

# MGW

**MOM GUESS WHAT NEWSMAGAZINE**

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## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

The Wadham, Kaahue, and Oakes Family are blessed to announce the arrival of Emily Rose Wadham (5 lbs. 15 oz.) 18 1/2 inches and Ethan Richard Wadham (5 lbs. 3 oz.) 18 1/2 inches on June 5th, 2009. Emily at 5:20 p.m., Ethan at 5:22 p.m.

## TENTS FOR HOMELESS NEEDED

Donations from merchants will be greatly appreciated. If you don't already know, the Volunteers of America Winter Shelter at Cal Expo (also called Overflow) will be closing on Tuesday June 30. Over 300 people who have been staying at the shelter since last November will have nowhere to go. Please help by donating tents. Call Dan Wilson at 916.359.3377 or 916.247.2335.

## FIREWORKS FOR THE 4TH

Sacramento's Capital Crossroads Gay Rodeo Association will be selling TNT Fireworks again this year in the parking lot of T & Y Market, 2385 Norwood Ave., Sacramento. The cowboys and cowgirls of Capital Crossroads will be selling fireworks from 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. starting Sunday, June 8 - July 4. CapitalCrossroads.org.

## LESBIAN BARRED FROM VISITING PARTNER AT A FRESNO HOSPITAL

After a lesbian was barred from visiting her partner and giving advice about her treatment at a Fresno hospital, the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Center for Lesbian Rights sent a letter to the hospital today urging that it adopt policy changes respecting same-sex relationships.

"We just couldn't believe this was happening to us. This was the nightmare that we hoped we'd never have to live through," said Teresa Rowe, who grew up in Clovis, California, but now lives in the Bay Area with her partner of four years, Kristin Orbin. "Unfortunately, because Kristin suffers from epilepsy, trips to the hospital are pretty common for us, which is why we filled out the legal paper work to make sure I would be able to be with her and make emergency decisions about her care. But the hospital wouldn't let me see Kristin and ignored my advice about her treatment. They ended up giving her the exact medication I repeatedly asked them not to give her."

On May 29, 2009, Rowe and Orbin attended the "Meet in the Middle" rally in support of marriage for same-sex couples in Fresno. After the couple completed a 14-mile march in 90 degree heat, Orbin, who suffers from epilepsy, collapsed in a seizure. The couple experienced hostility from the ambulance driver, but Rowe was ultimately allowed to accompany Orbin to Community Regional Medical Center in Fresno. However, when the couple got the hospital, the driver would not allow Rowe to accompany Orbin into the emergency room even though Orbin had been in and out of consciousness, and Rowe was familiar with her medical history and care.

Rowe repeatedly asked hospital employees to allow her to see Orbin and talk to a physician about her care but was

refused. She volunteered to have Orbin's legal paperwork naming Rowe as her health care agent faxed to the hospital but was told that it wouldn't do any good. When she asked that she at least be allowed to pass along the message that Orbin not be given the drug Ativan, she was told the message would be conveyed. If the message was given to those treating Orbin, it was ignored because Orbin was given the drug, which she didn't need and which causes her unnecessary pain. Meanwhile, when she was awake, Orbin was also asking to be allowed to see Rowe. Although they were both told that no visitors were allowed in the area where Orbin was being treated, other patients were receiving guests. After being separated for several hours, Orbin finally saw her doctor. She complained to him, and Rowe was eventually allowed to be with her.

"Until the California Supreme Court upheld Prop 8, Kristen and Teresa were planning to get married. In this climate, hospitals must be especially diligent to protect same-sex couples from discrimination," said Elizabeth Gill, a staff attorney with the ACLU of Northern California. "As these events so painfully demonstrate, no matter what hoops same-sex couples jump through to protect their relationships, these kinds of horrible things will continue to happen as long as couples are denied the recognition and respect that only comes with marriage."

The letter sent by the ACLU and NCLR charges that it was a violation of state law for the hospital to discriminate against the couple based on their sexual orientation, as well as to refuse to recognize Rowe's legal authority, which was authorized by Orbin's advance health care directive. The letter also notes that hospitals must post and follow a patient's bill of rights that bars discrimination based on sexual orientation and grants patients the ability to designate visitors of their choosing and to decide who is able to make emergency decision about their care. The letter urges Community Medical Centers immediately to affirm their commitment to inclusive and sensitive medical care for LGBT patients, and to take a number of steps to carry out that commitment.

"Discrimination in healthcare settings is still far too common for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people," said Jason Schneider, MD, President of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA). "No one is served when partners are barred from visitation and kept from participating in conversations about their loved one's care. It's bad for doctors who are kept from potentially life threatening information, it's bad for partners who are left waiting hopelessly in the waiting rooms and it's especially traumatic for patients who need the love and support that only their partners can provide to help them through health care emergencies."

## U.S. MAYORS ENDORSE LGBT EQUALITY

The United States Conference of Mayors today endorsed the full range of civil rights priorities for Gay and Lesbian Americans today at its annual meeting in Providence. The mayors unanimously adopted Resolution No. 46, which declares their support for marriage equality as well as the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, the Uniting American Families Act, the Matthew Shephard Act, and the repeal of Don't Ask-Don't Tell.

The vote by mayors from across the

nation for comprehensive marriage equality and against "enshrining discrimination in state constitutions" marks a particularly significant advance. Five years ago, the U.S. Conference of Mayors defeated a resolution to oppose the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act by a margin of just two votes. As late as Saturday, the resolution's prospects were in doubt, when the Conference's criminal and social justice committee narrowly passed it after several mayors abstained from voting. But personal advocacy by the resolution's lead sponsor, Mayor Christopher Cabaldon of West Sacramento, and cosponsors Mayor Robert Duffy of Rochester, Mayor Mike Gin of Redondo Beach, and Mayor David Cicilline of Providence strengthened the resolve of the group.

"In no uncertain terms, America's mayors are once again at the vanguard of civic leadership in this nation for civil rights," said Mayor Cabaldon. "Today's historic declaration by mayors of cities large and small, from across the ideological spectrum, will be a powerful testament for our nation's leaders that the cause of civil rights must always be pushed forward through acts of political courage that are inspired by our core values as Americans."



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## THE LASTING UNION THAT DIVIDES CALIFORNIA

On June 17, 2008 LGBT across California tied the knot legally for the first time in 31 years. Same-gender marriage was not prohibited in California until 1977 when the legislature changed the law to only allow marriage between one man and one woman, a few same-gender couples had legally married before that date.

One year later, a wave of anniversary announcements flooded email boxes as couples in wedful bliss celebrated their love and continued legal validity of marriage. Tina and Kate of Equality Action Now (equalityactionnow.org) joined with others on their anniversaries not in fancy restaurants, but at county offices to bring light to the injustice of other LGBT couples seeking equality in marriage only to be denied by proposition 8.

Why is it when homosexuals enter wedlock it's called activism? One day same-gender marriage will be looked upon as the respected union it deserves to be. Until then, we here at MGW wish all of those married homosexual couples many more years of joyous activism.

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## MARRIAGE MESS IN NEW YORK

Sometimes I think politicians should not be allowed to run for elective office. Today, June 22, is the last day of the New York State Legislature's regular 2009 session. However, for about two weeks, the New York Senate has been in absolute chaos.

In last fall's election the Democrats won control of the New York State Senate for the first time in many years. That gave renewed hope to same sex marriage advocates that New York would become one of the growing number of states that permits same sex marriage. In prior years the New York Assembly had passed marriage equality legislation only to see it die in the Republican controlled state Senate.

This year seemed to be different. The Democrats controlled both houses of the state legislature and New York Governor Patterson had agreed to sign a same sex marriage bill if it were approved by the legislature. And the Assembly did approve a bill on May 12. That same day the bill was sent to the Senate and was quickly referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee where it still sits.

