacramento.

Fran Peppone-Rockwell will be speaking Saturday, November 4th, "Women: An Overview Of Victimization." All programs will start promptly at 10:30. Coffee will be served at 10:00 A.M. which gives us time to meet and talk with old friends.

Contributors to YES on 6

1. Carl's, Jr. Hamburgers
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3. Coors Beer
4. Airlines Ground School (William C. Phelps)
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6. J. Benvenuti Co.
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"My sincere Best Wishes to you and Thanks for your continued support!"

Meredith

Candidates Speaks Out on Gay Rights

You think it's hard deciding for whom to vote; try interviewing the candidates! Try deciphering their positions for an election summary. Just try finding a local telephone number for their campaign headquarters despite all those lawn signs. When you do, here a few things you might discover:

Telephone calls to Evelle Younger (at his Attorney General's Office) are tape recorded.

Some political headquarters are so disorganized (or maybe so tightly controlled) that only head honchos can be of any help, but they're in L.A. (Mike Curb/Evelle Younger).

Other staffs are well informed and eager to meet with gay representatives (March Fong Eu, Mervyn Dymally, Sandy Smoley).

Sometimes the candidate comes right on the line for an interview (Sandy Smoley, Leroy Greene, Tom Hannigan).

Other times the candidate's spokesperson comes on and won't quit coming on... and on... getting in deeper and deeper, until the positions are murky and unclear, though definitely right wing (Dan Benvenuti).

This campaign report contains subjective observations not reflected by terse political statements. After all, on one office the candidate will be making subjective decisions; thus, impressions may ring truer than rhetoric. For example, Dymally opposes Prop 6 (as does everyone else except Hime, Benvenuti, and Younger), but what is his reaction to homosexuality? A matter of fact, Lt. Governor Dymally is very comfortable among us. He speaks out for homophile rights (even in front of primarily non-gay audiences) and he is strongly endorsed by his friend Harvey Milk.

Equally worth considering, what does the difference between media hype and a candidate's statements to a gay reporter tell us? Where are the Matsui commercials on Prop 6, abortion, feminist issues for "GUESS WHAT" the issue? His office claims he is strong on all feminist/gay concerns.

Probably the best thing to do is watch KVI Channel 6 as each candidate responds to audience questions. You will also have an opportunity to bring up touchy subjects on these programs. Check local listings for each candidate's appearances. Meanwhile, here's MDM...GUESS WHAT...I was able to learn about some of those who are running:

SANDY SMOLEY: opposes Prop 6, supports a Koch/Agnos type bill protecting gay civil rights, sees illegal aliens as a problem needing tighter controls, endorses ERA, believes in funding elective abortions, and is solid on other feminist issues. She is dynamic, and goes out of her way to accommodate a person's questions.

ROBERT MATSUI: opposes Prop 6, supports Koch/Agnos, supports the ERA, would fund abortions, his position on illegal aliens is unknown. Mr. Matsui's staff seems too busy — we were lucky to catch answers to our questions. They did not offer an appointment, nor inquire about how they could help us.

VIC FAZIO: Opposes 6, strongly supports Koch/Agnos, voted against the bill banning same-sex marriages, wants tighter controls on illegal aliens, is pro-ERA, favors funding abortions. Our impressions were positive — he volunteered information during our discussion.

REX HIME: supports Prop 6, feels the ERA is unnecessary, as is Koch/Agnos, would not fund abortions, and has no position on illegal aliens. Our impression was neutral, but there was no evasion of our questions.

TOM HANNIGAN: opposes 6, supports the idea of Koch/Agnos, is silent on aliens, would fund abortions, supports ERA and feminist issues. Mr. Hannigan made a point of returning our phone call — no easy thing to do because of his and our schedules. He came across very sincerely, seemed non-threatening and interested in learning more about our concerns.

JEAN MOORHEAD: opposes 6, favors Koch/Agnos, endorses ERA, supports funding of abortions only during the first trimester of pregnancy, is silent on illegal aliens. Our discussion with Ms. Moorhead's headquarters was businesslike rather than personal.

LEROY GREENE: opposes 6, supports civil rights for women/gay people etc., in a general way. He is a strict constructionist, believing the U.S. constitution **ipso facto** guarantees full rights to all. He was most concerned with this position, and believes feminists should hire a powerful constitutional lawyer to enforce the Constitution. Unfortunately, the Supreme Courts already demonstrated that it doesn't intend to interpret things this way.

DAN BENVENUTI: supports 6, would not fund elective abortions, is for tighter control on illegal aliens. Mr. Benvenuti's representative took great pains in explaining the conservative perspective of Mr. Benvenuti's campaign committee. Our impression was one of sincerity and of a candidate who focuses on law-and-order. He would not be eager to see gays 'validated' by a No vote on 6.

ILLA COLLINS: opposes 6, supports ERA (and lobbied for its extension), has overseen the appointment of women/minority members to city commissions and boards, and seeks to continue economic support of Rape Crisis, Battered Women's Shelter, etc. Since she is running for Supervisor, these are areas she must consider. My impression of her is very favorable — she neither has the manner or style of a politician. Rather she is frank, alert and open to Gay Community matters.

We also gathered information on the major state posts, at least those who either had campaign headquarters in town, or state offices here. The most interesting of these happens to be March Fong Eu, as the Secretary of State position is non-partisan. Typically, that office keeps political records, files initiative and election returns, and maintains various business registrations. Ms. Fong Eu has avoided embroiling herself in any of California's initiatives to date, thus avoiding conflict of interest charges. However, Proposition 6 struck her as so pernicious she has come out strongly against it. Furthermore, in discussion with her campaign manager/daughter, Suyen Fong, it is clear that the Secretary is an embodiment of feminist/minority achievement. It is also notable that her office arranged for the mail-in voter registration program.

Of the candidates for Lt. Governor, Mervyn Dymally is the more accessible, and possibly the most accessible official in California. In the past, gay correspondents have obtained interviews with him on gay issues without difficulty. He is strongly in favor of human rights, and on all the before mentioned issues: abortion funding, Koch/Agnos, ERA etc. The unfortunate impression is that his campaign lacks money — he has not been able to buy the exposure his opponent has. His support comes mostly from minority people.

Mike Curb, on the other hand, is campaigning with Evelle Younger. Neither of them is accessible, and both have lots of money. Their main headquarters is in Los Angeles, but the Sacramento area chairwoman was cooperative in obtaining information for us, albeit third-hand. She indicated Curb opposes 6, opposes abortion funding, supports ERA and stricter law enforcement, but is unknown on illegal aliens and the Koch/Agnos bill.

Similarly, Evelle Younger endorses stricter laws and is not on record regarding illegal aliens or Koch/Agnos; however, he does favor Medi-Cal funded abortions. Mr. Younger has been particularly wishy-washy on Prop 6, first opposing it, but now having "no opinion." Our impression is neutral, but we are concerned about his office taping our short conversation. Why?

Jerry Brown is on record in support of abortion funding and the ERA, and in opposition to Prop 6. But he also opposed Proposition 13 — until just before it passed, that is. His illegal alien stand is unclear, his endorsement of feminist issues is generally good — he has appointed many women and minority people to key posts but then there's Mondanaro... Brown is unreachable for interviews. Period.

Before you cast your ballot, look beyond this

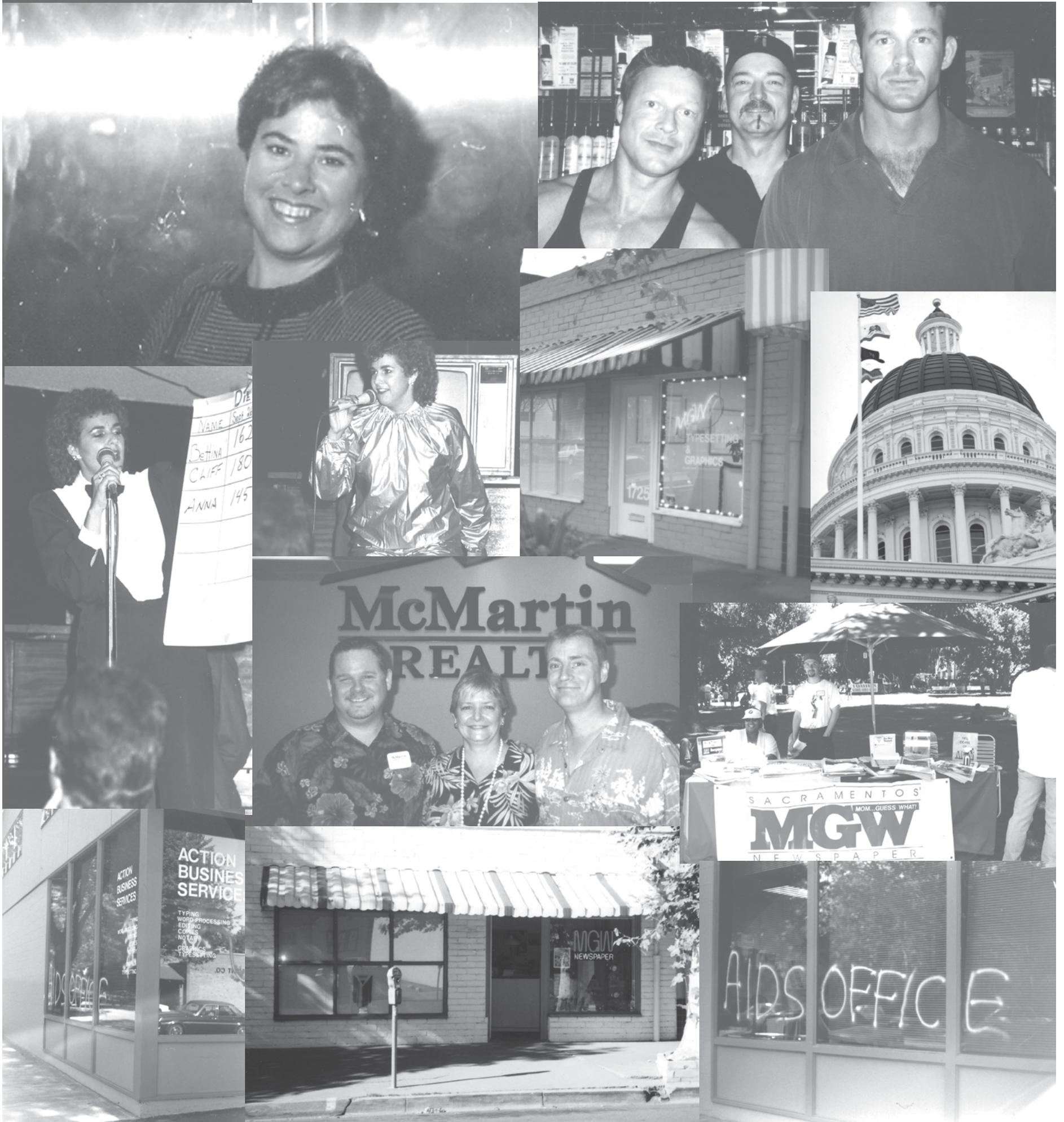
"Mom... Guess What?..."

Endorses...

- Governor — Jerry Brown
- Lt. Governor — Mervyn Dymally
- Sec. of State — March Fong Eu
- Controller — Kenneth Cury
- Treasurer — Jesse Uhruh
- Attorney General — Yvonne Breitwieser
- Judicial — YES on Rose Bird
- 3rd Congressional — Sandy Smoley
- 4th Congressional — Vic Fazio
- 4th State Senate — John Dunlap
- 4th Assembly — Tom Hannigan
- 5th Assembly — Ben Franklin
- 6th Assembly — Leroy Greene
- 1st Supervisor — No endorsement
- 2nd Supervisor — Ila Collins
- 5th Supervisor — Mary "Dayo" Hagan

YOLD COUNTRY

- Sheriff — Rod Graham
- District Attorney — Rick Gilbert
- 3rd Supervisor — George De Mars







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**PHOTOS: (ABOVE) MONIQUE AND
AMBASSADOR FERRERO AT "CLUB
PAPI SACRAMENTO" AT FACES;
(BELOW LEFT) MONIQUE'S DOG
MISSY LOU DRESSED UP AS A
QUEEN FOR HALLOWEEN; (BELOW
RIGHT) MONIQUE'S OTHER DOG
SHADOW LYNN IN COSTUME AS A
KING ON HALLOWEEN**

MYSFACE.COM/
MIZZMONIQUEMOORE

Hello Kids! Mizz Monique Moore here just stopping by to say Happy Holidays. November was a quite exciting moth for me—the most exciting month in quite awhile.

I had the opportunity to witness history being made with the election of our first African-American president. I am so happy that the U.S. is finally going to have change.

It always happens that with one gain we get one loss; with the gain of our new president we as gay Americans in California took a major loss when Californian's voted yes to Prop. 8 and gay couples in this state had our right to marry stripped from us. Which sucks!

I attended one of the many rallies that went on and I must say I was in awe of the massive turn out of not just gays, but straight people, as well. I, as a gay male, was proud to have been there showing my support and be a part of Sacramento and California history.

My other half and I have been together for almost 14 years and I have no desire to get married any time soon. But I want the right to do so just like every other American citizen! OK, enough about that!

This month I have been taking care of my parents' dog due to my father's eye surgery. My mother and father live in a small town by Visalia off Highway 99 toward Los Angeles, and are 40 miles from the hospital they needed to be at. Also this month my mother is having a MRI done to see why she is having dizzy spells all the time

It's sad to see my parents get older but what can you do? It's apart of life. So for those of you who do pray, please have my parents in your prayers. I was lucky to spend time with them on Thanksgiving, as well as more family at my sister's house in San Jose.

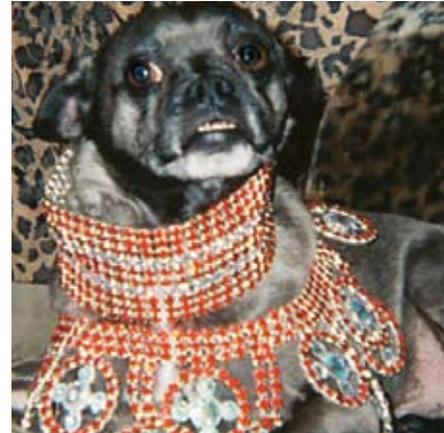
Onto the clubs! I am so excited that every week at the Mizz Monique's Talent Search we are getting such excellent contestants. We have four more weeks until we the semi-finals then finals. Wow, how time flies!



The Sunday night shows are going well, but I would love "Dragalicious"—the only drag show in Sacramento, to attract a more diverse audience. Everyone should get a chance to see this great show!

I used to work at the World famous Finnocio's in San Francisco back in the day, and at Darcell XV in Portland, OR—both famous drag show bars which had hugely diverse audiences. Gay, straight, any gender; anyone who wanted to enjoy a great show attended. I would love to see that here.

December is here and what a month to be queer! This is the time of year where I put on ten pounds—which is not cute, but I love to eat. I get the Christmas spirit and chow down on all those amazing holiday goodies and sweets. I try to contain myself so I only gain ten pounds and not 20! Or else I'll have to buy a whole new wardrobe this spring!



This year I am going to make it a "must do" to go to the Arden mall and sit on Santa's lap. I'll give him a lap dance he'll never forget!

Shopping! Shopping! And more shopping! I can't stop! When it comes to the Holidays I get even more crazy!

I found a cute little boutique I'll be shopping at for a few of my girlfriends this year. It's called "Glam-More" aka "Tiffany's Boutique & Braiderly" located off Broadway. I went in the other day and these beautiful girls were just so gay friendly I felt I was talking to Glinda from the Wizard of Oz! I had to keep asking my dog Missy, "are we still in Sacramento?"

The prices were very reasonable and since I bought dresses, shoes, a purse, some earrings and a scarf, they gave me a coupon for a free haircut or weave—which was fierce of them!

They have a clothing boutique in the front of the store and a salon in the back! Bitches, you need to go check it out! It was like going to Carl's Jr's and ordering The Green Parrot!

It's time for me to go ask the hot, muscular gardener outside if he can trim my hedges!

Happy Holidays!