About two weeks ago two Democratic Senators decided to vote with the Republicans. That seemed to mean that the Republicans could choose the Senate President, and committee chairs along with controlling the agenda of the Senate. But the Democrats refused to admit that they had lost control of the Senate. For a while they turned off the electric power to the Senate chamber. Also they locked important papers needed to run Senate sessions in a desk and refused to give the key to the Republicans. Adding to the confusion, one or both of the two Democratic Senators seemed to waiver back and forth as to which party they would vote for.

The result of all this is that very little work has been accomplished in the New York Senate recently and it appears the same sex marriage bill, along with other important legislation, may die for lack of Senate action.

The Senate can vote today to extend its session in order to finish the necessary legislation. If they don't, the Governor has said he will call them in to extraordinary session every day until their work is done. If he does, that he has the power to set their agenda. And he has said, if that happens, he will put the same sex marriage bill on the agenda. But he can't force them to vote on the marriage bill, much less approve it.

The final outcome is unpredictable at this point. New York Senator Duane is the Senate Sponsor of the bill. A spokesperson for his office says no one has a count of the likely supporters of the bill in the Senate because everyone has been so focused on settling the power struggle. But it will probably be a hard struggle to get the same sex marriage bill approved during all this chaos.

## LGBT LEGISLATION

The following is a list of LGBT bills in the state legislature showing their current status and the positions taken on them by California Communities United Institute (CCUI).

### AB 10 (Curt Hagman [R ] )

Purpose: Would prohibit the use of state or local government resources to commence an action to enjoin the operation of any law or constitutional amendment (such as Proposition 8), proposed by initiative petition and approved by the people at a general election or a special election.  
Status: Dead.

CCUI Position: Oppose

### AB 103 (Kevin De Leon [D Los Angeles] )

Purpose: Would allow two people, including same-sex couples, who co-own a home together and meet specified criteria to avoid a property tax increase upon the death of one co-owner.  
Status: Dead.

CCUI Position: Support

### AB 382 (Tom Ammiano [D San Francisco] )

Purpose: Existing law requires the Department of Corrections to classify inmates, considering certain characteristics, in order to promote inmate safety. This bill would add the sexual orientation and gender identity of the inmate to the list of characteristics to be considered.  
Status: Passed Assembly. Referred to Com. on Public Safety for hearing on 06/30/09 9:30 a.m.

CCUI Position: Support

### AB 724 (Chuck DeVore [R Irvine] )

Purpose: Provides a low cost way for same sex couples to assure that the surviving member of the couple has a place to live if the homeowner dies and yet for the home owner to retain full ownership of the home if the couple separates.  
Status: Passed Assembly. Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

CCUI Position: Support

### AB 849 (Sandre Swanson [D Oakland] )

Purpose: Would expand the list of family members for whom an employee may take up to 12 weeks unpaid leave to care for a seriously ill family member to include the employee's domestic partner among others.  
Status: Dead.

CCUI Position: Support

### AB 1003 (John A. Perez )

Purpose: Says the state shall award grants annually to fund domestic violence programs and services for LGBT people.  
Status: Passed Assembly Referred to Senate Health Committee for hearing on 06/24/09.

CCUI Position: Support

### AB 1185 (Ted Lieu [D El Segundo] )

Purpose: Would allow someone who has undergone sex reassignment surgery to petition the courts, in the county in which he or she was born, for a new birth certificate showing his or her new gender.  
Status: Approved by Assembly and Senate Judiciary Committee. Awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.

CCUI Position: Support

### AJR 15 (Kevin De Leon [D Los Angeles] )

Purpose: Urges Congress to pass and President Obama to sign the Uniting American Families Act to remove the legal barriers to immigration by permanent same-sex partners.

Status: Awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Judiciary Committee.  
CCUI Position: Support

### AJR 19 (Julia Brownley [D Woodland Hills] )

Purpose: Urges Congress and the President to overturn the Defense of Marriage Act which prohibits federal recognition of same sex marriage.

Status: Awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Judiciary Committee.  
CCUI Position: Support

### HR 5 (Tom Ammiano [D San Francisco] )

Purpose: Expresses the Assembly's opposition To Proposition 8 because it is an improper revision, not an amendment, of the California Constitution and was not enacted according to the procedures required by Article XVIII of the California Constitution.  
Status: Approved by the Assembly. No further action needed.

CCUI Position: Support

### HR 16 (Pedro Nava [D Santa Barbara] )

Purpose: Urges Congress, and the President to sign, the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Act.

Status: Be adopted as amended.

CCUI Position: Support

### SB 92 (Sam Aanestad [R Colusa] )

Purpose: Would allow a carrier from another state to offer a health care service plan contract or a health insurance policy in this state without holding a license in California. Would exempt the carrier's plan contract or policy from requirements otherwise applicable to plans and insurers in California if the plan or policy complies with the domiciliary state's requirements, and the carrier is lawfully authorized to issue the plan contract or policy in that state and to transact business there. For example these carriers would not have to provide family premium discounts to registered domestic partners.

Status: Dead.

CCUI Position: Oppose

### SB 543 (Mark Leno [D San Francisco] )

Purpose: Would permit mental health professionals to provide outpatient counseling to teenagers, without informing the parents, if the professional believes that telling the parents would be inappropriate.  
Status: Approved by Senate. Not referred to an Assembly Committee yet.

CCUI Position: Support

### SB 572 (Mark Leno [D San Francisco] )

Purpose: Would designate May 22 as Harvey Milk day.

Status: Approved by Senate and Assembly Education Committee. Awaiting a vote on the Assembly floor.

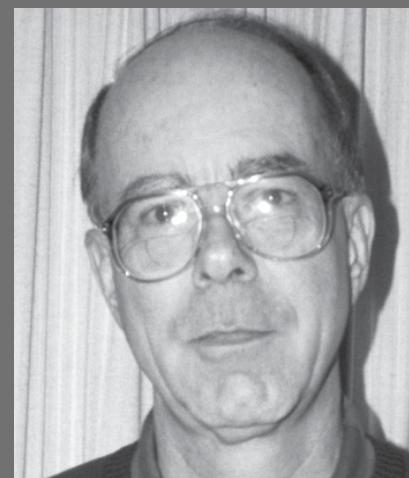
CCUI Position: Support

### SR 7 (Mark Leno [D San Francisco] )

Purpose: Expresses the Senate's opposition To Proposition 8 because it is an improper revision, not an amendment, of the California Constitution and was not enacted according to the procedures required by Article XVIII of the California Constitution.

Status: Approved by the Senate. No further action needed.

CCUI Position: Support.



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# sacramento pride '09

8





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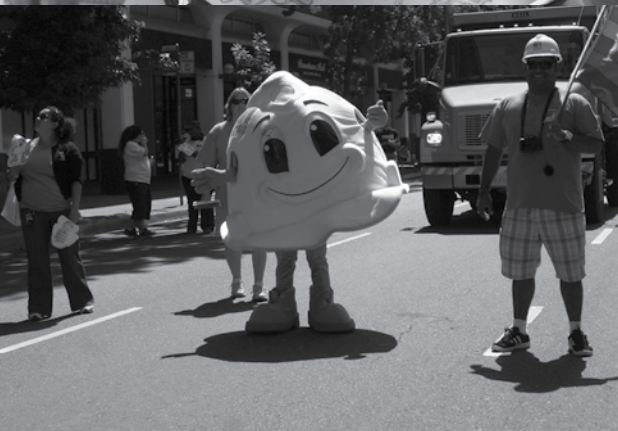
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Michael Misha Kennedy hosted the opening of the new location of his art cooperative gallery at 20th street between K & L Streets. An amazing turn out and one of the best galleries in the city, make sure to stop by for a visit. [mmkgallery.com](http://mmkgallery.com)

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## The Sacramento Valley AIDS Run/Walk Finds Support at Pride

BY JAMESON MITCHELL

Thousands gathered at Southside Park to participate in the 22nd annual Sacramento Gay Pride Festival. Attendees were as varied and diverse as the city itself, from infant to elderly, and all enjoyed the lively atmosphere equally. Live music, a car show, an art exhibit and even a bounce house were available to participants.

Booths were positioned around the park to provide entertainment and information. The Sacramento Valley AIDS Run/Walk (SVARW) was among those hosting a booth. Volunteers for the SVARW handed out thousands of information cards and the people at the festival made it abundantly clear that the Sacramento Valley AIDS Run/Walk would have their support.

People committed time and money toward preventing HIV infection and supporting those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Many were determined to show up despite disability, pledging to arrive in their wheelchair or with their cane, a testament to both their toughness and the importance of the cause. The SVARW is an annual event hosted by the Capital City AIDS Fund (CCAF) and raises money for agencies which provide services to those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Ceremonies for the Run/Walk begin at 7:30 AM on September 13, 2009 at the West Steps of the State Capitol. The event includes a health fair, several prominent guest speakers, informative booths, and live music. Show up for the party, the exercise, or the competition—any way you get there, just know that your support is invaluable. CCAF encourages community members to participate by signing up to walk or run, volunteering, or just attending

ceremonies. Board members say a little help can go a long way.

Funds raised from the event benefits CARES, Breaking Barriers, AIDS Housing Alliance, Sunburst Projects, Volunteers of America, UCD Medical HIV Pediatric Clinic, Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation, Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Center, Golden Rule Services, Harm Reduction Services, the Helen Veress Mitchell Scholarship Fund, and CCAF's HIV Prevention and Education program.

Funds raised are absolutely vital, especially in the wake of the state proposed budget cuts. The money given to the benefitting agencies allow the organization to continue providing services to its clients.

Without your help, some of these agencies may be forced to close their doors—a fate which their clients cannot afford. Runners and walkers collect pledges that are collected at the Capitol. Ideas on how to raise money for the SVARW include lemonade stands, parties, chain letters, and even collection cups. For more information on how to donate, participate, or volunteer, please visit the Sacramento Valley AIDS Run/Walk's website at [www.sacvalleyaidsrunwalk.org](http://www.sacvalleyaidsrunwalk.org) or call the CCAF offices at (916) 448-1110. So show up to the AIDS Run/Walk, whether you run, walk, or roll is up to you!

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JOSE SARRIA, PICTURED ABOVE LEFT WAS ONE OF A NUMBER OF LGBT ACTIVISTS AND SUPPORTERS HONORED DURING THE CAPITOL'S LGBT PRIDE MONTH CELEBRATION "YESTERDAY'S PROGRESS, TOMORROW'S PROMISE" ON THE FLOOR OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY. SARRIA, KNOWN TO MANY AS "MAMA JOSE" OR "THE WIDOW NORTON" FOUNDED THE IMPERIAL COURT SYSTEM. SARRIA ALSO WAS THE FIRST OPENLY GAY CANDIDATE TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES WHEN HE RAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. THE CELEBRATION WAS A POSITIVE OUTREACH BY THE ASSEMBLY TO THE LGBT COMMUNITY AND WAS ONLY MARRED BY FOUR POLITICIANS WHO STATED THEY DID NOT WANT JUNE TO BE RECOGNIZED AS GAY PRIDE MONTH AND LEFT THE PROCEEDINGS. PHOTO BY NATHAN FELDMAN



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## Can the "Pot" Make the Kettle Black?



BY JENIFFER WERTZ

As the U.S. faces the worst economic situation since the Great Depression, our state faces bankruptcy, and our local government is slashing essential services, why are we at all resistant to legalizing, regulating, and taxing marijuana?

Let me start by saying that I don't even use marijuana, although I'm sure all the stoners are going to love me for this. My opinion on this subject is however, a result of impartially weighing the pros and cons. My opinion is my own, and should not be considered a reflection of MGW or any advertiser. I'm going to spend some time here pointing out how bad our situation is in an effort for you to be able to make an informed decision for yourself whether or not you agree with me.

Whether we want to face it or not, the fact is our economic situation is getting very dire. The citizens of this state voted against raising taxes, and we also don't want cuts. We seem to want all of the essential services that we are used to having like police protection, care for the sick, elderly, handicapped, innocent children, state workers to keep their jobs, or a fireman to show up when our house is on fire, but we don't want to (or can't afford to) pay more. We have to get our heads out of the sand and come up with some solutions though. If your checking account were empty, you couldn't keep writing checks and buying things without making a deposit, right? Our state's account is not only empty, our deficit is \$15 billion, and expected to be \$21 billion soon. The bank isn't going to let us have anymore credit either. We are now the owners of the lowest credit rating of any state in the union. California is the world's eighth largest economy, and is on the verge of bankruptcy. Here are some facts that show exactly how that translates to us as individuals.

On June 19, 2009, the California Employment Development Department issued a news release stating the state's rate of unemployment was 11.5% for the month of May 2009. That is a large increase over the

6.8% rate of May 2008. We lost about 69,000 jobs in California in just the month of May 2009. We lost about 740,000 jobs since May of 2008. That's getting near a million people losing their jobs in this state per year. This causes a snowball effect on the economy.

I don't mean to offend anyone who is unemployed, as I certainly realize that most are forced into unfortunate circumstances beyond their control. I point out these things in an effort to make things better. However, the effect of unemployment on the economy is important to understand. Unemployed people don't pay income tax at a time when the state really needs revenue, and in fact are likely causing more of a burden that the state has to spend money on, money which it doesn't have. Unemployed people collect welfare, unemployment, social security/disability, and still get sick but don't usually have any health insurance. These are direct costs, but there are also indirect social costs like increases in theft and other crimes. Unemployed people also don't buy as many things, which causes more businesses to fail, also leading to less tax revenue and more unemployment.

There are 8.5 million houses and condos in the state, according to DataQuick Information Systems. According to their April 22, 2009 report, there were 135,431 notices of default filed by lenders against homeowners, in just the first quarter of 2009. This was the most ever in one quarter since DataQuick began keeping track in 1992. There are roughly 550,000 households in Sacramento County per Default Research Inc., and about 40,000 homes have been or are being foreclosed per year over the last two years per their statistics. That translates to about one in every 14 households per year, and we've now been experiencing foreclosures for about two and a half years, with no real end in sight. In fact, we're currently seeing record numbers of filings, indicating that things may get worse.

The Sacramento County Sheriff's department recently announced that they are facing an \$80 million budget cut. The Sheriff said that they would potentially be going from 38 deputies on patrol at one time, to six. This is a very frightening statistic. The Sheriff stated in a recent interview, "If you're a victim of a crime, if your house is burglarized, your property is gone, we're not going to do anything for you, nothing. If you're the victim of an armed robbery there's little we can do. That'll get at least some response but very little in terms of investigative follow up". The Sheriff's primary responsibility is to maintain security for the courts and the jail, and there are legally binding minimum staffing requirements for the protection of the inmates in the jail, but no minimum staffing requirements to protect the citizens.

There are many more examples of how the problem with the economy is making it's way into the every day lives of all of us. I attend night school at American River College. Last night, my instructor was talking to the class about how the college was considering addressing a \$30 million budget cut. They have already planned to cut several hundred classes that they now offer, and there have been some suggestions to increase tuition from \$20 a unit to \$40 unit to cover the deficit. When I got home from school, I turned on the news to find the local Regional Transit commuter train service was facing cuts to the number of routes, and considering increases in fees, including for Paratransit services,

students, and elderly people, who possibly rely on this system as their only means of transportation.

So, everyone is losing their job, their home, will not be protected from crime, won't be able to go to school, and disabled and elderly people will have no services they can count on. Why do we have such a big problem with taxing pot again?

For a long time, possession of less than an ounce (28.5 grams) of marijuana, for personal use, has only been "an infraction". An infraction is like a speeding ticket. You don't go to jail for it, you only pay a small fine if convicted. In 1996, 56% of the voters in this state passed Proposition 215, the medical marijuana initiative. Proposition 215 allowed people in this state to legally possess and use marijuana if they had a prescription from a doctor. Enforcement of existing marijuana laws has become a boondoggle for law enforcement, and yet another financial burden on the system. Getting a prescription to legally possess and use marijuana has become as easy as looking up a medical marijuana doctor on the internet, going to their office, and paying their fee for a prescription.