*'Til next time, this is
Mizz Monique Moore
keeping it real!*



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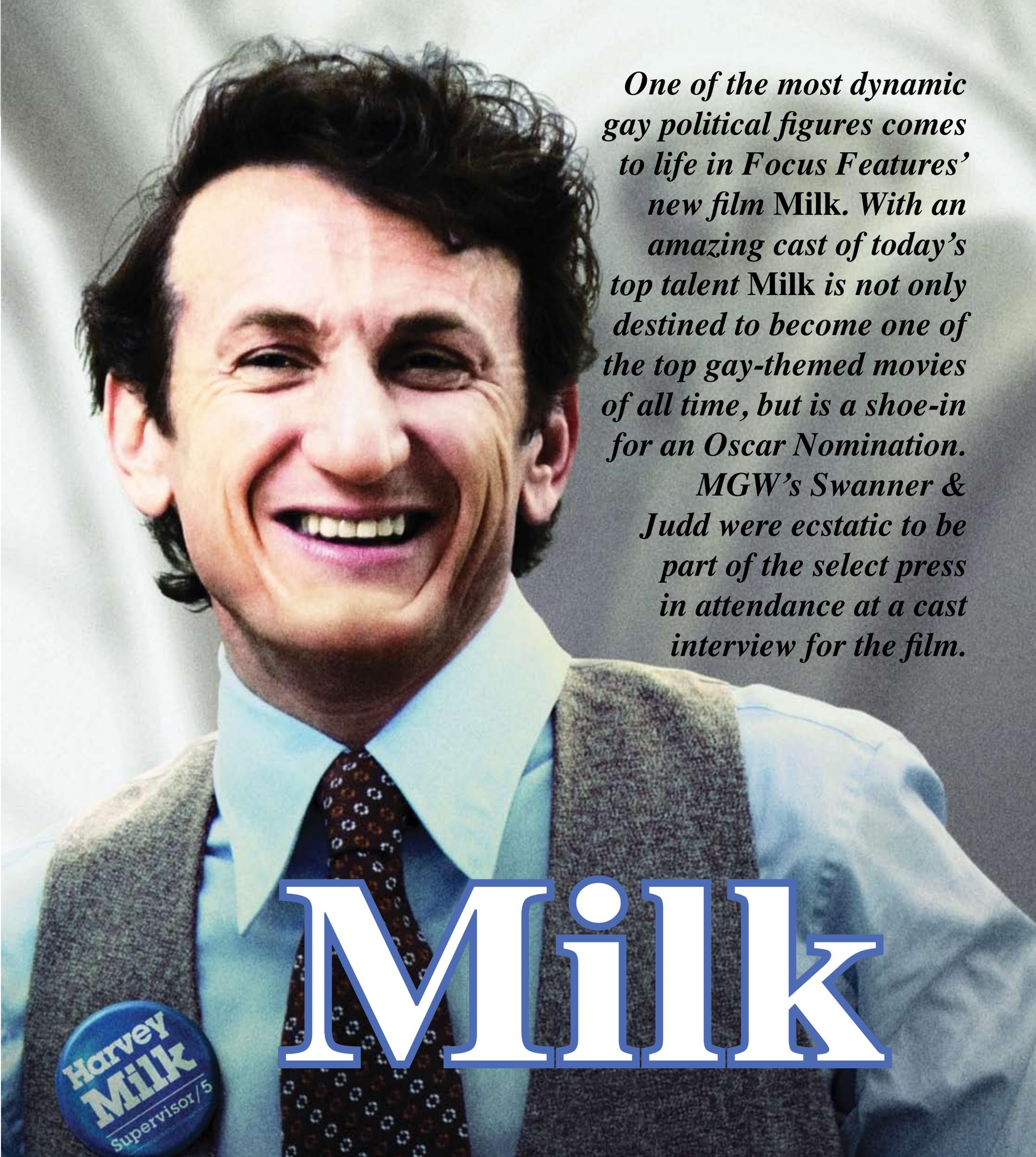
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gay political figures comes
to life in Focus Features'
new film Milk. With an
amazing cast of today's
top talent Milk is not only
destined to become one of
the top gay-themed movies
of all time, but is a shoe-in
for an Oscar Nomination.*

*MGW's Swanner &
Judd were ecstatic to be
part of the select press
in attendance at a cast
interview for the film.*

Milk

Harvey
Milk
Supervisor/5

Swanner: Brian and I had the opportunity to interview the cast of the new film *Milk*. It was the day after the big premier at the Castro Theatre. The premier went off really well, except for a few protesters, and the film was very well received by the audience. Brian and I drove down to the city in the morning and of course got there too early...it's my fault, I can't stand to be late. We thought we might get something to eat but after attempting a few hills we came back to the hotel to wait.

Judd: Attempting a few hills! Oh, please! If by "attempting" you mean you looked down/up the hill and said, "There's no way my fat ass can make that" then yes, we "attempted" to find something in all four directions from The Ritz Carlton.

Swanner: The hills are very steep there. So we decided to get some coffee at the restaurant in the hotel and wait for the interview. When they brought the coffee it was in a French press and smelled amazing...Brian commented to the waiter that he expected Folgers...yes, I was humiliated. The coffee was wonderful and since we were sitting outside in the courtyard it helped keep us warm. It was about that time we noticed Sean Penn was pacing around the courtyard feverously smoking. Was he on the phone or was he just nervous?

Judd: I wanted to know what Sean was doing out there. He wasn't supposed to be on the panel, and his hair obviously wasn't combed—but then, neither was mine.

Swanner: That's true. We were told originally that Sean Penn wasn't going to be there. So we still had time to sit and enjoy another cup of coffee while Sean paced and we saw some of the other journalist show up. This was going to be panel interview with writers from around northern California. The studio had set up early screenings so Brian and I were both able to see the movie before the interview. We saw the gentleman that was hosting the interview and he informed us that the tent behind me was actually where we were doing the interview. So Brian and I packed up and moved over to get good seats. There were quite a few young people from the universities and colleges so that meant Brian wasn't the youngest person there. Fortunately we had time to make fun of the writers that were there.

Judd: I hate press conference-style interviews. I know that since we're not *The Advocate*, it's what we have to settle with (so does the *Sac Bee*. Ha! Ha!) but college journalism majors are so pretentious and horrible. They're all looking to get the big scoop and they all ask such inane questions. I actually felt sorry for the Transsexual that was there, because she didn't ask any questions at all. Tell them about the fat sweaty guy that runs a gay youth website!

Swanner: The guy that Brian is referring to was this guy that was wandering around the tent before he got a seat in the front row. He had some horrible sweat marks down his back, under arms and the dreaded under man boobs sweat stains. He kept Brian entertained because he seemed oblivious to the fact he was that sweaty. When the actual interview started, sweaty guy had the first question.

Journalist: I run a gay youth website. (There was an uncomfortable murmuring as he spoke and one of the celebrities said

"gay...youth" and everyone was creeped out on the panel. Even Gus Van Sant made a face as did the crowd as a whole. Brian leaned over and said "oh, this is going to be fun!" Once everyone had recovered the man continued.)

Journalist: My point is when I'm writing about this movie on my site it's for people who weren't born when all this went down, so I figured since the cast is in the same boat and hadn't heard of Milk before this what was your take away from this and how is it going to effect the rest of your lives?

(Long pause.)

Sean Penn: Well, that's going to have to apply to those whose ages you didn't under estimate.

(Laughter from the group.)

James Franco: I was born in 78, the year Harvey Milk was killed and I grew up in the Bay area. You think I would have known more about Harvey Milk but they don't teach it in schools or anything like that. That's what's so great about this movie is that I hope it's raising the awareness of who he was and what he did. You think that growing up here I'd know who he was or what he did before I did this movie but the fact is I didn't.

Journalist: I wanted to ask Josh specifically, when you played Dan White, was there in your calculations for you playing the character, considerations that White could himself had been a victim of the society he lived in as Harvey Milk was a victim of White...?

Josh Brolin: Harvey wasn't victimized by Dan White 'til the end, the fact of the matter was that Harvey came up against a lot of obstacles like any gay man would now, even though the irony is of Prop. 8 being what it is now mirrors Prop. 6 being what it was then. Obstacles are OK to me. Anita Bryant and the rest of these guys represented in the film are OK but when you resort to the violence that Dan White resorted to is when it turns into something else. It was a very sad moment. I see him as a incredibly frustrated guy. I hear questions of if he was a latent homosexual...I mean who knows, it's all conjecture. When you feel that the only resort is to do something that's tangible. That's how I always saw that moment as being the only tangible thing...cause and affect. If I do this, this will happen. Dan White was not a ready made politician. He was a guy that was way over his head. He was a guy who had tremendous pressure through the Police Force and the Fire Department to bring back San Francisco to what it use to be and to stop the whole gay movement. He had pressures that were beyond his control... that's for sure.

Journalist: Allison, how much did you work with Anne Kronenberg before or during filming and what was that process like?

Allison Pill: I met Anne the first day of rehearsal and I completely changed the way I thought of the character in that moment. She's an amazing, powerful woman but also incredibly calming to have in the room and one of the strongest women I've ever met but in a very subtle, womanly way. It was an important energy to try to capture it was important to do the historical research as well through books and film. Having the actual people there to get all the hilarious stories that build up a person...that's especially helpful.



Journalist: Dustin, I wanted to ask you... you're very young and this must have been history to you opposed to something that you had lived through. Two things, what drew you to the story, how did you discover it and motivated you to write it? Not to mention the incredible resonance battle between the Briggs initiative and now with Proposition 8...when you were writing it, this wasn't happening yet.

Dustin Lucas Black: It came about because my step father was stationed in Ft. Ord, down in Monterrey. It wasn't a great place for a closet case to hang out. So I'd come up here to San Francisco and I started hearing this story, first by this director I was apprenticing under, they told the story of Harvey Milk. This was very surprising since I never heard of an out gay man that was celebrated by his city. I found that very inspirational. I held on to that for a very long time and I tracked the progress of his story. I saw it falling off and his message falling off and thought it was time to do something to revive that and get it back out there. The resonance to prop 8, I didn't know there'd be a prop 8 but I don't think this fight is over. I think there will be more propositions. Each time there is it's a great opportunity to get out that education campaign and it gives us the opportunity to say "hey, this is who we are" and break down some of these myths that Harvey talked about so much.

Journalist: This is directed to Sean. What do you do to prepare for a role... and how much responsibility do you take on a character that's a historical figure?

Sean Penn: For me it started with Gus and Lance's script. That leads me to Harvey and looking at the history and archival footage. What just got stronger and stronger is to your question of responsibility...you almost try to keep that at bay. What struck



have been in politics even if he hadn't been a political figure simply because he had been one of these people that had come up against the obvious obstacles of life and greeted if with such courage and warmth. He was a kind spirit and that was going to be strong no matter what he did. So I followed what the writer wrote and what the director was directing and the flow of my increasing affection for Harvey Milk the more I got to know him.

Brian Judd: Gus, the two relationships that Harvey had in the movie have both passed on. How did you get the actors to develop relationship between Harvey and Scott and Harvey and the other character – I can't remember the name of...sorry, I'm fat.

(Edit by Brian Judd – I did not call myself fat!)

Gus Van Sant: There was a rehearsal period where we read the script slowly, talked about it. When everyone is in make-up and has learned their lines and the artistic input which is almost the artist license where you just make it up. Even if they were alive they wouldn't have remembered bedroom conversations. It's the script, and the actors and you act it out, and if it works...you keep it.

Journalist: Gus, were you ever tempted to shade the homosexuality to represent then opposed to now. Were you ever conflicted?

Gus Van Sant: A lot of that was handled in Lance's script. Even though the film takes place 75 to 78 you still are tainted by our modern gay world. You try to remember what it was like and you go by historical document and stories and the script. We are always trying to get to that day but you always have discrepancies.

Journalist: Why do you think this film is important to student and what kind of impact do you think it will have with young people?

James Franco: I think it will be important to students because most students don't

know who Harvey Milk is and it's an introduction to him and that period of history. For me what the film was about was human rights, equality and democracy. Some of the core principals I think American is about and what they stand for...I think those are important things for college students to know.

Allison Pill: I think it was also an important time for activism. Both for youth and across the generations. Harvey was also good about bringing in seniors and he brought in Anne at 23 to run his campaign. Students should know there is power in that kind of activism. Once you put trust in them you can do great work.

Journalist: Gus and Dustin, the film uses stills, archival footage and recreated telecasts...what role did the media play in the Harvey Milk story?

Dustin Lucas Black: It was always important, the stuff that's included in the script -- cause some of it was invented after the fact in post between Elliot, the editor, and Gus -- but the stuff that is in the script, it's important to create that environment. It's kind of an unbelievable environment when you look back now and you hear some of the quotes Anita gave, if played by an actress it could be seen as caricature. I hear for some folks, even today, to think that she really said the things she said and meant the things she said. Having it be actual footage gives it that authenticity. The quotes in the script are direct quotes from Anita and direct quotes from the press, so Gus took it from there.

Gus Van Sant: The communications media was a major part of their political campaigning. A lot of that existed still. Anita's side of the story was in the script and always present as we thought the footage could tell the story better and we never considered hiring an actress. From there we thought we'd use the Feinstein footage of

her announcing that Moscone and Milk had been shot. Also using stock footage for crowd scenes if we need to use it.

Journalist: I was wondering what you (James) did to get into character. Was there a lot of archival footage of Scott that you studied?

James Franco: There wasn't a lot. Two main research things I did was read about the time a lot and specifically about my character. The difference with Scott compared to other historical figures I've played is not a lot of people know who Scott Smith was and so it isn't the same pressure to capture that character as when you play James Dean. Where you can go watch East of Eden and see how he moved and you'll be judged by matching that behavior or not. Now with Scott Smith, no one's going to know the difference. I did meet with Ron Epstein who directed The Life and Times of Harvey Milk and asked him if he had any footage of Scott and he had some footage that he transferred for me. So I did get to see how he talked like and sounded like and his mannerisms.

Journalist: Working in politics has become very heroic and movies about heroes usually come from Marvel comics. Why was it important to convey that message now that this kind of work is heroic.

Sean Penn: One thing I'd like to say about that is using Harvey Milk as an example, the part of Harvey we didn't get to have...the great tragedy of his death is that later that very year was the beginning of the fucking plague and there is no question in my mind that Ronald Reagan would have talked about AIDS if Harvey Milk had made him. Then a lot of lives would have been saved. I think that speaks to any activism. When people stand up...things change. The spirit of that I think Gus and Lance did a great job of getting that feeling in there and not only for gay right but



becoming an inspiring tool for participation.

Tom Swanner: Was there ever any hesitation to take on these roles because you were playing gay?

Sean Penn: I think this is just Josh again.

Josh Brolin: having sex with Harvey was one of the most (trails of, chuckles)... No.

James Franco: I had no hesitation, I had read about it and wrote Gus and e-mail and said I'd do anything to be part of the movie. So there was no question for me.

Sean Penn: I always work on the "it only hurts the first time" philosophy

Josh Brolin: Breathe...Breathe

Journalist: I loved how beautiful the relationship was between Harvey and Scott in the film. So my question for James and Sean is how did you approach the intimate scenes?

James Franco: One thing I liked about our relationship in the movie was that it was never a drama about two men being together cause that wasn't the issue. It unusually to see in a movie where the relationship is presented that way. I'm sure that actresses get sick of being offered the supportive housewife role but it's the first one that I was ever offered and it was great to play.

Journalist: This is for Josh. This year you played in W. and you played Dan White. Last year in no country for old men and you've been playing the anti hero so will you ever play a good guy?

Josh Brolin: What was that last part? I didn't hear.

Journalist: No country for old men it's like Dan White even though he did something horrific I think you did a good job

Josh Brolin: Thank you.

Journalist: Like you're the anti hero

Josh Brolin: I'm the asshole for hire

Journalist: When will you do something different?

(Josh looks confused by the question and pauses)

Sean Penn: he's asking you when you're going to play a good guy?