Do I want young people to be getting stoned and using marijuana as a "gateway" drug? Of course not, but let's be realistic and face the truth. Marijuana already happens to be our states' biggest cash crop by far, with \$14 billion a year in sales. They're already getting high if they want to. It's basically ridiculous to think that we are preventing anyone from using marijuana that really wants to by keeping it sort of "illegal". That's just not reality. It's already easily accessible to anyone, anywhere in California. That's the reality. The only thing that we are accomplishing by keeping it "illegal" is promoting a very lucrative underground drug trafficking industry, which is a very dangerous and real criminal problem. Keep in mind, many of the opponents to legalizing marijuana are the same people that oppose gay marriage, who are using the same old morality argument. We actually might even be able to do some good through regulation of the sale and use of marijuana. We could use some of the revenue for prevention education and awareness programs for example.

State Assemblyman Tom Ammiano (D), San Francisco, has recently proposed the "Marijuana Control, Regulation, and Education Act" (AB390). The bill aims to legalize the use of marijuana for those over 21 years old, and regulate/tax the sales in a similar way to how we regulate and tax alcohol and tobacco now. The estimated savings in law enforcement and incarceration costs (74,000 people were arrested in 2007 for marijuana) is \$1 billion annually. The estimated revenue is \$1.3 billion annually. Ammiano said it may take up to a year for the bill to get to a vote.

While this may not solve our budget crisis, an additional \$2.3 billion dollars a year sounds like the only good idea anyone's come up with so far. People are smoking pot anyway, and we have to come up with something. I'd rather have the \$2.3 billion and let people over 21 smoke pot legally, rather than keeping it "illegal" and giving them a ticket if they get caught. Maybe we can eliminate drug trafficking crime, have a Paratransit bus for a disabled person, or a ride for an 80 year old to get to the doctor or to buy groceries, have a teacher or state worker keep their job, and have a cop to respond if we really need one, wouldn't you?



Gay Pride, San Francisco, 1991. My first. The crowd lined Market Street a dozen deep. My gal and I were pressed against a metal police barricade and each other (Ooh la la!). We'd been there since just after sunrise to nab this great curbside spot and soak up the buzz.

I was thrilled to be in The City, about to witness the original, legendary, Women's Motorcycle Contingent. The sun sparkled in the bright blue morning sky. Rainbow flags flapped in the warm breeze. Someone in the crowd yelled, "They're coming! They're coming!" On PRIDE day in San Francisco, this could have been literal. But Good Vibrations wasn't giving free vibrator demos — nowhere near us, anyway.

Then I felt it in my belly — a rumbling boom like distant boom like summer-storm thunder. But the sky was cloud-free and sunny. Then the sidewalk started trembling. I looked for any signs of panic but the crowd stood transfixed. There were enough locals among us to alerted us if this was The Big One, but the crowd held fast.

Wifey and I craned our necks, trying to see down Market Street where it slopes off toward the bay, eager for a glimpse of the source of the now-deafening roar. Just then, like a volcanic eruption, they burst over the rise, motorcycles with booming engines coursing onto Market Street a thousand strong.

I'd ridden my 10-speed in my Podunk home town's parade with my "Dyke on Bike" sign and daresay I shocked a few of our more sheltered locals. This scene would've killed

them.

A thick surge of rowdy motorcyclists and their even rowdier passengers roared by—women in leather, sequins, body paint, strategically placed Band-aids—straddling everything from huge Harley Hogs to baby blue Vespas, and even a cadre of unicyclists. They all sat high and proud. They revved and grinned and pumped their fists in the air like they owned the world—which at the moment I'd say they did.

More and more Dykes on Bikes poured onto the parade route, their engines purring like amplified wildcats. The magnitude of it all made my nipples clench. Sweetie and I waved back and cheered and held each other tears streaming, ecstatic. Women of every feral stripe vroomed past us. You could hear the crowd going wild in a rolling whooping wave as the bikes roared up Market Street.

All around us people were hugging each other, cheering like crazy, weeping openly. That's the essence of the Pride holiday to me. Seeing ourselves at our finest, strongest, and gayest. To this day I can summon that moment and that feeling. That swelling confidence of knowing there are millions of us, and that no matter what might get said at school board meetings or in campaign literature or hateful right-wing churches, we are spectacularly gorgeous and creative and diverse. The crowning glory of human diversity. No matter how trying daily life, those bodacious images are seared in.

I think most of us Queerfolk store up Pride Day energy and draw on it for the rest

of the year. We thrive on memories of all the flamboyant—and flam-girl-yant—dykes and fags and the whole alphabet soup of bi, transgender, gender variant, intersex, two-spirit, queer and queerspawn waving from motorcycles and gaudy floats and super-enthusiastic marching bands. We recall our magnificence and talent and resilience, our international—and no-doubt inter-galactic—rainbow nation like an elixir. Despite the 'phobes efforts to minimize, criminalize, invisibilize, exorcise, and brutalize us, we're here, we're queer, and we know how to wave!

We're never going back. After all these years of political, religious, academic, psychiatric, medical, commercial, social, and private bashing, we persevere. We keep our eyes on the prize of our inevitable victory—absolute equal justice under the law, full protection and full access and full participation on every front for everyone.

Every year on Pride Day, queer people all over the world will don our feathers and glitter and clever T-shirts and flaunt ourselves for the sheer joyous celebration of our existence. We cannot be stopped by ballot initiatives or constitutional amendments or retracted presidential promises. We will not settle for less—not for us or for our children. We're not shutting up and we're not going away.

We'll be out there flaunting our pride and we will march on—or samba on, or glamorously wave from elaborate floats, or barrel down Market Street and Main Street on loud, glorious, pulsating motorcycles.



WRITER SALLY SHEKLOW SWELLS WITH PRIDE IN EUGENE, OREGON.  
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## Dear Friends,

Welcome to RAINBOW FESTIVAL 2009! Held in the heart of midtown Sacramento's Gay and Lesbian Community, our hope this year is to draw even more people than last year's record turnout! The core purpose of Rainbow Festival is twofold: To raise money for charities that have significant importance to the Lesbian and Gay Community and to raise public awareness of those charities; to create a celebration of our Pride that is pure fun!

THE RAINBOW FESTIVAL strives to make the community aware of the many services provided by the Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Community Center . This organization provides a plethora of services to Greater Sacramento, including Youth Outreach and Support programs, Issues-oriented meetings and social functions, and Information exchange. As the available government funding continues to dwindle, the needs of the Lesbian and Gay Community continue to grow. As GLBTI persons, we must never let our guard down. We absolutely need representation in our community – this representation is the Lambda Community Center. When we do not have numbers we do not have clout. This administration is attempting to withhold our God-given right to be equal as any other people. We must help this outstanding organization as it fights to meet these needs.

The success of the Rainbow Festival is due largely to an atmosphere of merriment and revelry, combined with pride in ourselves and our community. The event is an excellent outlet for politically-oriented groups as well as those concerned with pure fun and leisure. Feedback from participants has included everything from successful voter registration and membership drives to merchandise sales to simply having a great time.

OVER \$500,000 GIVEN TO CHARITY SINCE ITS BEGINNING! Each year the donation made to charity from the Rainbow Festival grows. These worthy organizations provide services to each of the many colors and flavors of our rainbow. Women health and wellness issues, children living with HIV, youth needing outreach and education about health and social issues affecting their lives in the community and of course the treatment and intervention services offered by these organizations are all causes we need to support!

RAINBOW SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOU! The Rainbow Festival would not happen at all without the much-needed participation and support from our Customers. The reputation of the Rainbow Festival has grown to the point where it draws participants and attendees from all over the state of California. We look forward to this year's event being the biggest and most successful yet!

Thank you for your continued participation and support. Please enjoy the Fair!

**Terry Sidie**  
**Founder – Rainbow Festival**

## 2009 STREET VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM

**NOTE:** If you intend to serve food, all health code standards for outdoor food service apply. All food must be prepared on site or at a County Health - approved kitchen. It is the responsibility of the registered party to see that all applicable codes are observed.

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Include Suite / Apartment #)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(CITY) (ST) (ZIP)

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX/ALT: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE CHOOSE DESIRED SPACE RESERVATION AND SUPPLIES – INDICATE QUANTITY OF EACH:

Item	Price	Qty	Total
Non-Profit 10 X 10 Space – Note: No Premium Locations Available	\$ 150	_____	_____
10 X 10 Standard Space	\$ 200	_____	_____
10X10 Premium Space	\$ 250	_____	_____
10X10 Space Canopy (rental)	\$ 150	_____	_____
Electricity (Limited)	\$ 50	_____	_____
6 Ft. Table (rental)	\$ 25	_____	_____
Chair (rental)	\$ 10	_____	_____
TOTAL RENTAL FEES ENCLOSED:			_____
SEPARATE DEPOSIT PAYMENT			\$ 50

(Please include a separate check, money order or credit card authorization for the deposit. Checks/Money Orders must include a separate envelope and will be returned to you at the close of the event if all terms and conditions herein are met. If you wish the check mailed, You must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for processing.)

Food vendors note that additional application from County Health Department and other appropriate agencies along with Applicable licensing fees will be collected prior to the event when mandated.

Please Indicate your Exhibitor Type:

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-Profit Organization \_\_\_\_\_ For-Profit Business  
\_\_\_\_\_ Political Group or Organization \_\_\_\_\_ FOOD VENDOR

Please Describe the Activities / Merchandise / Literature / Etc. at the booth. Food Vendors Describe what you will be serving:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### IMPORTANT! THESE POLICIES APPLY TO EVERYONE

- YOU MAY NOT SELL OR DISTRIBUTE FOOD OR BEVERAGE ITEMS WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL AND PERMITS. THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL SHUT DOWN ANY VENDORS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE SHUT DOWN BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REFUND.
- EXHIBITORS NOT REGISTERED AS FOOD VENDORS MAY NOT SELL ANY FOOD OR BEVERAGE PRODUCTS.
- FOOD VENDORS: LICENSING FEES WILL BE COLLECTED IN ADVANCE PER SACRAMENTO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT •COUNTY HEALTH PACKETS MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND RETURNED TO RAINBOW FESTIVAL

### NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2009

(any applications submitted after August 5, 2009 will be charged a 50% penalty)

- NO BEVERAGE PRODUCTS WILL BE PERMITTED FOR SALE DIRECTLY ADJACENT TO FACES, THE DEPOT OR HEADHUNTER'S.
- NO FOOD PRODUCTS OF A COMPETITIVE NATURE WILL BE PERMITTED FOR SALE ADJACENT TO HEADHUNTER'S OR HOT ROD'S.

### THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THESE POLICIES PERIOD.

NON-FOOD Vendors Only: We will send a confirmation of your registration upon receipt of this application. A site map indicating your booth's location will be sent after registration closes. WITH THE INCREASE IN APPLICANTS RAINBOW FESTIVAL DOES NOT GUARANTEE YOU WILL GET YOUR PREFERRED SITE SELECTION.

Exhibitor applicant certifies that they have read this application in its entirety, understand the content, have retained guidelines for EXHIBITOR participation sheet, and will comply with all of its terms. Rainbow Festival retains the right to terminate the license to occupy a booth at any time during the term of applicant's use if: (A) Applicant is found to have falsified any information contained in this application; (B) Applicant is found to have changed and/or added to the use described in this application; (C) Applicant creates a nuisance to the Rainbow Festival Committee, its other licensees, or its guests; (D) Applicant's use of the premises in any other way interferes with the orderly and successful conduct of the fair.

I certify that I have read and understand the above statement and agree to its provisions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Signature and Title)



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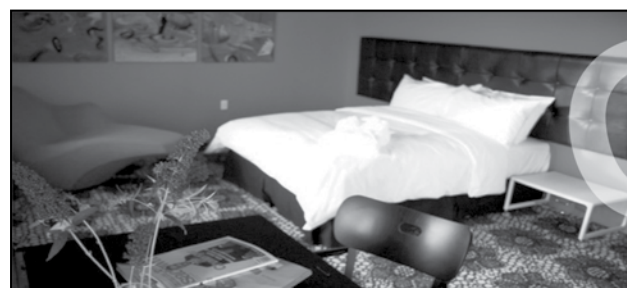
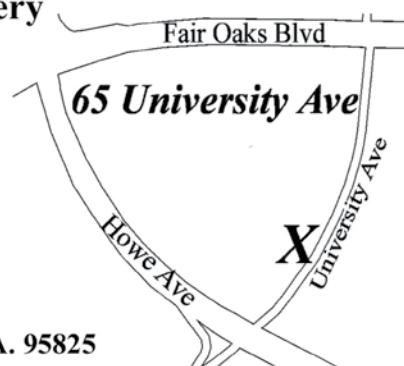
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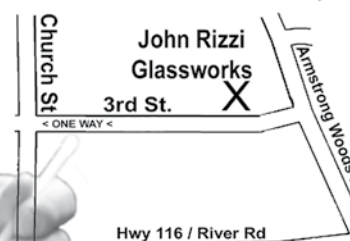
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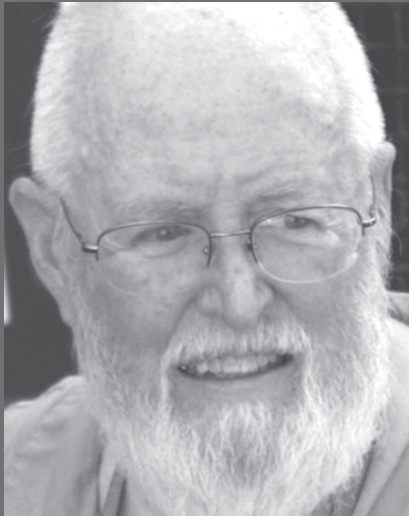
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JERRY SLOAN AT AGE 71 IS AN OUT PROUD GAY MAN AND HAS BEEN FOR 48 YEARS, HE SUCCESSFULLY SUED THE LATE REV. JERRY FALWELL AND THE PROCEEDS HELPED FOUND THE LAMBDA COMMUNITY CENTER (1986), HE IS ALSO COFOUNDER OF THE ANNUAL LAMBDA FREEDOM FAIR (1984) AND A FORMER MCC CLERGY WHO IS NOW A HAPPY ATHEIST. MRLAMBDA1937@GMAIL.COM

## Sloan's Soliloquies

SOLILOQUY: TALKING WHEN ALONE (TO ONE'S SELF AND NOT BEING CRAZY, LOL): THE ACT OF SPEAKING WHILE ALONE, ESPECIALLY WHEN USED AS A NEWSPAPER COLUMN THAT ALLOWS THE WRITER'S IDEAS TO BE CONVEYED TO THE READER

### TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE HAVIN' FUN BECAUSE AN ORAL CONTRACT IS NOT ALWAYS A BLOW JOB

Monday, July 13, 2009 is the 25th anniversary of my confrontation with my Baptist Bible College schoolmate Jerry Falwell on tChannel 3 KCRA-TV's now defunct live audience show, "Look Who's Talking" which used to be broadcast Monday through Friday at 9 a.m.

Although Jerry Falwell went to his reward, such as it may be, on May 15, 2007 this is a story which needs to be told at least once a year. In 1984, July 13 was on Friday. It was not a good Friday the Thirteenth for Jerry.

The show had invited Falwell, who was in San Francisco the week prior to the 1984 Democratic National Convention, to harass the Democrats and the fairies of San Francisco. Falwell was in the height of his Moral Majority days.

The show producer knew I had gone to school with Falwell invited me to be in the audience and me gave me a bunch of tickets for my friends.