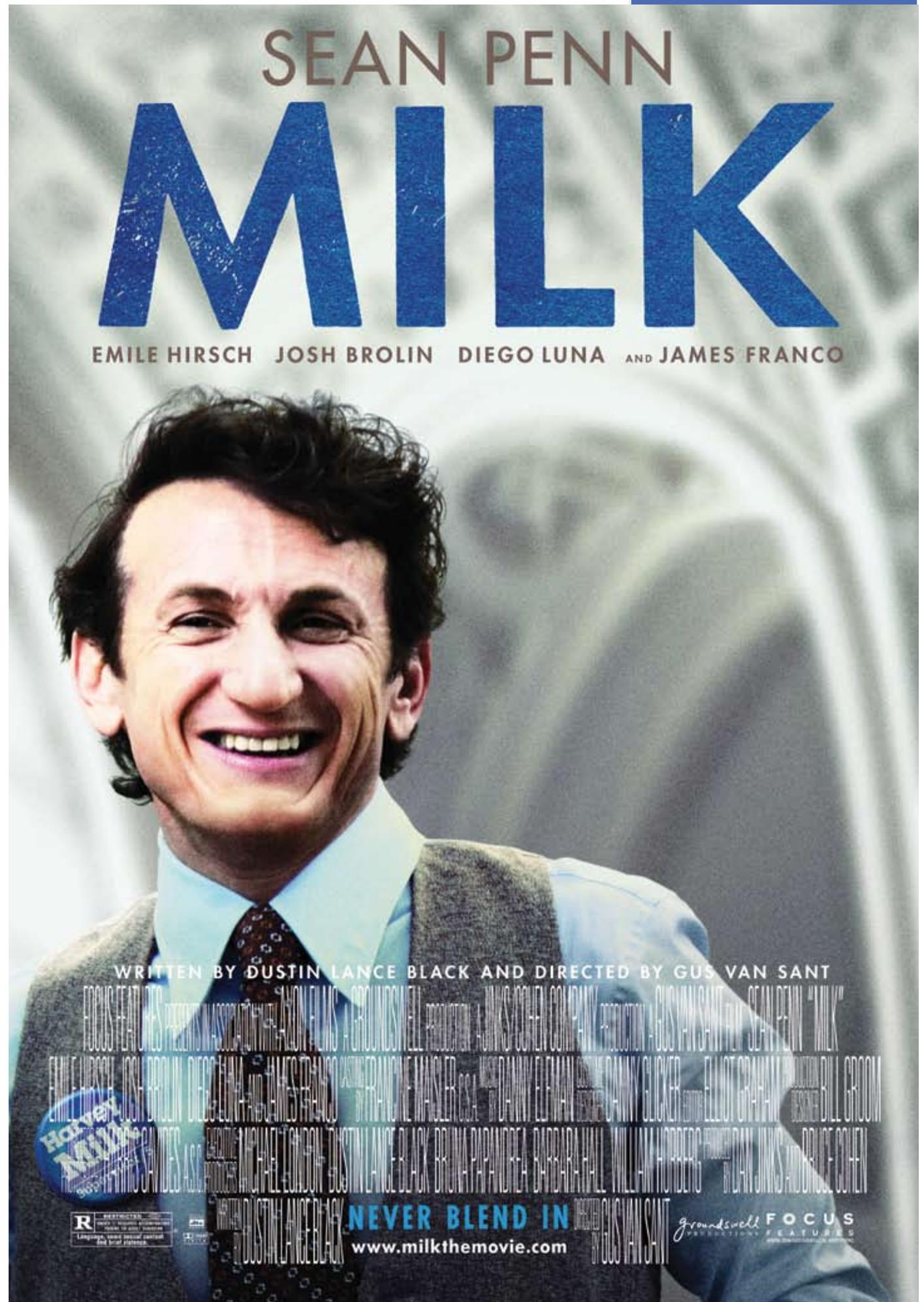
Josh Brolin: When am I going to do a romantic comedy?

Emile Hirsch: When are you going to get the girl?

Josh Brolin: Probably in the sequel...no. Look, I really appreciate what your saying...I don't think there is really a question there but if you want to come up and sit on my lap I'm fine with it. It is kind of strange but I like these characters. They're mixed. They seem very simplistic but they're not.

Journalist: what impact do you think the film will make from a media stand point considering that by the time people see this movie they would have already voted on prop 8.

Sean Penn: There is something in the movie when Harvey Milk says what an impact it makes if people know just one of us. I think that will happen when people watch this film. People will see a lot of good hearted human beings and that who they decide to fuck is irrelevant...that alone can be strong. They get in there and it feels more familiar and because of that they are less afraid of it. I was at symphony hall the other night and there were protesters holding signs that said Matthew Shepard burn in hell. I think the more these pure hearted people are in their faces the less breathing room there is for that kind of thinking.



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SEPARATE IS NEVER EQUAL!

HOERS SUCK TAIL

LOVE IS NEVER WRONG!

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LOVE IS GOOD

I AM

GOD TOLD ME SHE'S FOR GAY MARRIAGE!

CRIM

NO ON PROP 8

THE

BEA

JUST

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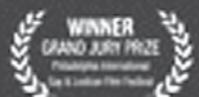
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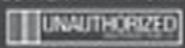
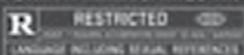


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EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ALAN SMITH PRODUCED BY JAMES M. JOHNSTON DAVID PATRICK LOWERY PRODUCED BY JIM McMAHON WRITTEN BY YEN TAN ALESSANDRO CALZA DIRECTED BY YEN TAN



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SONYA COX HAS BEEN MGW'S HIV/AIDS EDITOR SINCE 1986 (22 YEARS). SHE BEGAN AT MGW AS A VOLUNTEER PROOFREADER BEFORE BEGINNING THE HIV NEWSWIRE COLUMN. SHE ALSO BEGAN THE "IN LOVING MEMORY" COLUMN IN EARLY 1993 (15 YEARS AGO). THE JUNE 1993 COLUMN CONTAINED 6 NAMES; JUNE 2008 CONTAINED 77. THE ENTIRE YEAR'S LIST NOW CONTAINS OVER 1000 NAMES—MOST BEING DEATHS FROM HIV. SONYA IS THE LONGEST REMAINING WRITER IN THE MGW FAMILY AND HAS SELFLESSLY VOLUNTEERED NOT ONLY HER WRITING, BUT HER SUPPORT, TIME AND VAST COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE AT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS THROUGH THE YEARS. SHE IS ONE OF THE PILLARS IN THE FOUNDATION OF MOM...GUESS WHAT!

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1981

Long before AIDS had a name, before physicians understood it, before funding was available to fight it, gay men were dying from it – and apparently had been since the 1970s. In June 1981, an epidemic is declared by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) based on reports of a rare cancer in 41 gay men in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York. Kaposi's sarcoma (KS), as well as an aggressive Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), a deadly wasting syndrome, and treacherous diseases are suddenly on course to kill thousands, often within a year or two. The possible cause is speculated to be poppers or an unknown infection.

1982

The disorder is initially referred to as GRID, "Gay-related immune deficiency," but CDC soon identifies three other official risk factors besides male homosexuality, adding IV drug abuse, being of Haitian origin, and having hemophilia. The Kaposi's Sarcoma Research Foundation (later called the San Francisco AIDS Foundation) opens in that city to provide information and care to terrified citizens, often targeted with an unprecedented mean-spirited hostility. President Reagan's press secretary jokes about the "gay plague." A small amount of federal funds is allocated (\$5 million). CDC subdivides the disaster into Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and AIDS-Related Complex (ARC), each with a list of illnesses that defines it. An ARC diagnosis resulted from combining milder problems such as fungal infections or night sweats with one of the four official risk factors. A person was diagnosed with "full-blown" AIDS if he had at least two of the serious "opportunistic infections" on the list. But hundreds were dying of infections not yet listed, and funding assistance for treatment was available only for men with an official AIDS diagnosis. First

official CDC count for 1981-82: 1118 U.S. cases, but it was already too late to ever know the true toll. [312 California cases; 293 California deaths]

1983

CDC adds female partners of men with AIDS as a fifth risk category for the ARC list, but no illnesses specific to women are yet on the "opportunistic infections" AIDS list. The first AIDS candlelight vigil takes place in New York City. As some hospital workers and San Francisco bus drivers begin wearing face masks and other protective clothing, educational information is quickly begun. The Sacramento AIDS/KS Foundation is opened in April by local activists and physicians Elizabeth Harrison, Harvey Thompson, and Sandy Pomerantz. SAF's first 12 Hand-to-Hand volunteers complete training, and are matched to people with AIDS – their goal, at a time when families often shunned their sick loved ones, was that never will anyone in Sacramento die alone. Along with Drs. Thompson and Pomerantz, local physician Neil Flynn establishes the U.C. Davis Med Center AIDS Clinic, and through the years becomes one of the world's leading AIDS experts, while still tending to local clients, and fighting for the legalization of medicinal marijuana and clean-needle exchange. Government officials warn of transmission thru sexual contact and blood transfusions. No blood recall is recommended but many blood banks act quickly to identify "potentially infected" donors. By this time, however, nearly 12,000 Americans have already been infected through surgery transfusions. In addition, nearly 90 percent of those with (males-only) hemophilia have become infected, and about 20 percent of them have passed the virus to their wives. It's not until 1985 that a national policy is forthcoming to screen all donors. California's Dept. of Health Services begins developing AIDS programs. A major outbreak of AIDS is discovered in central Africa, the beginning of devastation

for that country. New U.S. cases jump from 853 during 1982, to 2304 during 1983.

1984

Over 4250 new U.S. cases, 1400 new California cases this year. French scientist Luc Montagnier isolates the virus causing AIDS, calling it LAV. Soon after, American researcher Robert Gallo isolates a virus, and calls it HTLV. The CDC suggests reducing the sharing of needles and use of condoms. At a time when the Med Center charges a daily fee for use of a television, Sacramento's Godfathers Fund vows to conduct as many fund raisers as necessary to assure that every person on the "east 8" AIDS ward has free use of a TV during their stay. In fact, for many years to come, funding to fight the epidemic and support local hospices comes from Sacramento bar owners, CGNIE court performers, impacted families, and generous businesses and individuals. [2424 California cases; 1147 deaths to date]

1985

Government officials warn of mother-to-child transmission. The first AIDS testing kit (the ELISA enzyme test), requiring a ten-day wait, is approved, and all blood banks begin screening for HIV and rejecting gay donors. The military institutes mandatory testing, and positive recruits are rejected. Project Inform is begun in San Francisco. With the American death toll at 16,000, Ronald Reagan finally says the word "AIDS" five years into his presidency. Movie star Rock Hudson dies. Indiana teen Ryan White, a hemophiliac who received an infected blood transfusion, is barred from school. He aggressively starts a national campaign against AIDS

BELOW LEFT, PEDRO ZAMORA BROUGHT AIDS AWARENESS TO A NEW GENERATION ON REAL WORLD 3; BELOW RIGHT, HEMOPHILIAC RYAN WHITE TOOK THE NATIONAL STAGE AFTER BEING DIAGNOSED WITH HIV AT AGE 13 AND THEN BARRED FROM ATTENDING HIS SCHOOL



39 HIV NEWSWIRE - WORLD AIDS DAY

discrimination. The first AIDS conference is held in Atlanta, home of the CDC.

1986

Distribution of clean syringes for IV drug users begins in two New England cities. The Reagan administration urges Americans not to panic, because the disease appears to be confined to gays and drug users. California's Health Services Dept. formally designates the State Office of AIDS, which provides a solid source of information, tracking, and coordination throughout the epidemic. An international committee determines that LAV and HTVL are the same. Both names are dropped, and replaced by the term Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). AIDS Foundation co-founder Dr. Harvey Thompson dies. MGW Newspaper begins to cover AIDS/HIV information in depth, and continues to do so 22 years later. Total U.S. deaths 16,301. [9077 California cases; 5290 deaths]

1987

The Food & Drug Administration approves AZT as the first anti-retroviral drug. It is taken precisely every 4 hours, with pill-box beepers going off continually. Years later, it's determined that sleep is more important, and that the dosage was much too high and extremely toxic. All other potential drugs are in the government's mandatory years-long testing stage, at a time when many are dying within two years. Thousands of Americans, with a variety of diseases, are alive today because of early activists from ACT-UP (founded in 1987 by Larry Kramer), who loudly protested government rules and demanded that the drug approval process be fast-tracked. ADAP (the AIDS Drug Assistance Program) is established to assist under-insured and uninsured people obtain medications. "And the Band Played On," Randy Shilts' history of the epidemic thus far, is published. Entertainer Liberace dies, as do designers Perry Ellis and Will Smith. Cleve Jones creates the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. Over the summer, 50 Quilt panels are made in the Lambda Center for Sacramentans, to be sent with Cleve Jones to D.C. for the nation's first Quilt display on the Ellipse, at the door of the White House, in October. On the panel made for local chef Herb Finger, his partner paints the words "Ronald Reagan, his blood is on your hands."

1988

Virtually every reference to AIDS describes it as inevitably fatal, and Project Inform and other skeptical AIDS experts push to have HIV disease re-identified as a manageable long-term chronic illness. Untold thousands of dollars begin to be unnecessarily spent in health food stores, on unscrupulous internet sites, and for self-help books and "heal yourself" or "HIV is a myth" workshops as rumors abound on how to stay healthy longer. The World Health Organization recognizes the first "World AIDS Day." [21,582 California cases; 12,311 deaths]

1989

Over 8200 new cases in the state this year. Major protests against government inaction continue, with ACT-UP taking a leading role. Choreographer Alvin Ailey and photographer Robert Mapplethorpe die. Four more drugs are approved by the FDA to fight opportunistic infections. New outpatient clinic CARES is established in partnership with Sacramento's four hospital systems. It soon becomes a leading provider of medical, educational, case management, and other HIV services for clients, a training ground for newly graduated physicians, and a research & trials facility in partnership with Dr. Flynn's University AIDS clinic. The Lambda Center begins publication of the Positive Social Support Newsletter (PSSN). It publishes until 1993. Local residents David Austin and David Bernt coordinate with the Lambda Center to hold the city's first annual AIDS Walk (both die the following year). New U.S. cases jump from 4855 in 1988, to 14,544 this year.

1990

The documentary "Common Threads" wins Academy Award. Ryan White dies at age 18, and Congress passes the Ryan White CARE Act to provide funding to states for treatment services. The Americans with Disabilities Act adds people with HIV and AIDS to list of those who may not be discriminated against when seeking employment, housing, or other government services. Artist Keith Haring dies. Fashion designer Halston dies. Kimberly Bergalis creates a national scare after insisting she was infected in her Florida dentist's office. She dies within a year, the source of her infection never clarified. Insurance companies win suit to test all future applicants for HIV. The Sacramento AIDS Foundation is seeing over 850 clients at different ranges of HIV and AIDS, about 200 of them needing home health services. It estimates about 2000 undiagnosed cases in the county. [38,765 California cases; 23,528 deaths to date]

1991

Nearly 11,000 new California cases this year. The red ribbon becomes the symbol of AIDS. The Lambda AIDS Project begins their 7-year operation, a godsend to local clients who need help with bills, food and clothing. Magic Johnson retires from basketball after announcing he's positive. Rocker Freddy Mercury dies.

1992

Mary Fisher, daughter of a wealthy fund raiser for the Republican party, speaks at the Party Convention nominating George Bush Sr., announcing she's HIV-positive, with the message "I am one with the Black infant in Philadelphia; I am one with the lonely gay man sheltering a flickering candle from the cold wind of his family's rejection." Bob Hattoy speaks at the Dem's convention, telling Bush, "Mr. President, your family has AIDS and we're dying and you're doing nothing about it." Bill Clinton is elected on a platform of fighting AIDS, funding the Ryan White Act, and appointing an "AIDS czar" to oversee programs. AIDS is now the main cause of death for American men ages 25-44.



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JIM J. BULLOCK (BORN 1955) AMERICAN ACTOR WHO STARRED IN THE SITCOM TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT.

MERRITT BUTRICK (1959-1989) AMERICAN ACTOR BEST REMEMBERED FOR PLAYING CAPTAIN KIRK'S SON IN THE FILMS STAR TREK II AND III.

IAN CHARLESON (1949-1990) BRITISH ACTOR WHOSE BEST-KNOWN ROLE WAS THE PART OF ATHLETE ERIC LIDDELL IN THE FILM CHARIOTS OF FIRE.

BRAD DAVIS (1949-1991) AMERICAN ACTOR, PLAYED THE PART OF BILLY HAYES, IN THE FILM MIDNIGHT EXPRESS.

LEONARD FREY (1938-1988) AMERICAN BROADWAY AND FILM ACTOR, EARNED AN ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION AS BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR IN THE FILM VERSION OF FIDDLER ON THE ROOF.

TOM FUCCELLO (1936-1993) AMERICAN ACTOR, KNOWN FOR HIS ROLE AS DAVE CULVER IN THE TELEVISION SERIES DALLAS

KEVIN PETER HALL (1955-1991) TALL AMERICAN ACTOR, PLAYED IN PREDATOR AND HARRY AND THE HENDERSONS.

ROCK HUDSON (1925-1985) AMERICAN ACTOR, FIRST MAJOR AMERICAN CELEBRITY TO PUBLICLY DISCLOSE HIV STATUS.

MICHAEL JETER (1952-2003) AMERICAN FILM AND THEATRE, WON A TONY AWARD IN 1990 FOR THE MUSICAL GRAND HOTEL.

COOKIE MUELLER (1949-1989) AMERICAN ACTOR AND WRITER WHO FEATURED IN MANY OF FILMMAKER JOHN WATERS' EARLY FILMS.

TIMOTHY PATRICK MURPHY (1959-1988) AMERICAN ACTOR, PLAYED THE ROLE OF MICKEY TROTTER IN THE TELEVISION SERIES DALLAS

DAVID OLIVER (1962-1991) AMERICAN ACTOR, PLAYED IN ANOTHER WORLD AND A YEAR IN THE LIFE

ILKA TANYA PAYAN (1943-1996) DOMINICAN BORN AMERICAN ACTRESS, ATTORNEY AND ACTIVIST. SHE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST LATINO CELEBRITIES TO PUBLICLY DISCLOSE HER STATUS

ANTHONY PERKINS (1932-1992) AMERICAN ACTOR BEST KNOWN FOR HIS ROLE AS NORMAN BATES IN THE ALFRED HITCHCOCK FILM PSYCHO.

DACK RAMBO (1941-1994) AMERICAN ACTOR WHO PLAYED JACK EWING IN THE TELEVISION SERIES DALLAS.

GENE ANTHONY RAY (1962-2003) AMERICAN ACTOR AND DANCER; BEST KNOWN FOR HIS PORTRAYAL OF THE STREET SMART DANCER LEROY IN THE 1980 MOTION PICTURE FAME AND THE TELEVISION SPIN-OFF.

ROBERT REED (1932-1992) AMERICAN ACTOR; PLAYED THE ROLE OF MIKE BRADY ON THE BRADY BUNCH.

LARRY RILEY (1952-1992) AMERICAN ACTOR; PLAYED THE ROLE OF FRANK WILLIAMS IN THE SOAP OPERA KNOTS LANDING

TOM VILLARD (1953-1994) AMERICAN ACTOR.

Tennis great Arthur Ashe announces he's positive. [61,951 California cases, including 12,224 new cases this year, the epidemic's highest single-year increase; 37,387 deaths]

1993

The Hemophilia Foundation reports that 23 percent of their 10,000 clients who contracted HIV more than ten years ago had progressed to AIDS. But they note that since 1991, they have had no cases of HIV transmission among those who use heat-treated, donor-screened blood products. Sacramento begins its own Chapter of the AIDS Memorial Quilt. Tom Hanks wins Oscar for his role in "Philadelphia." "Angels in America" wins a Pulitzer and a Tony Award. At last, CDC expands the definition of AIDS to include problems being experienced by women, serious illnesses not already on the opportunistic infections list, and a CD4 count of less than 200. Wimbledon champ Arthur Ashe dies. Ballet great Rudolph Nureyev dies. AIDS Foundation co-founder Dr. Sandy Pomerantz dies, as well as 7533 other Californians during the year. New U.S. cases jump from 23,400 in 1992 to 41,920 this year, partly due to the expanded definition.

1994

The government recommends AZT for pregnant women to reduce transmission of HIV in utero. The first non-blood based HIV test is approved. Elizabeth Glaser, wife of Starsky & Hutch TV star Paul Michael Glaser, dies. She founded the Pediatric AIDS Foundation after receiving a tainted blood transfusion, and transmitting the virus to two of her infants, one of whom died prior to her death. Randy Shiels, author of "And the Band Played On," dies at his ranch in Guerneville. Olympic skater John Curry dies. Actor Dack Rambo dies. Treatment moves to combination therapy and individualized treatment plans for people with AIDS and HIV. [52,870 California deaths - includes the state's highest single-year loss, 7949 deaths]

1995

Food & Drug Administration approves Saquinivir, part of a new class of drugs - protease inhibitors - given in combination with other meds. The arrival of the PI's, reverse-transcriptase inhibitors, fusion inhibitors, and a host of other successful treatments makes a profound difference in the treatment plans and longevity of thousands of people. The term ARC drifts out of usage, with new meds prescribed based on AIDS or HIV status. Olympic diver Greg Louganis announces he's positive. Known deaths in U.S. hits highest one-year total - 48,371. [93,327 California cases; 60,459 deaths to date]

1996

The number of new HIV cases in the United States declines for the first time, due mainly to combo treatments. FDA approves the viral load test, and treatment plans become less about counting T-cells. Researchers discover a type of herpes virus to be responsible for

Kaposi's sarcoma (KS). California records its 100,000th case of AIDS. State voters pass initiative to provide compassionate use of medicinal marijuana to those with AIDS, cancer, and other illnesses that cause nausea or loss of appetite, but it remains a federal violation and leads to years of continuing confused law enforcement.

1997

Thanks to combination drug therapy, AIDS deaths in California fall from a staggering 7949 during 1994, to 2567 in 1997. The drugs are working. AIDS was now a "manageable long-term chronic illness" in the U.S. Throughout the world, however, poorer countries struggle to get life-saving meds to 40 million with HIV or AIDS.

1998

The first large human trials for a vaccine begin. Therapeutic vaccines could hopefully halt progression of the virus in people already infected. Preventative vaccines, man-made and therefore cannot cause infection, also begin tests in HIV-negative people. Volunteers get an ID card to confirm trial participation because they could test positive and experience problems obtaining insurance, donating blood, etc. Governor Pete Wilson vetoes HIV name reporting. [111,864 California cases; 70,359 California deaths]

1999

Researchers say they've verified the theory that AIDS came from chimpanzees in Africa. The Sacramento AIDS Foundation closes after more than a decade of providing excellent service to hundreds of clients. It transfers its clients to Breaking Barriers or CARES, the AIDS Housing Alliance or Avalon

hospice, with children being tended to by Sunburst Projects.

2000

More than 46,700 are currently living with AIDS in California. As the century turns, more than 700,000 Americans have been diagnosed with AIDS over the years, and more than 450,000 (64%) have died. But many thousands are thriving on the new combination treatments now available. The United States and the United Nations declare AIDS to be a matter of national security. [121,059 California cases; 74,295 deaths]

2001

Pharmaceutical companies offer to provide generic or discounted AIDS drugs to impoverished third-world countries. A study warns that 14 percent of people are already resistant to at least one anti-viral drug. Many large cities see a dramatic increase in cases of syphilis, TB, and Hepatitis C. President Bush begins pushing his abstinence-only program, and ties receipt of federal HIV-prevention funds to this stance. Many states refuse the funds so as to continue condom education.

2002

President Bush removes the "Condom Fact Sheet" from the CDC web site. After protests, watered-down info is eventually reposted to the site. World AIDS leaders report that about half of all adults living with AIDS or HIV are women.

U.S. OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST GREG LOUGANIS CAME UNDER FIRE WHEN IT WAS REVEALED THAT HE HAD CONTINUED COMPETING AFTER INJURING HIS HEAD ON THE DIVING BOARD DURING THE COMPETITION WHILE SECRETLY KNOWING HE WAS HIV POSITIVE.



2003

The William J. Clinton Foundation proves highly successful in obtaining price reductions for poor countries from generic drug manufacturers. Bill Gates continues to regularly donate billions of dollars to fight AIDS globally. President Bush offers a five-year \$15-billion plan to fight tuberculosis, HIV, and malaria worldwide.

2004

Two actors involved in bare-backing films test positive. Over 50 men and women who had sex with them or their partners are "quarantined" for 60 days until tested for HIV. Five test positive. FDA approves the rapid oral HIV test that can give results in 20 minutes. The State Office of AIDS and the city's HIV Planning Council actively participate through public forums to obtain feedback on use of Ryan White dollars and other issues affecting them. FDA approves Sculptra to treat loss of facial fat caused by some AIDS medications. Busloads of activists from throughout the state loudly protest the governor's proposed cut to ADAP funds that would deny meds to low-income Californians. As a result, ADAP is fully funded, and harmful enrollment caps are rejected by the legislature. But future proposed cuts, including 2009 and beyond, could have a major impact on 30,500 Californians who rely on this program. [137,441 California cases; 80,718 California deaths to date]

2005

California deaths drop from a high of 7949 during 1994, to 1059 this year. Despite scientific evidence to the contrary, President Bush continues to insist on listing marijuana as a Schedule-1 drug, in the same category with heroin, that has "no acceptable medical value." He continually sends federal agents to shut down medicinal dispensaries, overriding the wishes of citizens in most states who have voted for reform.

2006

The state begins tracking HIV cases by name. It has long tracked AIDS cases by name without compromised confidentiality. For the first time in six years, President Bush's proposed budget includes a large HIV and AIDS treatment and prevention initiative, including funding to assist states with their ADAP (drug assistance) waiting lists. More than 58,000 Californians are currently living with AIDS, 41,000 living with HIV disease.

2008

Nearly 30 years of AIDS. More than 40 million worldwide living with the disease, 25 million deaths. In this country, over a million cases of AIDS have resulted in 566,000 deaths. In California 151,600 reported AIDS cases have resulted in 85,800 officially recorded deaths. In Sacramento, 3697 cases have seen 2019 deaths. May the Lord hold them gently in the palm of His hand.

*California cases and deaths statistics courtesy of State Office of AIDS.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF FRIENDS LOST IN NOVEMBER

1986:
RICHARD MADRID CLAYBERG

DAVID REEDER

DYLE PERKES
PETE ORCHARD
MICHAEL FRANCIS MURPHY

PAUL ARTHUR YOUNG
DR. DON SANCHEZ

2005:
TOR JOHNSON
L BROOKS WANN

1987:
ROBERT LEROY SMITH
LINDA EVANS

1991:
ROY MANGLONA
PAT HARO

1995:
GREG GORGES
KEVIN CHORN

1997:
JOHN MINER
ROBERT W.

2006:
IVAN BRISCOE
JASON RAWLINSON
ERNEST OROZCO "ADRIAN
KLINE" (EMPRESS 29)

1988:
BOBBY FOX
ADRIAN REYES

1992:
AARON GALLUP
JOHN ARANA

1996:
ZACH REIT
WILLIAM ANGUS SHERMAN
JOHN RICO

1998:
WILLA M.

1989:
CHRIS ARMITAGE

1993:
CHRIS CHILTON
MICHAEL SAWYER

STEVE H.
BILL GOOCH
JANET CARNCROSS CHANDLER
TIMOTHY MICHAEL LENZI

1999:
ELIJAH R.
JUAN F.

2007:
FRANK W. LEWIS

1990:
BILL ELSTON
GEOFFERY SCOTT PALMER
RICHARD TOMASETTI
MONICA HERMANS
DARYL GOLDSTUCKER
JACK GETCHELL
DENIS RONDEAU

JAMES A. CODY
RANDY LYONS
JAMES ROYER
JOHN REEVES III
KRIS GUBRANSON

1996:
JOHN CHARLES JOCHEM
ROBERT "BOBBETTE" HOYOS
JAMES ALTEN COOK, JR.
RAYMOND T.
ROGER W.

JOHN H.
RICK D.

2008:
ROBERT POPLAWSKI

2003:
GAIL LANG

2004:
JIM VINSON
BEVERLY CAMPOURIS

YEAR UNKNOWN:
JOHN SLEMMER
BRIAN TOOLE
WILL TUCKER
JIM WAGES

IN LOVING MEMORY OF FRIENDS LOST IN DECEMBER

1984:
FRANK COOK

1990:
JIMMIE COLLIER
GARY BATCHER
JOHNATHAN FRANCORCW
WILLIS JAMES
EDWARD LENNANE
JIM NOLAN

CLIFF CLARK
PAUL CONTRERAS
ROD ASHLEY
ALFRED H. GAUL, JR.
KENRIC BROWN
MICHAEL CALLEN

JAMES JUMPER
ERIC MASK
BILL W.
BILLY V.
KENT HULL
WILLIAM C.
BRIDGETTE R.
RICHARD STEVEN SYKES
ROBERT P.
CHARLES J.
MICHAEL MEARS

1999:
RENI O.

1985:
FELIX ORAMAS

1986:
RICK HERNANDEZ

1987:
RON PARSONS

1991:
STAN HADDEN
FATHER DAVID MYERS
CHARLES JAMES HRIBAL, JR.
TOMMY GOSSETT
LEONARD WILCOX
GILBERT LOPEZ

1994:
GARY SMITH
RONNIE NEAL
GEORGE SMITH
GREGG CRANERT
RIC MARINO
LINDA L.
BROOK R.
ROBERT DARRELL LIPPINCOTT

1996:
PAUL ARTHUR YOUNG
ROBERT KELLY
EMANUEL C.
MIKE SMITH
VERNE B.
ERIC L.
ROGER DALE HELMS
CHUCK D.
SCOTT DEERING
DAVID CANNALES

2000:
GARY SHAW
THOMAS SCOTT MOUNTAIN

2001:
KEITH THOMAS ("SAMMY JOE")

2003:
GREGORY PAUL O'NEILL
RASHIDI "ROC" AHMAD

2004:
CLIFFORD CARTE
KATHRYN LAMADRID

2006:
TONY STELLA

YEAR UNKNOWN:
JOHN WALTERS
FRANK WASCO
BILLIE WASHINGTON, JR.
RICK WITNAH
WILLIE YOUNG

1988:
LINDA COTTRELL
DAVID MARUS
RICHARD VAUGHN
RALPH TRAINOR
SYLVESTER

1992:
MICHAEL PATTERSON
JIM GRAHAM
MICHAEL BARRETT
JIM SCAMAN
JERRY DYE
MARGARET COELHO
XAVIER FRANCO

1994:
DAMON WILSON
JOHN KIELY
PHILIP JOHNSON
SAMMY SLATER
JERRY MOYER
MIKE DAVIS
MICHAEL NABER
HENRY MEJIA

1997:
KIRK DERBY

1998:
JEFF SMITH
MICHAEL M.
CECIL S.

FRIENDS LOST LAST MONTH:
FRANCISCO "MISS KITTY" AYALA

IF WE ARE TO WEAR THIS MOURNING CLOAK, LET IT BE MADE OF THE FABRIC OF LOVE, AND WOVEN BY THE FINE THREAD OF MEMORY.

FROM THE EDITOR: THE IN LOVING MEMORY COLUMN HAS BEEN PART OF MGW FOR THE PAST FIFTEEN YEARS BECAUSE OF THE VISION AND DILIGENCE OF HIV-AIDS EDITOR SONYA COX. THOUGH IT SADDENS US EACH YEAR TO SEE NAMES OF THOSE WE LOVE PLACED ON THIS LIST, HERE, EVERY MONTH ON THIS PAGE THEY LIVE AGAIN IN THE HEARTS OF THE COMMUNITY THEY SO DEARLY LOVED. LISTED ABOVE ARE NOT MERELY NAMES, THEY ARE OUR HISTORY, OUR LEGACY, ADD OUR FAMILY.

TO ADD THE NAMES OF LOVED ONES TO MGW'S REMEMBRANCE COLUMN, OR CLARIFY YEAR UNKNOWN, CALL 737-0309.



TOM SWANNER HAS BEEN A FILM REVIEWER FOR 10+ YEARS. HE LIVES IN SACRAMENTO WITH HIS 25-YEAR-OLD BOYFRIEND SEAN AND THEIR GROSSLY OBESE DAUGHTER (READ DOG) "HONEY".



BRIAN JUDD HAS BEEN A FILM REVIEWER FOR 6 YEARS. HE LIVES IN SMALL APARTMENT WHERE A PORTRAIT OF ANITA BRYANT HANGS OVER HIS BED SO HE CAN POINT AT HER AND LAUGH DAILY. HE IS ALONE AND BITTER AND LIKES IT THAT WAY.

SWANNER & JUDD

SWANNERANDJUDD.COM

MILK

Official Site: www.filminfocus.com

Swanner: As the end of the year gets closer the movies get better. It's award season and the studios start to bring out their "Oscar worthy titles". Up to this point we haven't seen those films surfacing till now. Milk is the first really contender out of the gates. Milk is Gus Van Sant's new film that follows the political life of the first openly gay politician, San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk. The film follows him from Castro business man to City Hall to his murder in 1978 by fellow Supervisor Dan White.

Judd: Focus Features pulled out all the stops for this one. Sean Penn is Milk, Josh Brolin is Dan White, Victor Garber as Mayor Moscone and Gus Van Sant directs. There is also a slew of young actors that this movie is going to change their careers. James Franco, Emile Hirsch, Diego Luna, Allison Pill, and Joseph Cross are all going to be seen as "serious actors" after this, and rightfully so.

Swanner: The cast is amazing, these actors are all obviously passionate about this project and it radiates off the screen. Sean Penn so fully embodies Harvey Milk that the film starts to look more like a documentary on Milk's life. That's not to say it's not a complete film...it is, but by the end you definitely feel like you have been marching by these people sides through it all. James Franco is the emotional heart of the film and Josh Brolin brings to the screen a Dan White that I actually felt bad for...and I never thought I'd say that. The screenplay by

Dustin Lucas Black is Brilliant, I was exhausted from the range of emotions that Black and Van Sant were able to pull from me. Milk will be the movie that defines Gus Van Sant's career as a great director and definitely makes him the front runner for the Oscar.