I took my late mother whom Falwell knew well as he and I drove every weekend of the '55/'56 school year from Springfield, MO, to Kansas City where we worked in local churches on the weekends and he spent many Sunday dinners with his feet under our table and really loved my mother's chocolate meringue pie. She often baked two, one for dinner and one for us to take back to school. Since we usually drove back late at night the pie often had a hard time making it to Springfield. It certainly didn't last long after we got back to the dorm.

At the time of these weekly excursions I was 18 and Falwell was 22. As it turned out on the day of the broadcast there were about 100 people in the audience and I was assigned an aisle seat. When host Jim Finnerty came around to me Falwell acknowledged me and said, "I remember you well."

We exchanged some minor personal banter and I started to ask him about a quote he had made about the "gay church" the Metropolitan Community Churches with which I had formerly been affiliated.

Now the quote was published early in the year in the Advocate as there were two Presbyterian college professors in Lynchburg who were taping everything thing Falwell said in his public services and they had sent it in to the Advocate.

It was a statement, which I thought he had probably uttered in a Wednesday night prayer meeting so you can imagine my surprise when I heard it on a Sunday broadcast of his Old Time Gospel Hour.

I didn't have a VCR or even a tape recorder so I rushed out and bought a tape recorder so I could record the statement on one of his two later Sacramento broadcasts of the same sermon.

Here is what Falwell said:

"LOOK AT THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH TODAY, THE GAY CHURCH, ALMOST ACCEPTED INTO THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES RECENTLY, THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ALMOST, THE VOTE WAS AGAINST THEM, BUT THEY WILL TRY AGAIN AND AGAIN UNTIL THEY GET IN AND THE TRAGEDY IS THAT THEY WOULD GET ONE VOTE BECAUSE THEY ARE SPOKEN OF HERE IN JUDE AS BEING BRUTE BEASTS, THAT IS, GOING TO THE BASER LUST OF THE FLESH TO LIVE IMMORALITY.

AND SO, JUDE DESCRIBES THIS AS APOSTASY. THANK GOD, THIS VILE AND SATANIC SYSTEM WILL ONE DAY BE UTTERLY ANNIHILATED AND THERE WILL BE A CELEBRATION IN HEAVEN!"

As I tried to get the quote out Falwell kept interrupting me and said what I was saying was "an absolute lie"

As I proceeded he kept denying he had said these terrible things about his fellow believers and he really lost it when I said had a tape of him saying these things.

At this point Falwell's face was flushed and he was extremely agitated. He looked directly into the camera and said, "Jerry, I'm saying this on TV, if you produce that tape I will give you five thousand dollars.

I did not have the tape as I had lent to someone and could not get it back from them in time for the broadcast but I did take the tape to the KCRA studios on Wednesday, July 18, along with an audio tape produced by the Old Time Gospel Hour.

Station staff played the tape and the late Mike Boyd put together a report for the evening news and all agreed I had had quoted him accurately.

To me Falwell's vehement denials of these quotes showed a gigantic flaw in his character. While I did get one word wrong as I said quoted him as saying there would be "rejoicing in heaven when they annihilated" when actually he used the words "celebration in heaven."

Now he could have acknowledged the statement and corrected my one word faux pas but he chose to do what so many Fundamentalists do often as the Sadducees and Pharisees before them did and that is to argue over jots and tittles. (For those of you who are not bible scholars, jots and tittles are accent marks in the Jewish writings and the placement of them may change the meaning of the word.)

Falwell had a history of denying things if he was not quoted exactly word for word.

Falwell, in his agitation and pride, stumbled over his jots and tittles and offered me \$5000 not really believing I would follow through and produce the tape.

At least three times Falwell said I was lying so it was a matter of personal honor for me to produce the tape and show that he was the one lying and the \$5000 would just be icing on the cake.

After the KCRA interview I went to see Rosemary Metrailler, a very good attorney I knew, who happened to be a lesbian and asked her to write Falwell to send the \$5000 by return mail as he could find his statement on his Old Time Gospel Hour tape #592.

Falwell had his attorney write us a letter basically saying it would be a cold day in you know where before he gave me \$5000.

On Friday, November 31, 1984, Falwell was scheduled to be in Sacramento on a fundraising tour so Rosie drew up papers to sue Falwell for "Breach of an Oral Contract" and filed the papers in the Municipal Court a couple of hours before the estimated time of arrival of his private jet in Sacramento.

All of the local visual and print media were there to cover his arrival and appearance at the Convention Center.

Rosie and I were there and much of the media was curious as to why we were there and as the plane touched down they were handed a press release stating we were there to serve him with papers for a law suit.

My friend Doug Mitten served the papers on Falwell who directed him to give them to an assistant.

The news of the lawsuit made national headlines and news of the suit popped up over the next 26 months as it made its snail pace progress through the courts.

One reason the case took so long was after the Municipal Court judge ruled in my favor Falwell appealed the ruling to the Sacramento Appeals Court on the grounds that the judge who heard the case was Jewish and had "a natural prejudice" against him.

In July, 1986, when the case was heard before three appeals court judges I was taken back by the judge's very harsh attitude toward Falwell's attorney, Weldon Reeves, and at the same time their light manner about the whole case. One could almost see them having themselves under their robes.

The judges also awarded me an additional \$2875 as a sanction for Falwell wasting the court's time with a "frivolous" law suit.

It still took until September before Falwell finally paid up and I received a check for \$8982.90.

He wanted to impose an agreement on my part that I would not call a press conference and "gloat" about winning the law suit.

While he had no right to make such a condition as he had been ordered by two, "count'm" two, courts and four, count'm, four, judges to pay me. I was tired and I told Rosie to let him put anything on the back of the check wished, "My mother will call a press conference and say, 'Hey, look what my kid has done!'"

The winning of this case had national implications for the LGBT communities across the country as in June the infamous "Hardwick v Bowers" case had been ruled on by the 9 Supreme and they upheld sodomy laws which meant government at all levels could still interfere with the private sex lives of its citizens. It gave us a little sunshine that a major homophater had to pay for his venom.

I had people tell me they had heard about the lawsuit in news broadcast as they were traveling in Europe and Australia.

After I finally cashed the check I took a portion of the money and gave it to the Lambda Community Center, which opened in August of 1986, to buy some much-needed equipment.

Falwell until the day he died never let up in his opposition to civil rights for us LGBT folks. He jumped full force into the "gay marriage" issue by supporting an amendment to the Constitution that would only allow marriage between a man and a woman to be recognized in the United States.

I am happy to be, as far as I know, the only person to have proven Jerry Falwell a liar in two, "count'm, two, courts and before four, count'm, four, judges.

This 25th anniversary brings back a flood of good memories. the Lambda Community Center is still on 20th and L serving the needs of the Sacramento LGBT communities. It now has a vision to move and expand to meet the growing demand for its services.

In the last 23 years countless men, women and young people have availed themselves of its services and left feeling better about themselves.

Out of the center's programs has grown the Lambda Players which bring LGBT culture and much joy to our community. The Center helped the Sacramento Men's chorus get off the ground and become an outstanding cultural anchor for us.

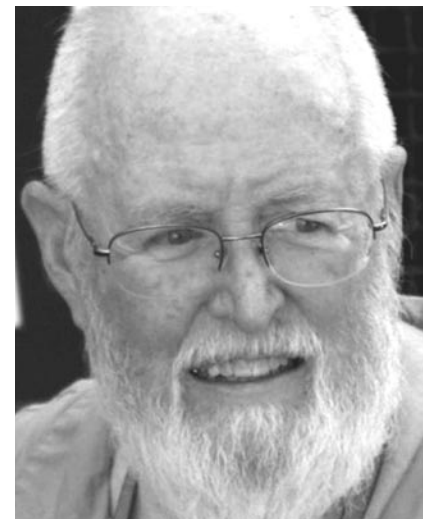
Without Jerry Falwell the Lambda Community Center and all of these other fantastic benefits would have never become a reality.

Anniversaries do bring warm memories.