Judd: I would say that Milk is the Brokeback of bio pics. I truly believe that Milk will end up in the library of every movie loving homo out there. I think the reason the movie feels so much like a documentary is because of the authentic footage that was seamlessly blended into the film. News clips and street shots of Castro gave the movie an extremely authentic feel. You can see the excitement, joy and sorrow on the people's faces at the place and time of the movie. It makes 30 years ago seem very current.

Swanner: I love that all the young gays and lesbians will see this film and find out about Harvey Milk and see how he had championed gay rights and how different their lives would be without Harvey and the people he surrounded himself with. The film also highlights the fight to defeat the Briggs initiative which mirrors the current Prop 8 ban of gay marriage. 30 years after the murder of Harvey Milk the gay community is still struggling with discrimination but maybe Milk will inspire a new generation of activist. I think Milk is by far the best picture of the year, Van Sant and company have set the bar very high for the rest of this season contenders and I wouldn't be surprised to see them in the winner's circle come Oscar night.

Swanner: 5 Stars

Judd: 5 Stars

BOLT & SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

Official Sites: disney.go.com/disneypictures/bolt

Official Sites: foxsearchlight.com/slumdogmillionaire

Swanner: Last night Brian and I both saw movies about dogs. I saw Bolt, the new Disney animated film and he saw Danny Boyle's new movie called Slumdog Millionaire. Bolt is a TV show about a dog who's a super hero and in the tradition of The Truman Show...the dog in the TV show has no idea he's not really a super hero, he just plays one on TV. When Bolt thinks his master has been kidnapped he escapes from the studio in Hollywood and ends up in New York only to travel back across the country to save his young owner from the evil man with one green eye. Brian, how was your dog movie?

Judd: Slumdog Millionaire was brilliant. Directed by Danny Boyle (already a bonus) takes place in India and it's about a young man who is accused of cheating on their version of Who Wants To Be A Millionaire. During his police interrogation, he explains how he knows the answers by telling the story of his horrible, poor childhood - which are flashbacks. The movie is a taught story of a kid who keeps getting kicked in the face even when he succeeds.

Swanner: Bolt has a wonderful





cast of voices including John Travolta and Miley Cyrus but it's the unknown voices that really steal the show. Susie Essman and Mark Walton play the cat and the hamster that tag along on Bolt's journey home. Essman plays mittens, a sarcastic grumpy character (think Brian) who serves as part of Bolt's conscious. Walton plays Rhino the hamster, and he had me rolling in the aisles in every scene he was in...he's kind of like me, fun and ready to have a good time. Scary to think that Bolt was traveling with the equivalent of Brian and I...and he doesn't end up killing himself. Both these actors make the movie funnier and enjoyable with their contributions. Maybe the studio's are learning you can still have great vocal performances without paying some actor 10 million dollars for standing in front of a microphone for a couple hours.

Judd: I'm glad to hear they hired voice actors. Good voice actors can add so much to a character that a studio actor cannot. The actors in *Slumdog* have done some British television and other than that are unknown. The flashbacks follow two orphaned brothers as they grow up and try to survive on the streets of India. There isn't a whole lot more

to the story. One brother's good, one brother's bad. The reason the movie is as good as it is, is its simplicity. The simple story allows Danny Boyle to go wild with it's telling, and anyone who is a fan of Boyle knows that he is a master at his craft.

Swanner: So what kind of dog is a slumdog? Bolt was like an all white terrier but he has a black bolt in his side fur. I like Danny Boyle's movies, *Millions* was in my top 5 the year it came out. He does tell simple stories that are so much bigger than they look. I looked up the cast of your movie on IMDB.com and there weren't very many pictures so yes, it a very unknown cast to Americans. Bolt does have a good message and no, I didn't cry at the end. So either Disney failed to make me cry with a dog movie or I'm over my crying phase. It was odd that I didn't even shed a tear last night when they announced who won America's Next Top Model last night.

Judd: There were no dogs in *Slumdog Millionaire*. A slumdog is Indian slang for hood rat. I think you would have cried during *Slumdog*. I almost cried. Like I said earlier, the movie is so tense and the conditions that the main character has to deal with—at the end of the movie you're

absolutely emotionally exhausted. The end comes like a rubber band that finally snaps. This is definitely one of the best movies of the year. And it helps that the main character, actor Dev Patel, is cute.

Swanner: So I take it that the "hood rat" isn't a real rat. Now I look way stupid. One big problem with animated movies is that if you think someone is cute than people look at you strange. Although Bolt was a cute dog...I think I might need to get a hamster. I really enjoyed Bolt and it's a big enough movie that it works on the big screen and I'm sure it will work equally as well on the big screen at home. It's the perfect holiday movie for the family.

Judd: No a hood rat isn't a real rat. I agree with you, there can be hot cartoon characters. Hell, the Japanese have cartoon porn, so the next time someone gives you a dirty look, you let them know you've got a whole country that agrees with you. *Slumdog Millionaire* is not a family film, but it is an absolute must see.

Bolt: 3 Stars
Slumdog: 5 Stars

MATT DAMON WAS ORIGINALLY CAST AS DAN WHITE, BUT HAD TO BACK OUT DUE TO SCHEDULING CONFLICTS WITH *GREEN ZONE* (2009).

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AGREED TO TAKE PART IN THE FILM AS EXTRAS FOR FREE.

THE FILMING LOCATION FOR MILK'S BUSINESS, CASTRO CAMERA, WAS THE REAL STOREFRONT WHERE THE ACTUAL BUSINESS HAD ONCE BEEN. AT THE TIME OF FILMING (MID-2008), IT WAS A GIFT SHOP CALLED GIVEN; THE FILM CREW WORKED WITH THE OWNER OF THE GIFT SHOP TO RECREATE THE LOOK OF MILK'S CAMERA STORE INSIDE THE SPACE.

DURING A JULY 2008 INTERVIEW WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER ABOUT *PINEAPPLE EXPRESS* (2008), THE INTERVIEWER TOLD SETH ROGEN AND JAMES FRANCO THAT HE PREPARED FOR THE INTERVIEW BY WATCHING THE CLASSIC STONER COMEDY *FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH* (1982) THE NIGHT BEFORE. WHEN HE ASKED ROGEN AND FRANCO IF THEY PREPARED LIKEWISE BEFORE MAKING *PINEAPPLE EXPRESS*, FRANCO SAID HE PREPARED BY MAKING OUT WITH SPICOLI (A REFERENCE TO HIS HAVING SHOT *MILK* (2008), IN WHICH HE AND SEAN PENN PLAY LOVERS).



I CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT

Official Site: icantthinkstraight-themovie.com

Tala, a London-based Jordanian of Palestinian origin, prepares for an elaborate wedding with her Jordanian fiancé, when she encounters a timid Leyla, a young British Indian woman who is dating her best friend Ali.

Tala comes from a spirited Christian family; whereas Leyla's strong Muslim upbringing could not be more different from each other but the attraction is immediate between both girls. Tala's feisty nature provokes Leyla out of her shell and soon both women reveal their feelings for each other.

However, Tala is not ready to accept the implications of the choice her heart has made and escapes back to Jordan where her chain-smoking, high-brow mother finishes preparations for her ostentatious wedding.

As family members descend and the wedding day approaches, simmering family tensions come to boiling point and the pressure mounts for Tala to be true to herself and she breaks off the wedding.

Meanwhile a heartbroken Leyla relishes her newly found sense of identity and self-respect and moves on

with her new life—much to the shock of her parents.

Single again, Tala flies back to London—but it will take more than just a date set up by Ali and Leyla's sister Zina to win Leyla back.

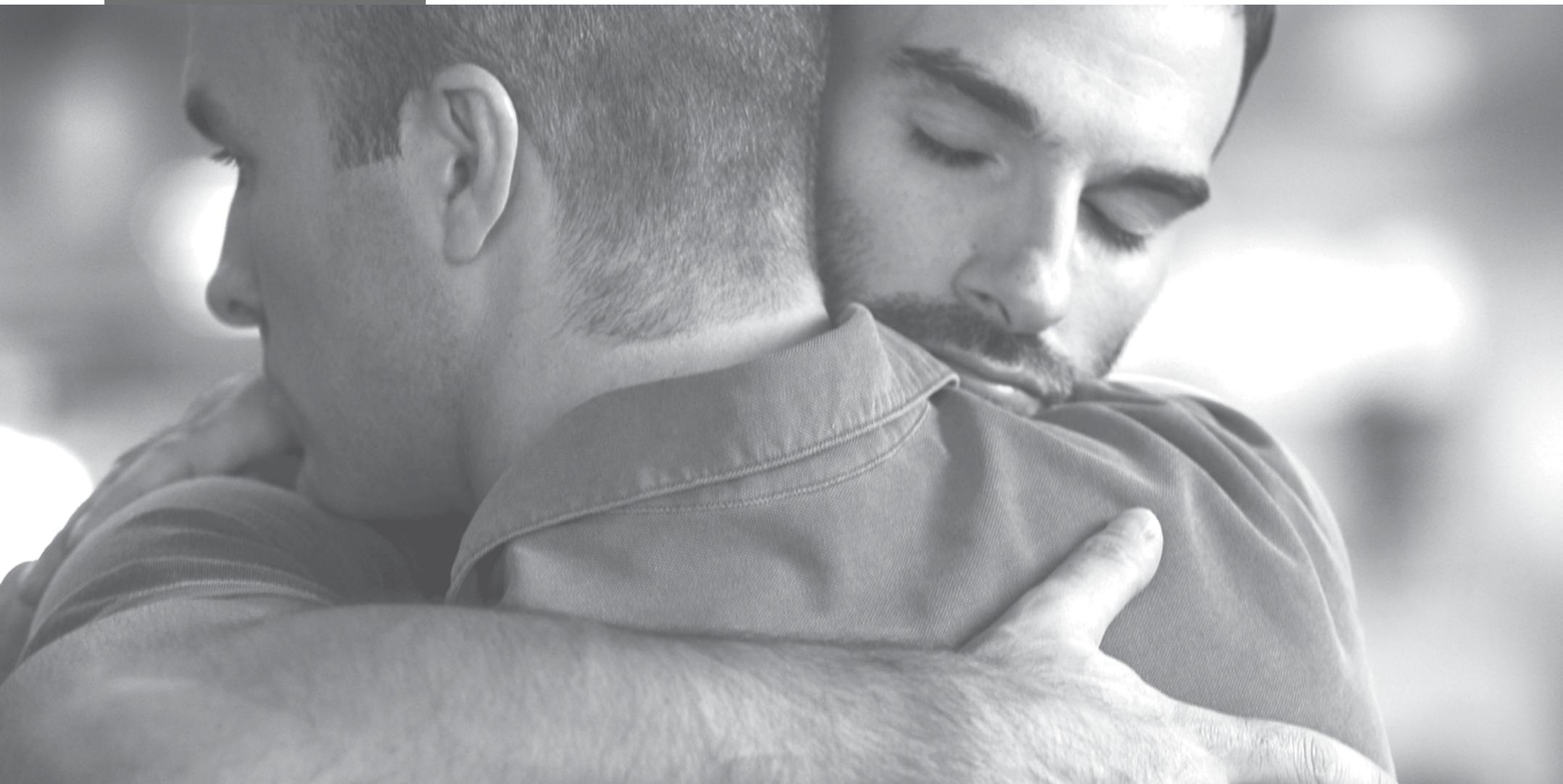
CIAO

Official Site: ciaomovie.com

CIAO beautifully explores the difficult path to accepting loss amidst the hope of new beginnings. This somber and touching modern love story focuses on the incidental friendship between two strangers living in two different parts of the world. Their connection is sparked by the unexpected loss of a mutual friend, Mark.

When Jeff (Adam Neal Smith) is left in charge of handling Mark's possessions and tying up loose ends he stumbles upon one of Mark's email conversations with Mark's online Italian romance, Andrea (Allesandro Calza, who also co-wrote the screenplay) and must tell him the bad news.

With a trip already booked, Andrea decides to come and learn more about his recently departed friend. What begins as a tragedy that links two strangers from different ends of the world becomes a deeply realized friendship that may change their lives forever.



Lisa *Ray*

Sheetal *Sheth*



I Can't Think *Straight*

Two Cultures. Two Traditions. One Love.

A REGENT RELEASE OF AN ENLIGHTENMENT FILMS PRESENTATION OF AN ENLIGHTENMENT PRODUCTIONS PRODUCTION "I CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT"
LISA RAY SHEETAL SHETH ANTONIA FRERING DALIP TAHIL BASED ON THE NOVEL BY SHAMIM SARIF PRODUCTION DESIGNER KATIE LEE CARTER WARDROBE CHARLIE KNIGHT CINEMATOGRAPHER ASEEM BAJAJ COMPOSER RAJOMOND MIRZA EDITOR DAVID MARTIN
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS DAISY ALLSOP & AIDA KATTAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LISA TCHENGUIZ-IMERMAN KELLY MOSS MERVYN WILSON PRODUCER HANAN KATTAN
SCREENPLAY BY SHAMIM SARIF & KELLY MOSS DIRECTED BY SHAMIM SARIF

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SEXUAL CONTENT

DOLBY
DIGITAL



**MULTI-PLATINUM
GROUP IL DIVO IS
SET TO RELEASE
THEIR FIFTH ALBUM
AS LIVE NATION
SIGNS IL DIVO TO A
GLOBAL TOURING
AND MERCHANDISE
DEAL**

In 2004, four of the greatest voices in the world emerged to spearhead an entire musical genre by bringing the sound of opera to the world of popular music. Now as one of the most successful groups in the world with over 22 million albums sold, Il Divo is ready to re-emerge with a brand new album and massive touring plans. On November 18th (November 10th globally), Il Divo will release *The Promise*, the group's fifth album (Syco/Columbia). And today, Live Nation, the world's largest live music company, announced that it has signed a global touring agreement with Il Divo who will be launching their worldwide tour in February 2009. The deal also gives Live Nation exclusive rights to the group's merchandise, tour sponsorships, fan club and VIP/travel packages.

"Il Divo have the best of both worlds; Simon Cowell, Syco and SonyBMG to continue producing their records and help guide their careers, and now Live Nation to handle their touring activities," comments Peter Rudge, Il Divo's manager from Octagon. "This new Live Nation deal was the result of great work from our team including our agents John Giddings from Solo and David Zedeck from CAA, with the support of our music partners at Syco and SonyBMG."

For *The Promise*, Il Divo members David Miller, Sebastien Izambard, Urs Buhler and Carlos Marin reunited with acclaimed producer and long-time collaborator Steve McCutcheon aka Steve Mac (Kelly Clarkson, Leona Lewis, Westlife) who produced Il Divo's #1 albums *Siempre* and *Ancora* plus their self-titled debut. Sung primarily in Spanish, Italian and English, songs on *The Promise* include "The Winner Takes It All", "Hallelujah", "Amazing Grace", a Latin original

entitled "La Promessa" and "The Power of Love," which marks the first time songwriters Holly Johnson and Trevor Horn have allowed the song to be re-cut by any artist other than Frankie Goes to Hollywood.

"People might be surprised by this album," suggests tenor David Miller. "Our goal was to approach it with fresh ears and fresh spirits, and try some different things. We've still got all the cannons and fireworks, but there is more range, different dynamics, more light and shade, more color. It's a more complete album."

A touring force of nature, Il Divo will announce their massive 2009 touring plans this fall. Two sold out world tours have seen them performing to over 1.5 million people in thirty countries. They appeared at the opening and closing ceremonies of the FIFA 2006 World Cup singing the official theme song with Toni Braxton and they were special guests of Barbara Streisand on her 2006 tour of North America.

"IL DIVO has established themselves as one of the biggest global breakthrough artists of the last decade and has proven to be a powerful force in global touring with tremendous potential to expand their fan base," said Live Nation Arthur Fogel, CEO, Global Touring and Chairman, Global Music for Live Nation. "We look forward to helping them reach their full potential over the next two years through our global distribution and marketing platform."

Il Divo comprised of American tenor David Miller, popular French singer Sebastian Izambard, Swiss

tenor Urs Buhler, and Spanish baritone Carlos Marin were initially brought together by pop impresario Simon Cowell in 2004, following an extensive worldwide audition process. The virtuoso blending of operatic technique with romantic and popular song took the world by storm, with sales of over 22 million. Their first three albums, *Il Divo*, *Ancora* and *Siempre*, scored 39 #1 chart positions across the world. The group also released the platinum album *The Christmas Collection* in 2005. Sales of their debut self-titled album smashed Led Zeppelin's 25 year-old record of being the only band to achieve a number 1 album without a single release.

ILDIVO.COM



Excuse me for getting all political-y on you, but I can't resist. Like millions of people around the world, I am totally jazzed about the election results. We got Barack Obama (two words I had to stop just now to teach my spell-checker to recognize). Oregonians chose Jeff Merkely and ousted our two-faced, OCA-supporting, senator Gordon Smith. Good riddance. Lane County now has Commissioner Rob Handy, and our wonderful little city of Eugene re-elected our everybody-deserves-to-feel-safe-and-respected Mayor Kitty Piercy. I have no experience with elections where every candidate I voted for won. Yay!

As I'm writing this the verdict's still out, but we're waiting to see if the U.S. Senate gets Franken in Minnesota, Begich in Alaska and Martin in Georgia. That 60-seat filibuster-proof democratic majority will allow our country to move forward at long freaking last. Jobs, health care, withdrawal from Iraq, diplomacy, industry re-regulation, stem-cell research, fair trials for Guantanamo detainees, green energy, and the end of don't-ask-don't-tell, here we come.

Of course, there's that one nasty little fly in the ointment of California's Prop 8 anti-gay marriage initiative passing. But what an uprising! Protests in 300 cities. A million demonstrators rallying for equality. It's far from over. The possibility of the U.S. enacting full equality under the law and an end to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity are suddenly

really and truly within reach. Inevitable, even.

All this is fabulous news, much of it delivered and analyzed by "my new girlfriend," MSNBC's Rachel Maddow, Rhodes scholar out Jewish dyke news commentator. Imagine, someone in TV newsland I can actually admire and respect. Gotta love it. She lifts my spirits. Hope has been resuscitated. And none too soon.

I'd been losing my grip. My mood became overly serious. My true nature was succumbing to right-wing overload. Not the real me.

Once, decades ago I picked up one of those horoscope matchbooks. Sagittarius—you are jovial, playful, outgoing and upbeat, it said. In those days, that was a right-on description of my freewheeling, group sex, still-on-my-parents'-insurance, happy-go-lucky frame of mind. No doubt I used up all those matches proving the message true.

By the time the '08 election season rolled around and it looked like a McCain/Palin ticket stood a chance, I went downhill fast. I caught myself frowning more, playing less. As gray hair and wrinkles and mysterious little skin barnacles settled in for the long haul, I shuffled right past jovial. And forget outgoing. The only parties I'd attend were political fund raisers and benefits for social-change organizations and gay-friendly candidates.

Even my favorite pastime, working crossword puzzles, lost all semblance of playful. Crosswords became a mere device to keep my brain sharp so I could retain my

faculties long enough to witness things turn around in my lifetime, I should only live so long. The outlook wasn't good. I did a lot of crosswords.

My domestic partner commented on my gloomy attitude. "Lighten up," I believe is what she said.

"What's a four-letter word for depressed?" I responded.

I'm better now. I feel, you could say, jovial, playful, outgoing and upbeat. You know I'm not alone. Our political victories are being celebrated all around the world by all kinds of anti-global warming, peace and freedom-loving people—regardless of where their birth date falls on the zodiac.

Still, I have to say, I already have one teensy little disagreement with President-elect Obama. In his glorious and inspirational acceptance speech late on election night, our new Commander in Chief said "Now is not the time for gloating." Obviously, he had to say that because we need to unify as a nation, not pit one faction against another. I get that, and I pledge to try to be civil to any McCain supporters or drill-babies who cross my path.

But come on. Just for now. I am gloating. Can't help it. We won. Neener neener!



SALLY SHEKLOW IS A HUMOR COLUMNIST WHO WATCHES THE RACHEL MADDOW SHOW WITH HER DOMESTIC PARTNER IN EUGENE, OREGON.

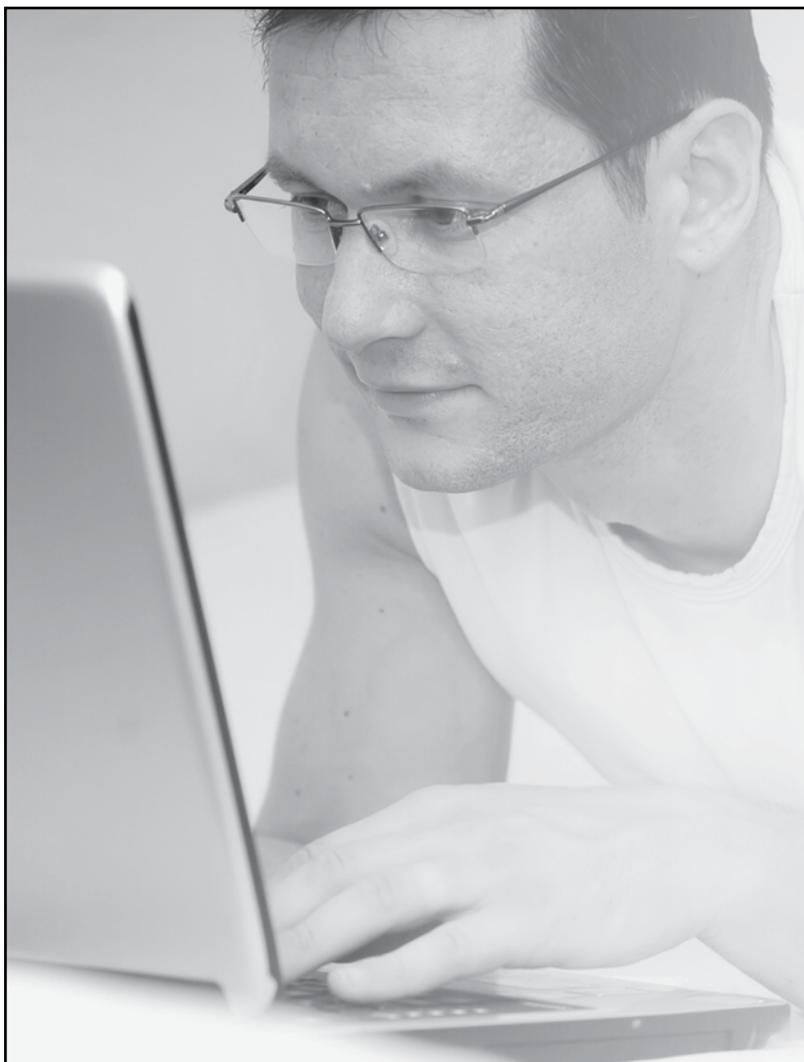
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THE HIGHEST CALL
BY ERIN VAN OHLSEN

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I heard a story the other day about a pregnant couple that went to the doctor for their first ultrasound. The doctor prepared the room by dimming the lights to bring the focus away from that which is visible. In this first ultrasound the baby is not seen. It is solely the heartbeat that dominates the room. I was told that the room became completely still... and silent. Each person became aware of the sacredness of this moment as the sound of this unseen baby's heartbeat filled the room.

There is so much noise around us today. It is difficult to quiet this noise in order to listen to our hearts and the hearts of those we love. Many distractions hinder us also from hearing the heartbeat of Spirit. When there is new life, we become most aware of Spirit...of God...of love. There are similarities between physical pregnancy and spiritual pregnancy. Metaphorically speaking, it feels as though our world is pregnant...spiritually pregnant.

Between the election and the insanity of daily life on planet earth, morning sickness feels more like all-day sickness. We must be well on our way through the third trimester because the labor pains are already here. It is like a woman giving birth, just at the point when she cannot hang on another second, she hears the cries of her newborn baby.

We're being stretched beyond our limits. The heavy burdens we carry don't seem to stop us from eating everything in sight. Emotional upheavals and questions

of worthiness consume us as we prepare to give birth. The anxieties about our financial and relationship securities devour our thoughts. We are in fact facing the idea that our lives are about to change completely and forever. This is the reality...that a total surrender to love is required if we are to truly live and not just survive.

I've just started to feel this surrender. It is uncomfortable. It is difficult for me to relinquish control. I'd rather plan my life, know what to expect and then make things happen. Yet being pregnant...waiting in uncertainty and growing fat with possibilities has actually been quite exciting. Exciting because I recognize something extraordinary is happening. I believe all this stress...and misery are the birthing pangs. In my experience, the greatest struggles come before the greatest rewards. God has always worked this way in my life. Just when I've had enough, stretched enough, and groaned enough, something amazing happens. I give birth to a new life. Sometimes this life is simply a new job or career. Sometimes it is a new relationship. Sometimes it is an awakening of consciousness.

In actuality, we have a relationship with every thing in our lives. We are constantly relating to people, to God, to our minds, to our jobs and to our hearts. Right now it feels like the old ways of relating are passing away and new ways are developing...incubating. We are pregnant with revitalized connections.

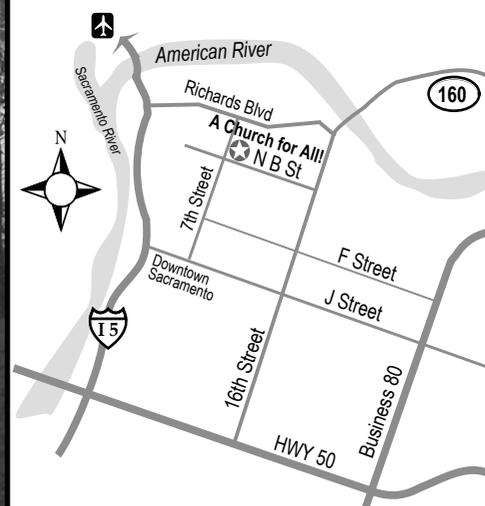
My relationship with money is changing. My relationship with God is changing. There is a deep peace brought on by the realization that I am not alone. I've always said, "I know I am not alone." Yet this past year the circumstances of life have humbled me in a deeper way. Recognizing the sickness of pondering on anything but the love that I know and feel from Spirit is part of the old that is passing away.

I've spent much of this pregnancy hovering in the abyss...the unknown. Yet it is precisely here where God has a chance to reach our hearts, to free our minds and lift our spirits. We are not alone. Life often tells us we are alone, but the higher truth is that we are incredibly loved by our Creator. To become unified with this truth I had to surrender. I absolutely have to believe that I am taken care of because it is the truth. What is most important to me in terms of being taken care of is that my spirit remains in an awareness of God's love. It is embracing love, not the comforts of the world, that truly take care of me. Taking our focus off the immediate and putting it on things that are higher, richer and more meaningful is the purpose of spiritual pregnancy. When we shift our consciousness from what is directly in front of us to Spirit is when we give birth to wholeness. We are loved far beyond our own comprehensions, just like a mother's love for her newborn...just like God's love for us.

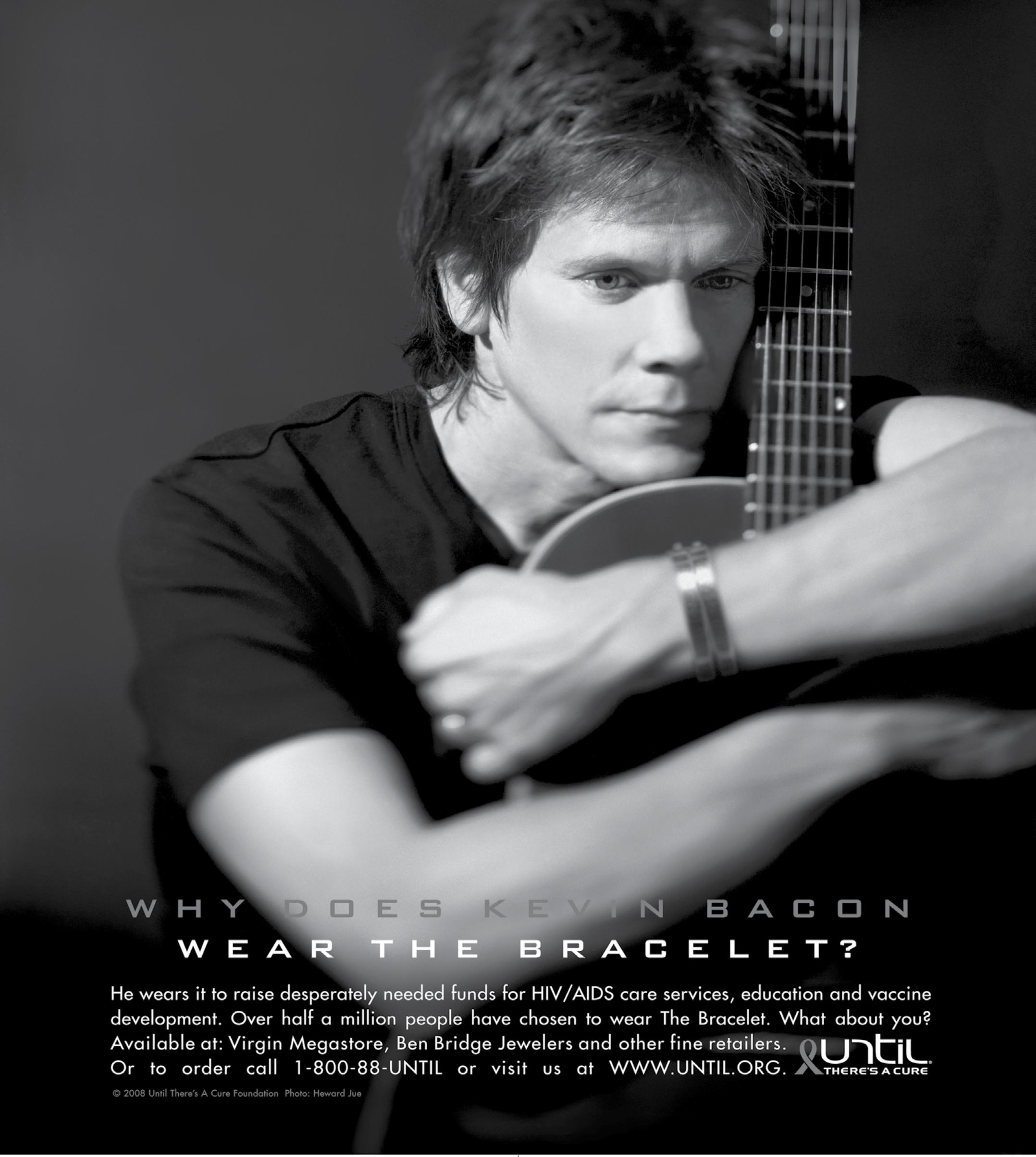
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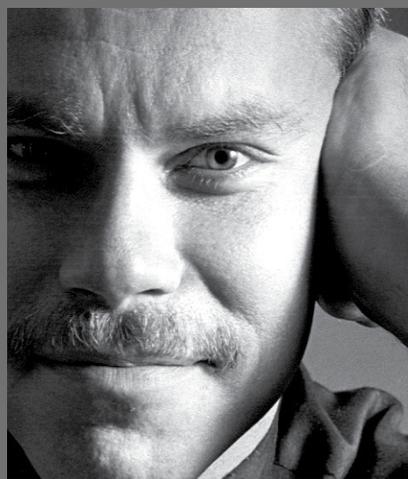


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A black and white photograph of actor Kevin Bacon. He is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. He has dark, slightly messy hair and is wearing a dark t-shirt. He is holding a guitar, with the neck and strings visible on the right side of the frame. His left arm is resting on the guitar, and he is wearing a silver metal bracelet on his left wrist. The background is dark and out of focus.

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SEX ADVICE WITH AN EDGE



Like I'm totally straight, right. But my roommate is gay. He's hot and all with a great body and he's this total sex addict. Sometimes I hear him pounding ass through the wall. When he's drunk he tells me about the guys he's screwing and it's like all this really nasty stuff. I'm like totally not into cock or anything, but I can't help but wonder how it feels to touch one. I see my roommate naked all the time. He's like this total exhibitionist. Sometimes he even has a piss hardon in the morning. Nasty! I don't pay much attention, but I sometimes just want to reach out and grab his thing just to see what he would say. I just don't want him to get the wrong idea. If my GF ever found out she'd freak. So do you think my roommate would mind if I copped a feel? It's not like it isn't already hanging out and stuff. Do you think he'd rat on me to my GF? — Curious

Dude, Like, you are so totally NOT straight. You're like the biggest closeted flamer in the whole world. You're just itching for the opportunity to smoke yourself some pole, but you can't admit it. Hmmm, sounds like several prominent Republicans I know...but I digress. Like I'll bet you totally jerk off while your hot roommate is pounding ass next door. And I think your GF is a pathetic beard.

She's got her eye on you, don't 'cha know. She knows that if she turns her back for just one minute, you'll be taking it up the poop-shoot before she can say "Friend of Dorothy".

Let's face it; you want your GF to find out about your secret obsession. BTW, what kind of self-respecting chick dates a closet case like you anyway? I mean, like how could your roommate rat you out when everyone already

has your number? Darlin', when you find out you're a homo, everyone will know.