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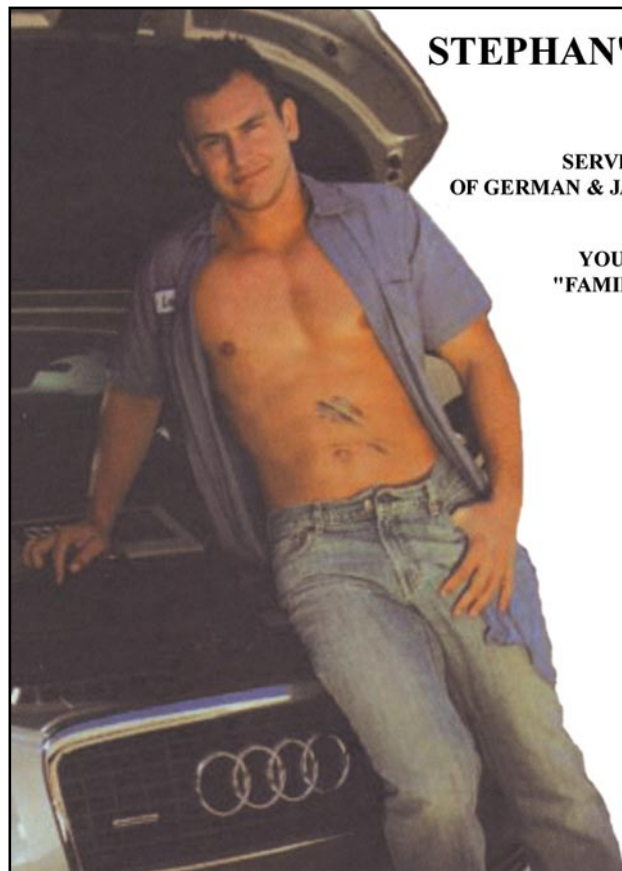
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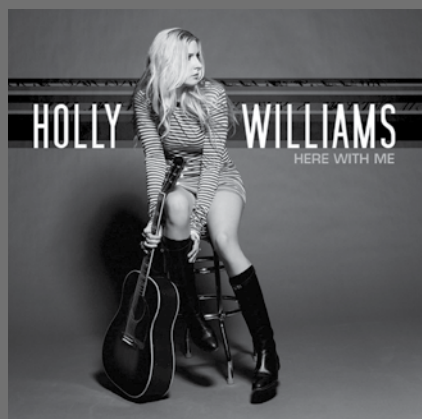
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## Holly Williams

## Here With Me



"I'm such a blatantly honest person," says Holly Williams, "and I love to listen to an album and think the artist is truly sharing their life with me. I like to feel like I'm really getting in and knowing that person."

With her debut album *Here With Me* for Mercury Nashville, Holly has succeeded in creating the type of album that would easily find a place among the works of her favorite artists. Penning the majority of the album's 11 tracks, Holly writes with piercing clarity on situations plucked from her life. While these songs come from extremely personal places, Holly's emotional honesty and commanding vocal performances give *Here With Me* a timeless quality that only gets richer on repeated listens.

Though still in her 20's, Holly has been using music to tell the story of her life and those around her for the better part of two decades. Starting at age eight, Holly filled a notebook she called "Holly's song folder" with her own compositions, though the lyrical content was far beyond the comprehension of your typical elementary school student. The first of these songs, titled "Who Am I", told the story of a woman in her 20's facing a broken marriage. Holly's penchant for addressing life's ups and downs through song was clearly established at this point, as was her songwriting method.

"The way I wrote then is the way I write now. A song comes to me in its entirety. The chorus and melody come at the same time, but I didn't really sing my songs for many people back then. It was just kind of the first hints of what I would do later."

As Holly grew older, her interests ranged from modeling and fashion to interior design. Her love affair with songwriting came back to the forefront at age 17 when she picked up a guitar, learned a few chords, and discovered her gift for crafting music and lyrics was still very much intact. As her high school friends continued on to college, Holly took a different path -- striking out on her own to make music. Giving herself one year to pursue her dream, Holly began booking shows for herself around

Nashville at age 18.

That one year turned into three with Holly playing shows by herself and with a small band. Following a three-month stay in Los Angeles where she honed her songwriting skills and mastered the piano as a second instrument, Holly accepted an offer to tour Europe with Canadian artist Ron Sexsmith.

"I flew over there with a guitar and a backpack full of five-song EP's I'd made and took trains to each venue," says Holly. "It was killer. I had just read Jack Kerouac's novel *On The Road*, and it changed me. I was traveling along, soaking up every minute of it. I loved it."

Around this time, Holly began to realize the full meaning of her family's history in the music world. Though her father is country legend Hank Williams, Jr., Holly's time spent with her dad mostly took place when he was off the road and away from the spotlight. In turn, Holly never realized the influence of her grandfather Hank Williams, Sr. until she embarked on her own musical explorations.

"The artists I love are ones that brought me back to him. When I started making music and writing songs, I heard people like Bruce Springsteen and Leonard Cohen talk about Hank Sr. I started listening to Bob Dylan, and he would talk a lot about Hank Sr. being an influence. It's funny how that circle happened."

Over the next few years, Holly's touring kept her on the road for months at a time with several more European tours rounding out her hectic stateside touring schedule. Sometimes driving up to 10 hours between gigs in her mom's suburban, Holly found herself sharing a bill with a wide range of artists including Billy Bob Thornton, Train, John Mellencamp and Duncan Sheik, in addition to playing a string of shows throughout Europe opening for Keith Urban. With five years of independent touring under her belt, Holly signed her first record deal in 2004 and released her critically-acclaimed debut album, *The Ones We Never Knew*, that same year.

With her career on the upswing, Holly's life was almost cut short when she and her sister Hilary were involved in a devastating wreck near Memphis in March 2006. Hilary's injuries were much more extensive than Holly's, and both were in critical condition by the time their parents arrived at the hospital. Looking back on the accident, Holly is truly thankful she and her sister survived. The events of that day forever changed the course of Holly's life and serve as the inspiration for one of *Here With Me*'s most stirring tracks "Without Jesus Here With Me".

"Living through that wreck was a miracle," Holly declares. "My sister told me one mile before it happened to put on my seatbelt. I usually never would have put it on, but it saved my life. Even the fact that my arm is here is a miracle. The car was lying on top of it. We landed sideways and they thought when they pulled me out of the car that my arm wouldn't be going with me. But it was only broken. The whole experience was a real turning point for me."

Holly's new songs began to take on a more straightforward tone. One song in particular, "Mama", struck a chord with Holly's live audiences and eventually led to a record deal with Mercury Nashville.

Taking on the touchy, yet all too commonplace topic of divorce, "Mama" tells the story of Holly's own mother and the positive attitude she displayed to her daughters while splitting up with their father. "So many parents talk about their spouses so horribly in front of their kids," Holly says. "One thing my parents never did was talk about each other in a

negative light," she says. "There's two lines in 'Mama' that really stick out to me -- 'You were smiling when you could've been crying all night' and 'You never wore your pain too thick.' It's such an important thing they did for us. I don't think I realized it until I was 25 though. I feel like it relates. Everyone knows someone who has that story going on in their lives."

As it turns out, "Mama" is just the tip of the iceberg on this collection of gems. Whether flowing from Holly's own pen or selected from the exceptional catalog of Nashville's top tunesmiths, the songs on *Here With Me* each contain a vulnerably honest quality brought to life by Holly's stunning vocal performances. Blessed with an extremely versatile instrument, Holly possesses the ability to wrap her voice around a lyric, wringing the emotion out of every syllable whether she's conveying a defiant determination to survive a heartbreak, expressing the subtle nuances of regret or playfully telling the story of a new love.