Dude, like you are totally gonna grab your roommates package one of these days, regardless of what I say or what he may think. Like you are totally self-deluded about not caring that he walks around the house sporting a giant boner. And that shit you're trying to feed me about being scandalized by his nasty exploits; PLEASE! Me thinks you doth protest too much.

Listen up! If your roommate is a nice guy, and you aren't the total skulking dweeb you appear to be. If you have the balls to come clean with your roommate about your true identity, and he's hasn't pounded any ass in the past 12 hours. And if he's feeling really generous, and you ask him real nice; Yes, I think there is a slim chance he'll bone you big time. It will, of course, be a mercy fuck, but at least you'll finally know total bliss.

Like, totally go for it, dude. Sheesh!

• • •

I am 22 and I'm gay. I have no idea how to break it to my family. They say all the time when they see a gay guy, look at that fag glad he's not my kid. I would disown him. Just wondering if you could help me. — Pete

Ain't it a bitch being surrounded by a bunch of yahoos! Coming out is rarely easy, but doing so to ignorant, fearful, bigoted people is the worst.

Pete, you should know that all bigotry is deeply rooted in the bigot's own fear about him or herself. It stands to reason, all irrational fears and hatred, like homophobia, are more indicative of the troubled psychological make-up of the one with the prejudice, rather than the people he or she abhors.

Often people will use religion to back up their prejudice. It's particularly galling when non-religious people do this. But it's safe to say that authentically religious people doesn't need to persecute or ostracize those who do not believe as they do. Any more than authentically heterosexual people need to persecute or ostracize people of other sexual persuasions. Let that be the standard by which you judge the worth of any message coming from a religious dogmatist or a moralizing heterosexual.

Before you start in on the whole self-disclosure thing with your family, Pete, I suggest you first try to clear a path for that discussion. Begin by challenging those around you who shame or denigrate those who are different. Ask them why they make such ridiculously uninformed and hurtful statements. Ask them if degrading other people makes them feel superior. And if it does, what does that say about their inadequacies. You could suggest that their intolerance of gay and lesbian people proves they have some hidden, unresolved sexual issues that they need to address. I mean — "me thinks you doth protest too much" — and all that, right?

If your family environment doesn't improve with that tactic, you may find that, at least in the short run, discretion is the better part of valor. Sometimes coming out to one's family is best done only after you've come out to friends and co-workers. This strategy will provide you a bank of support that you can fall back on if the family disclosure turns out badly.

My counsel to those just starting the coming out process is to reserve the good news about you and your sexuality for the audience best situated for receiving it. Celebrate your queerness with open-minded people first. Nowadays there's much more acceptance of alternative lifestyles in the popular culture than ever before. Despite what we've learned with Prop 8. Younger people, in particular, seem to have more tolerance for diversity. But however you choose to handle this difficult but important developmental task, don't sink to the lowest common denominator. Don't cave into the bigotry that surrounds you. Don't let it intimidate you into a life of shame, repression or self-loathing. Live authentically. Pete, and live proud! Because when you do, you are a shining example of a happy, healthy, integrated and well-adjusted human being.

Finally, just remember you are not alone. Sex positive and gay positive organizations abound. If you need help with any of your coming out, if you're feeling isolated and alone — turn to one of them. They are there to help. And there are even support organizations for your family members too. Turn them on to: PFLAG (parents and friends of gays and lesbians). Good Luck

• • •

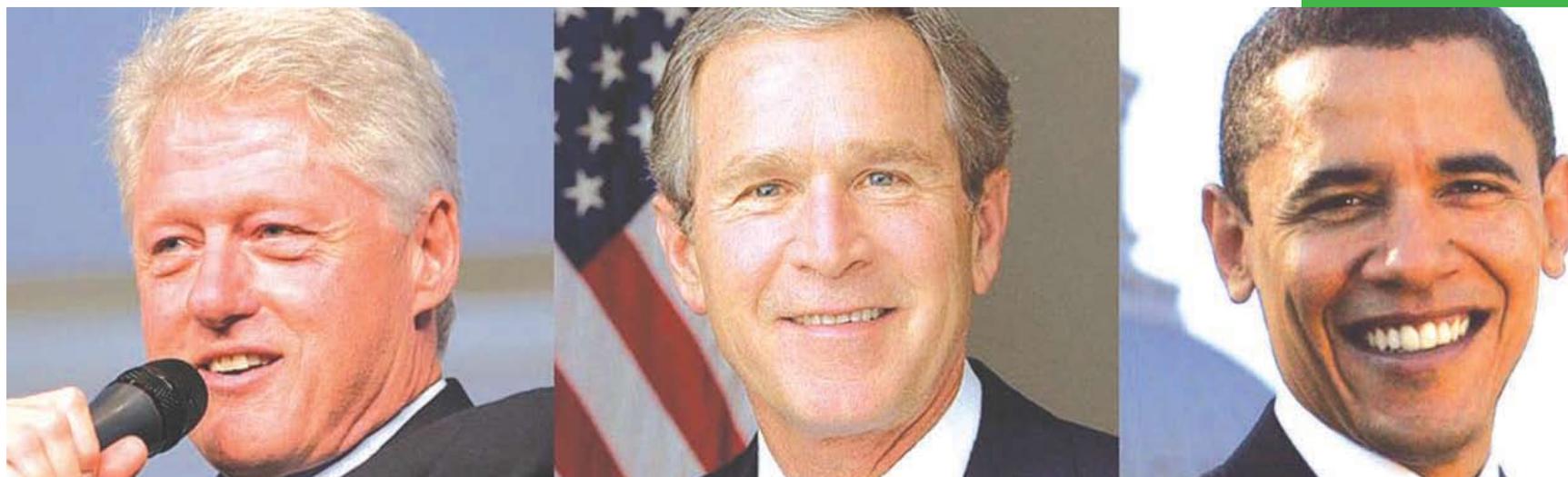
I'm a 30 year old straight woman and my boyfriend and I have been together for a little over a year. We have always had frontal sex and last night we had anal sex for the first time. Does this mean there is a change in his feelings for me, or that he might be gay? Or is he just to try something different? — Robin

Since I am of the mind that anal sex is a natural variation of human sexual expression, which is enjoyed by loads and loads of people all over the world, I suspect that your boyfriend was just trying something different. I wouldn't read too much into it if I were you. However, the only way to know for sure is ask him outright.

What's so curious about your message is that you say absolutely nothing about your response to this new sex play. Did it come as a surprise? Is it safe to assume you were the bottom during this little adventure down-under? Was this a new experience for you? Did you enjoy it? Gosh, seems to me you have lots to talk about with the BF, right? I mean, if I'm curious as all get-out about your reactions, and I don't even know you; imagine how interested he must be in hearing from you. Why he doesn't just ask is beyond me.

One thing I'd love to know is, if you bottomed this time, is there a chance he'll bottom for you in the future? Pegging — you know pluggin his bum while you wear a strap-on — is all the rage these days. In fact, in my private practice I often see straight men who are curious about ass play...their ass. But they're afraid to bring up the topic of pegging with their girlfriend or wife, because they think the women might think they've turned queer. Ya know, just like you are doing.

One suggestion I often make to my butt-curious male clients is that they initiate anal sex with their female partners...the chick as the bottom. Then if that goes well, they could suggest that their partner pleasure their ass in just the same way. Good luck



I'm thinking about starting an environmental club in my middle school. Can you give me some ideas about how to start? Can you connect me with other school clubs?

Starting an environmental club at school is a great way to get students energized about taking care of the Earth and helping their community while learning about some of the most important issues facing the world in the 21st century.

EarthTeam, a non-profit environmental network for teens, teachers and youth leaders, offers many tips on how to start an environmental club. First and foremost is to make sure there are at least a half dozen or so other students interested in forming such a club to begin with, and then also finding a teacher, community leader or parent who is willing to serve as an adult sponsor. The sponsor's role is to provide advice along the way and to help ensure the stability of the group from year-to-year given that all of the students, even the founders of the club, will eventually graduate, or move on to other interests or endeavors.

Once the core membership and adult sponsor have been established, EarthTeam suggests all sitting down together to decide on the club's vision ("Why are we here?") and to brainstorm about possible activities or projects to undertake ("What do we want to accomplish?"). Once these questions have been answered, it's time to hold the club's first official meeting, which should be advertised as widely as possible to other students who may be interested in finding out what the group is about and how they can get involved, too.

The next step, according to EarthTeam, is to forge an action plan that focuses on one group-oriented, year-long project that has measurable benefits to the school or community and that can keep the interest of the student members—who will no doubt be spending long hours volunteering. Whatever project(s) the group decides on, members should develop a timeline that clearly lists goals, dates and responsibilities.

In addition to undertaking the one major project, clubs can also host or sponsor special events for extra visibility. EarthTeam suggests getting students outside for a river or beach clean-up, a tree planting day, or a field trip to a local wetland, zoo or nature reserve. Another popular idea is to hold an Environmental Awareness Day to educate the entire student body about relevant green

issues.

EarthTeam is also a networking platform so clubs can work together and share experiences with each other to help get a sense of the bigger picture beyond one individual school's locale, given the global nature of most environmental issues. Another great networking resource is the Greenspan website, which lists clubs in 21 different U.S. states as well as in Australia, Canada, Japan, Ghana and Malaysia.

Another great resource for those starting up new or managing existing school environmental clubs is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Student Center website, which offers dozens of ideas for projects that both stimulate and enlighten participants while helping the local community. The website also provides links to several partner non-profit groups with club-worthy activities.

CONTACTS: EarthTeam, www.earthteam.net; Greenspan Environmental Club Network, www.greenspanworld.org/environmental_club_network.htm; U.S. EPA Student Center, www.epa.gov/students.

How can the new Obama administration and/or Congress undo the many anti-environmental actions the Bush administration undertook over the last eight years, including the obstruction of Bill Clinton's landmark "roadless rule" legislation?

The Bush administration has certainly been no friend to the environment. Besides working for eight years to overturn the Clinton administration's "Roadless Rule" that prevented road building (and the logging that usually follows) on 58.5 million acres of national forests, the Bush White House has opened up 45 million additional acres of public land across the American West to oil and gas drilling during its tenure.

Right now Bush is pushing to open up thousands more acres in sensitive areas around three national parks in Utah to more oil and gas extraction. According to The New York Times, these new oil and gas "leases" (the government leases drilling rights on public land to private companies) will be auctioned off on December 19, 2008, the last day the White House may carry out such transactions before leaving office.

Obama transition team insiders have already hinted that they will work to overturn the Utah oil and gas leases once they are in power. Obama's trump card might be the

fact that Bush failed to give his own National Park Service (NPS) sufficient opportunity to comment on the proposed leases before forcing them through. Green leaders hope that Obama can at least re-set the decision-making process to give the NPS and other interested parties time to voice their concerns before the oil rigs and gas pipelines move in. Green leaders also hope that, beyond stopping the Utah leases, Obama will curtail the number of leases sold altogether, in part by forcing extraction firms to develop sites they already have rights to before leasing more acreage. Oil companies have already leased 68 million acres of lands they have yet to access.

On the Roadless Rule, itself an 11th-hour executive order by Bill Clinton that has been mired in the courts since Bush tried to overturn it in 2001, Obama promised during the campaign that he would work with Congress to codify it as the law of the land. Luckily for greens, the back-and-forth on the issue over the past eight years has meant that only seven miles of new roads—yielding access to just 500 acres of timber—have been cut on lands slated for protection under the Roadless Rule during Bush's tenure.

Obama also has his work cut out on a number of other environmental initiatives ignored or opposed by the Bush White House. Chief among them is taking action on global warming. If one can believe the campaign rhetoric, Obama will work to get the U.S. on track to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050 through a number of initiatives. Jason Grumet, the Obama campaign's lead energy and environment advisor, has indicated that the president-elect plans to move quickly on getting climate change legislation through in 2009 and working to make the U.S. a leader on mitigating global warming.

Another way Obama can win green friends is to undo a Bush proposal, slated to take effect in December, to cut wildlife experts out of decisions affecting plants and animals protected under the Endangered Species Act. Bush has faced sharp criticism for disregarding or ignoring the input of scientists on many issues. Obama seems likely to want to re-assert the importance of science in policy decision-making.

CONTACTS: Barack Obama on the Issues, www.barackobama.com/issues; U.S. Forest Service Roadless Rule Information, www.roadless.fs.fed.us.

EARTH TALK

EMAGAZINE.COM

BARS

Badlands Dance Bar: Mon - Sat 4pm to 2am, Sun 2pm to 2am, 2003 K St., 916.448.8790, sacbadlands.com

BoJangles: 18+, 1119 21st St. (Moving Next To Headhunters Soon)

Bolt Bar: Leather/Cowboy/Bear, Open 5pm-2am Mon - Fri, 2pm-2am Sat and Sun, 2560 Boxwood St., sacbolt.com

Club 21: 1119 21st St.

Depot Video Bar: 2001 K St., 916-441-6823, Mon - Fri 4pm - 2am, Sat and Sun 2pm - 2am, thedepot.net

FACES Nightclub: 2000 K St., 916-448-7798, faces.net

Mercantile Saloon: 1928 L St., 916.447-0792

Headhunters/ROK: Restaurant, Bar Service until 2am, 1930 K Street, headhuntersonk.com

BUSINESS

Rainbow Chamber of Commerce: Business association promoting networking within the gay and lesbian business community and its supporters. rainbowchamber.com

Valley Rainbow Pages: A directory of GLBT-owned and GLBT-friendly businesses in the Greater Sacramento Valley. vrp.info

FAMILY

Camp it Up: (August 3-10) A family camp known for one-of-a-kind gay family vacations, we respect and celebrate all unique families. www.campitup.org

Camp Lavender Hill: A week-long summer camp for children, ages 9-14, of LGBT families. (2008 camp date has passed). camplavenderhill.org

Lesbian Families: A forum for Lesbian couples with children. geocities.com/lesbianfamilies/index.html

Sacramento PFLAG: Promotes health and well-being of LGBT persons, families and friends. Meets the third Tues. of each month at 7:30pm, St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Mark's Way. 916-978-0410, pflagsacramento.org

FESTIVALS

Sacramento Pride: (June) Annual Pride celebration for Sacramento, hosted by the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian center. sacramento pride.org

Rainbow Festival: (Aug. 29 - 31, 2008) Annual LGBT street faire over Labor Day Weekend. Rainbow Festival is Run by CGNIE and takes place at 20th & K Sts. rainbowfestival.com

Sac. International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival: (Oct. 9-11, 2008) Annual LGBT film festival takes place over 5 days. siglff.org

Sac. Earth Day: Annual Festival coordinated by Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS), 909 12th Street, Suite 100, 916-444-0022, sacramentoearthday.net

GALLERIES

Crocker Art Museum: The longest continuously operating art museum in the West founded 1885. crockerartmuseum.org

Kennedy Gallery: 2110 K St. Tues.-Sat. Noon to 6pm and by Appointment. mmkgallery.com

HIV | AIDS

Breaking Barriers: Provides a wide range of services for people living with HIV. 2200 21st St., 916-447-2437, breakingbarriers-sacramento.org

Capital City AIDS Fund: Raises money for HIV/AIDS services in the Sac. area. CCAF's activities include Oscar® Night (Feb. 22, 2009), NorCal AIDS Challenge (May 15-18, 2009), and Sacramento Valley AIDS Run Walk (Sept. 14, 2008). capcityaidsfund.org

CARES: HIV/AIDS health clinic, outreach, education and prevention. Free, rapid HIV testing M-F 9 am to 5 pm. 1500 21st St., 916-443-3299, caresclinic.org

Golden Rule Services: A minority based organization that resolves health, education, employment and criminal justice disparities in People of Color communities through culturally competent programs and resources. 4433 Florin Road, Suite 760. 916-427-GOLD, goldenrules.info

NorCal AIDS Challenge: (May 15-18, 2009) A 4-day, 330 mile bike ride to raise funds and awareness for HIV/AIDS norcalaidschallenge.net

Sacramento Valley AIDS Run/Walk: Sept. 14, 2008. 916-448-1110, sacvalleyaidsrunwalk.org

Sac. Valley Pozabilities: HIV+ social group. sacvalleypozabilities@yahoo.com, PO Box 161871, Sacramento, CA 95816-1871

Sierra Hope: Provides support for people with HIV & AIDS. Sierra HOPE, 1168 Booster Way, P.O. Box 159, Angels Camp, CA, 95222, 209.736.6792, sierrahope.org

Sunburst Projects: Providing support to families with children who are living with HIV/AIDS. 1025 19th Street, Suite 1A, 916-440-0889, sunburstprojects.org

IMPERIAL COURT

Court Of The Great Northwestern Imperial Empire (CGNIE): Parent organization for Sacramento's Court, La Kish Hayworth Memorial Fund, Fairy Godfathers' Fund and Rainbow Festival. myspace.com/cgnie

LAW | POLITICS

Lambda Letters: Urges elected officials to enact and support legislation that promotes social, economic, and human rights for the LGBT community; people affected by HIV/AIDS; people of color; women; and people of low economic status. lambdaletters.org

SAC Legal: Association of attorneys, legal professionals, and legislative advocates, affiliated with the Sacramento County Bar Assoc. that promotes equality the LGBT community. saclegal.org

California Capital Political Action Committee (CAP/PAC): A non-partisan, political action committee formed to provide a voice for the LGBT community in the political process. cappac.net

Green Party of Sacramento County: P.O. Box 2082, Sacramento, CA 95812, 916-484-4000, sacgreens.org

Libertarian Party of Sac.: P.O. Box 3003, Orangevale, CA 95662, lpsacramento.com

Log Cabin Republicans: logcabin.org/logcabinca/sacramento_chapter.html

Stonewall Democrats of Sac.: Helping elect qualified, openly LGBT people and Democratic candidates who support equal rights for LGBT. P O Box 161623 Sacramento, CA 95816-1623, 916-441-1787, sacstonewall.org

MARRIAGE

Sacramento County Clerk Recorders Office, 600 8th St @ F St., ccr.saccounty.net

NEW MEDIA

Being Gay Today: Sacramento's oldest, still-running GLBT TV show. Comcast Cable. Access Sac, channel 17. Thurs. 10pm, Now on myspace and youtube. beinggaytoday.com

Checkered Nation Video Show: A gay-focused internet chat show in and around Sacramento. checkerednation.com

Transponder Radio: Internet radio show covering many transgender issues. transponder.com

PERFORMANCE

A Small Difference Women's Choral Ensemble: Women, under the direction of Sage Brown, dedicated to performing music with a message. hometown.aol.com/asmalldifference

Sac. Gay Men's Chorus: Produces up to three concerts a year, and performs throughout the year at events in and around Sacramento. sgmchorus.org

Sacramento DanceSport: The Largest Same-Sex Dance Program in the United States. Classes, performances and competition. sacdancesport.com

True Colors Women's Chorus: Women building a community through their love of music. 877-758-7827, truecolorschorus.org

RELIGION

A Church For All: Fosters an all encompassing spiritual community. 721 North B Street, Sacramento, CA, 95816-2073, 916-502-5603, spirit@achurchforall.org. achurchforall.org

Atheists and Other Freethinkers: Promoting the civic understanding and acceptance of atheism in our community. aofonline.org

Atonement Lutheran: Welcomes all people, regardless of race, language, previous denominational affiliation, gender, or sexual orientation. at-one.org

Grove of the Oak: An eclectic group of Druids, Wiccans, and other Pagans who gather twice a month and on the eight annual Celtic seasonal festivals, to share community, perform ritual, create magic, and support each other in our chosen earth-honoring pagan paths. groveoftheoak.org

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer: LGBT affirming and supports the Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministries. lcsac.org

Pioneer Congregational Church: LGBT open and affirming. 2700 L Street, 916-443-3727, uccwebsites.net/pioneercongsacramentoca.html

St. Mark's United Methodist Church: A Christian community welcoming a diverse congregation. stmarksumc.com

St. Paul's Episcopal Church: A Christian community that embraces one and all to worship together at God's table. 1430 J Street, 916.446.2620, stpaulssacramento.org

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral: LGBT affirming. Christian worship, life and ministry. 2620 Capitol Ave., 916-446-2513, trinitycathedral.org



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Valley Ministries: Existing to communicate God's love and accept all people. 4118 Coronado Ave, Stockton. 209-464-5244, valleyministries.com

Westminster Church Sacramento: A community of faith accepting all people solely on the basis of their affirmation of faith in Jesus Christ. westminsac.org

RESOURCES

GaySacramento.org: Interactive online resource for LGBT Sac. news, events and community resources. gaysacramento.org

Lavender Library: Serves the LGBT community as a lending library and archives as well as houses LGBT activities. Loans books, periodicals, DVDs (general and erotica), to members. lavenderlibrary.org

outsacramento.com: Internet links, photos, message board and news for LGBT Sacramento. outsacramento.com

Sac. Gay & Lesbian Center: Serving the LGBT of Greater Sacramento and surrounding counties, providing facilitated discussion groups for LGBT youth and adults, counseling, legal services, HIV prevention and education services and programs for LGBT seniors, families and people living with HIV/AIDS. saccenter.org

SENIORS

Senior Gays: A resource for the senior LGBT and friendly community. SeniorGays.org

SOCIAL GROUPS

Capital City Squares: A square dance club for LGBT people who want to learn and enjoy Modern Western Square Dancing. iagsdc.org/capitalcity

Males Au Naturel Sacramento (MANS) - A

gay/bi male naturist organization for men who enjoy social naturism in positive. groups.yahoo.com/group/malesaunaturesacramento

Natomas LGBTQ: A group to connect Natomas area queers for in-person social activities. An alternative to the bar scene. natomaslgbtq.wordpress.com

Sac Woof Society: A social group for bears and bear lovers. sacwoofsociety.net

Gay Men's Book Group: A literary group for Sac. gay men. Meets once a month (usually 3rd Wednesday). groups.yahoo.com/group/sacgaybookgroup

Pink Pistols - LGBT group with an interest in shooting sports and self defense. pinkpistols.org/local/sacramento

Sacramento Professional Men's Group: Alternative lifestyle men who get together for networking and social gatherings with other professional men. groups.yahoo.com/group/SacramentoProfessionalMensGroup

Sac. Valley Bears: A social and charitable organization providing bears and bear admirers. sacvalleybears.org

Sac. Valley Knights: Northern California motorcycle club whose membership consists solely of those who own and ride motorcycles. valleyknights.org

Sac. Valley LeatherCorps: Gay men's and women's organization seeking to educate and mentor members of the Leather/BDSM communities through classes and other club activities. svlclub.org

SPORTS

CHEER Sacramento: Volunteer cheerleading squad now cheering at games for West Sacramento Wolverines. cheersacramento.org

Frontrunners of Sacramento: Social group inclusive of all types, sizes, dispositions, and levels of activities with running and running events as a main focus. frsac.org

Gay & Lesbian Sierrans: Lesbians and gay men who enjoy outdoor adventures and camaraderie. motherlode.sierraclub.org/gls

Gay Sport Bike Riders of Sacramento - Gay sport bike enthusiasts who meet, post rides and related links. Serious enthusiasts 18+ are welcome. autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/SAC_GSR

River City Bowlers: Gay and Lesbian Bowling league. Winter league runs from Sept.-May and averages 22 teams per season. Summer league lasts 12-13 weeks beginning in June. rivercitybowlers.homestead.com/about.html

Sac. Capital Crossroads Gay Rodeo Association (SCCGRA): Sacramento's gay rodeo chapter. capitalcrossroads.org

Sacred City Derby Girls (SCDGG): Sacramento Women's Roller Derby team. sacredcityderbygirls.com

THEATRE | FILM

Lambda Players: LGBT theatre company now in its 19th Season. 1028 R Street, 916-444-8229, lambdaplayers.com

24th Street Theatre: Hosts Runaway Stage which does musicals and larger well-known plays. Facilities for large meetings, lectures, film screenings and performances Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th Street, 916-452-3005, sierra2.org

Sacramento Theatre Company: Professionally produced contemporary and traditional theatrical works. 1419 H Street, Box Office: 888-4-STC-TIX, sactheatre.org

Capital Stage - Capital Stage, Delta King: 1000 Front Street, www.capstage.org

The B Street Theatre - 2711 B St., 916-443-5300, bstreettheatre.org

Mondavi Center - 530-754-ARTS, One

Shields Ave. Davis, mondaviarts.org

Shiny Object: Weekly showings of independent films and Rocky Horror Picture Show. 600 4th St. West Sacramento, shiny-object.com

The Crest Theatre: 1013 K St., 916-44-CREST. Shows independent and GLBT films. Often hosts Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Film Festival. thecrest.com

TRANS SUPPORT

Sac. Gay & Lesbian Center Trans Support: Counseling services available for transgender people. 916-442-0185, Ext. 102. 1927 L St., saccenter.org

Kings of Drag: Performance troupe of women dressing in male drag. kingsofdrag.com

Sac. Gender Alliance: Provides recreational and educational needs of the trans community, their spouses, family members and related professionals. 916-442-0185, Ext. 141, saccenter.org

Sigma Delta Gamma "Sac. Delta Girls": A chapter of Tri-Ess, an educational, social and support group for heterosexual cross-dressers, their spouses or partners and their families. 916-359-2328, geocities.com/Sigma_Delta_Gamma

WOMEN

Adventure Out Women: Business networking, social activities, special events and recreational adventures throughout California year-round. adventureoutwomen.com

Lesbian Cancer Support: Meets third Monday of each month at 6:30pm. Bring partners or support people with you. ROXANNE1040@aol.com

Rainbow Womyn (Sac.): Online social group for Womyn. groups.msn.com/RainbowWomynofSacramentoCA

Sac NOW: Feminist news, actions, and opportunities. Meets monthly on the 3rd Thurs., 7pm, at the Hart Senior Center at 915 27th Street (27th & J St.). sacnow.org

Sacto Girls: Lesbian social group for women in the Sacramento and surrounding areas. members.aol.com/sactogirls/index.html

Sisters of Scotia Women's Motorcycle Club (SOSWMC): A tightknit sisterhood on women motorcycle riders who plan social events and raise funds for various charities. SOSWMC@hotmail.com, soswmc.org

Sac. Area Lesbian Health Resource Guide: A guide to help lesbians in the greater Sac. area identify and obtain services from providers who are sensitive to the needs of lesbian, bi and trans women. saclesbianhealth.com

Single Lesbians of Sac.: A community of single lesbians in the Sac. area interested in meeting other lesbians for the purpose of dating. groups.msn.com/SingleLesbiansofSacramento

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www.RainbowChamber.com

Women On Wednesdays: Social discussion/activity group meets each Weds. at the Gay & Lesbian Center, 1927 L St. 7-9pm. Open to lesbian, bi and trans women. saccenter.org

Womyn Over the Rainbow: A group open to lesbian womyn over the age of 40 for the purpose of building friendship. groups.msn.com/WomynOverTheRainbow

YOUTH

CSUS Pride Center: Open to Sac State LGBT students. Lassen Hall 3011, 6000 J Street, 916.278.8720, Email: pride@csus.edu, csus.edu/pride

Delta Lambda Phi: A non-secret, non-hazing, national social fraternity founded by gay men for all men. dip.org/iota/DLP.htm

Lambda Delta Lambda: Queer-friendly Sisterhood/Sorority social network on campus, accepting of all social identities and backgrounds. ldlucdavis.org/about.htm

Modesto LGBTQ Youth: GLBTQ Youth in Modesto and surrounding areas. myspace.com/lgbtqmodesto

Rainbow Club Of American River College: LGBT students on the American River Campus. geocities.com/arc_glbtcclub

Queer Straight Alliance CSUS: Social/Activist group on campus. myspace.com/queerstraightalliance

RESPECT Sacramento: A grassroots organization dedicated to creating safe schools for all sexual minority people in Sacramento area schools. Meets the second Weds. of the month, 6:30pm at Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. 916-733-2135, RespectSacramento.org

Sac Youth Yahoo Group: Forum for LGBT and friendly youth under 21 years old. sacyouth.net/groups.yahoo.com/group/sacyouth

City College LGBT Club: 3835 Freeport Boulevard, 916-558-2111 Advisor: Gayle Pitman, Behavioral & Social Sciences, PitmanG@scc.losrios.edu, wserver.scc.losrios.edu/~glbt/index.html

U.C. Davis LGBT Resource Center: Campus Center for LGBT students. 530-752-2452, lgbcenter.ucdavis.edu

REGIONAL

Amador County GLBTQQ Support Group: Amador County Mental Health - call Mary Pulskamp at 209-223-6412

Bear Watch of Yuba/Sutter & Nevada County: Social group for bear-type gay man, but is not restricted to just bears. bearwatch.us

Central Valley Stonewall Democratic Club: Helps elect qualified, openly LGBT people to public office, as well as Democratic Party

candidates that support equal rights for the LGBT community. cvstonewall.org

Diversity R Us: Support group for Yuba City-Marysville GLBT. groups.yahoo.com/group/diversityrus

Foothill Lesbians and Gays Social Network (FLAG): An organization for the LGBT community in the Sierra Foothills of No. Cal. flagamador.webs.com

Gaysonoma.com: Online Guide to events, personals, gay businesses, community organizations, classifieds, for Sonoma County LGBT. gaysonoma.com

"If The Shoe Fits": Gay/lesbian organization in the Foothills of El Dorado County that provides social/recreational activities for members. itsfnews.org

Nevada County Pride: Social network of gays and lesbians in western Nevada County in California. nevadacountypride.org

Out In The Mother Lode: Social network for fun/support among the LGBT in the central sierra foothills. outinthemotherlode.org

PFLAG Sonora/Mother Lode Chapter: Meets on the third Tuesday of Jan., Apr., July, and Oct.r, 6:30pm, at the Tuolumne County Library. Other events scheduled through the year. pflagsonora.org

Rainbow Frontier: A website for LGBT adults in rural/frontier areas of Northeastern California funded Plumas County Public Health Agency, 1-800-801-6330 or 530-283-6358, rainbowfrontier.org

Sierra Gay Men's Network: A newsletter & blog with news of importance the Gay Men and their friends in the Sierra Foothills of California. sgmn.org

Sisters of Scotia Foothills Chapter: Women's Motorcycle Club who rides mostly in the foothills. soswmcfoothills.org

Solano Pride Center: Support for LGBT of Solano County. Solano Pride Center, 1125 Missouri St., Ste. 203-D, Fairfield, CA 94533, 707-427-2356, solanopride.org

Stanislaus Pride Center: Resources and support for LGBT persons in Stanislaus and surrounding counties. stanpride.org

Stonewall Alliance of Chico: Services and support for LGBT people in Chico and surrounding areas. stonewallchico.org

Western Slope Men's Social Group: Online forum for gay/bi men on/near the Western Slope of the Sierra Nevada's (between Sac. and So. Lake Tahoe). groups.yahoo.com/group/WesternSlopeMensSocialGroup

Yuba-Sutter Unity: Social support, education & community involvement. gayyubasutter.com, groups.yahoo.com/group/Yuba-Sutter-Unity



Breaking Barriers is a volunteer based organization that works with those affected by catastrophic illnesses such as HIV/AIDS and breast cancer. Our work includes but is not limited to providing our clients with transportation to and from medical-related appointments, household help (assistance with chores, yard work, and moving), emotional support, advocacy, information and referral services, and financial assistance.

Breaking Barriers needs assistance providing food baskets for Christmas this year to local people living with HIV/AIDS or Breast Cancer and their families.

You can help by donating canned food for the baskets, making a monetary donation at breakingbarriers.org (each food basket costs around \$25) or helping to deliver the food baskets (we can accommodate almost any schedule).

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MILK MOVIE PASSES

Tuesday, December 2, 2008

Stop by The BOLT for a **FREE PASS** (good for two) to a special screening of Milk, Special screening is Thursday, December 4!

MILK VIP PARTY

Thursday, December 4, 2008

Come to The BOLT for a VIP party after the screening!
NO COVER!

GEAR NIGHT

Friday, December 5, 2008

The Sacramento Valley Leathercorps and The BOLT present GEAR NIGHT the first Friday of every month, 8pm to midnight!

2009 SOMA BARE CHEST CALENDAR MEN

Saturday, December 6, 2008

We know you love your South-of-Market Bare Chest Calendars! Come out to The BOLT to party with the 2009 CALENDAR MEN! Bare your chest and get \$2.50 MILLER BEER! A \$5 VOLUNTARY DONATION at the door benefits the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Shriners Hospitals for Children! The party starts at 9pm! **NO COVER!**

CAPITAL CROSSROADS COWBOY/COWGIRL SOCIAL

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

The second Tuesday of every month, join the COWBOYS and COWGIRLS of the Sacramento Capital Crossroads Gay Rodeo Association at The BOLT for **FREE NACHOS, FREE POOL, and \$8 BEER/SODA BUST** from 7:30pm to 10:30pm! Proceeds benefit SCCGRA! **NO COVER!**

CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, December 24, 2008

It's The Night Before Christmas and you're invited to The BOLT for an evening of **DRINK SPECIALS** and complimentary hors d'oeuvres! The doors open at 5pm!
NO COVER!



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