Nowhere is Holly's gift with a lyric more evident than on the project's first single, "Keep The Change", an anthem exploring the moment an old love starts to become history. Written by Hillary Lindsey and Luke Laird, Holly even breaks new ground for herself on "Keep The Change" with her gritty vocal delivery. She says, "I've never written anything myself that allows my voice to go where it does on 'Keep The Change.' Every single person can relate to that story. We've all been to that point when a love is over and you're bedridden and miserable, but then the sun shines, and you say, 'OK, I'm gonna get in my car and get out even though I'm dying inside.' It's that first step of moving on with your life."

On another one of *Here With Me*'s stand out tracks, "Three Days In Bed", Holly's measured choice of words and haunting vocal performance paints a startling visual in the listener's mind recounting the story of a love affair in Paris. "This song speaks for itself, inspired by truth and fantasy," explains Holly. "It's the only track on the record that is a live performance with me and my guitar, completely raw, which was very important to me to have on this record."

While Holly has clearly forged her own musical path, shades of the Williams family musical history pop up here and there throughout *Here With Me*. "Alone" finds Holly tapping into the lonesome simplicity of Hank, Sr.'s lyrics with a tune about her own fear of commitment, while Hank, Sr.'s actual name appears in the lyrics for "Without Jesus Here With Me".

In addition to making music, Holly has another outlet for her boundless creative energy. Building on her lifelong love affair with fashion and design, Holly opened the high-end clothing and accessories boutique H. Audrey in 2007, and H. Audrey Home in 2008, introducing new designers and brands to Nashville's retail scene (haudrey.com).

"I've always had this business side that I've needed to fulfill. I actually get to travel to Paris twice a year for work and dress friends of mine and stylish musicians. Sheryl Crow, Patty Griffin and Faith Hill all have a great eye for fashion. I love seeing who wears what to award shows and concerts!"

Holly's stores have quickly become one of Nashville's hottest retail spots, but just one listen to *Here With Me* makes it clear that Holly's first love is and will always be making music. She says, "When it's in the blood, you can't help it."

HOLLYWILLIAMS.COM



**ADVICE OF THE WEEK: YOU SHOULD NEVER LOSE YOUR PRIDE. THERE WILL BE DAYS, HOWEVER, WHEN YOUR PRIDE JUST NEEDS A LITTLE SPACE AND THINKS THAT YOU BOTH SHOULD SEE OTHER PEOPLE.**

Attending an event celebrating pride has always been a bittersweet event for me, mostly because I often have such a hard time finding my own. The term "pride" was originally meant to counteract the shame put on gays by society for feeling the "wrong" kind of love. The idea was to turn a negative emotion forced on us by the world and turn it into a positive. What an awesome and fantastic concept. It's like emotional Judo, using our own enemies weapons against them.

In losing the last 190 pounds, I've been thinking a lot about pride and shame. Pride, for me, often seems like a distant friend who spends brief, hurried moments with me while clearly thinking about something else, downing a hurried beer and heading home early the first chance he gets. Shame, on the other hand, comes so easily that I he needs to think about baseball or old nuns during our times together. It's ok. I'll wait while you think about that last one.

It's not that I don't have pride in myself or in my accomplishments; it's not that I don't appreciate it when I'm feeling it. It's just that while pride is the cherry on top of my ice-cream sundae it seems that shame is the

foundation that the ice-cream shop is built on. Pride is the pat on the back once the job is done, but shame is the burning pitchfork at my back driving me on to do the job in the first place.

And I don't think I'm alone.

Think about it. Enraged by his failure to become a painter, Adolf Hitler tries to destroy the world in an attempt to prove he's a person that cannot be ignored. Shame. Napoleon conquered vast amounts of the world, we're told, in part because he was trying to compensate for being so short. Shame. Hell, we even named a whole brand of shame after him — the Napoleon complex. Who knows? With a couple of pushover art critics and a pair of platform shoes and Europe might have been able to dodge a few atrocities over the past couple of hundred of years.

We naturally assume people's motivations often lean towards shame. Look at any middle aged man in a cherry red convertible sports car and give me a dollar every time someone in the street whispers the word "overcompensation".

Somewhere along the way I lost my pride and started letting shame drive the bus. I think it happened when my internal dialog started ending every compliment given to me with the words "...for a fat guy."

"You're really looking really sharp today... for a fat guy." "Wow, that's a really great idea ... for a fat guy." "Those pants

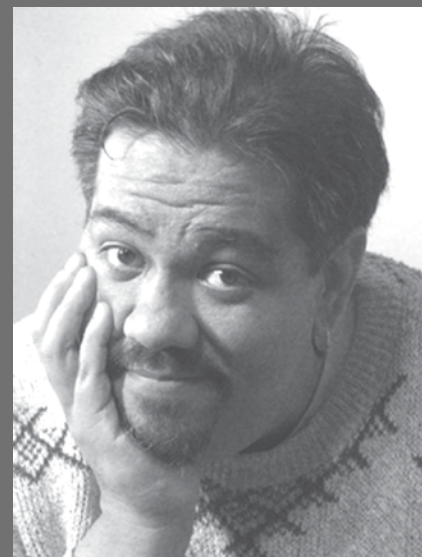
look great on you ... despite you being an enormous tub of lard." That last one's from my mother. No need for internal dialog with her.

These demonic suffixes on every compliment may sound terrible, but they helped me lose 190 pounds. For that I'm grateful to my shame. But while shame may get you where you're going, only pride can let you be happy when you get there. Without pride you can't breathe, you can't relax, you can't enjoy what is, and your shame will hound you into an early death, literally or figuratively.

I'm still working on owning my own pride for my own accomplishments, on trying to appreciate the great qualities I have despite the qualities about myself I so desperately want to ignore.

This is what Pride day is: the moment to breathe, to appreciate what is and to marvel at what we've done so far as individuals and as a group. While the gay culture has given birth to the Pride celebration, maybe it's time we bring it to the world, to all those people who need a few lessons in emotional judo. All the people the world tells they're wrong, they're broken, they're unfit, they're unworthy. Maybe it's time that we bring our example to the nerds, the geeks, the spazzes, the dweebs, the poor, the fat, the meek, to all the people who forget how awesome they are under the pile of shame the world tends to heap on us when we're not looking.

Never surrender to your shame, but do not fear it; it's part of you, and has helped make you the person you are today. Embrace your pride, because pride will let you enjoy the person you are today. And spread that pride around a little. All of us can use a little extra every now and then.



HUMORIST AND SATIRIST DONALD E. MARSHALL IS A 35-YEAR-OLD GAY MAN LIVING IN HOLLYWOOD, CA WHO RECENTLY MADE SOME CHANGES IN HIS LIFE. OVER THE PAST YEAR, HE'S LOST 180 POUNDS BETWEEN DIETING, EXERCISE AND GASTRIC BYPASS SURGERY. HIS LIFE IS CHANGING QUICKLY, AS IS THE WORLD HE LIVES IN. THE LOCAL ALL YOU CAN EAT CHINESE BUFFET HAS GONE OUT OF BUSINESS. TRAINERS AT THE GYM NO LONGER HIDE UNDER THE DESK WHEN HE WALKS BY AND HE'S EXPLORING THE WHOLE NEW WORLD OF FASHION, DESPITE THE PROTESTS OF LOCAL SALESGIRLS. BEST OF ALL, HE'S LOVING LIFE IN A WAY HE HASN'T IN YEARS! SHRINKINGFATMAN@GMAIL.COM

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**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

### AWAY WE GO

Judd: Every once in a while Tom and I get treated to an indie-flick that the studios think may be a crossover hit. These are my favorite films, and I love to drag Tom along with me because it gives him a taste of what I have to go through 20 times a year with mainstream pieces of shit like "The Proposal". This summer's potential crossover is called *Away We Go* and it's about a pregnant couple (SNL's Maya Rudolph and *The Office*'s John Krasinski) who are trying to find a place to settle down and raise a family.

Swanner: Treated? This was no treat and I can't believe you have the nerve to slap down *The Proposal* over 97 minutes of quirky indie crap. I'm glad that Sam Mendes is making more movies but he's not putting the same effort into this one that he has in the past. When you're making a road movie don't tell us at the beginning where they are going 'cause I was counting down the cities every time it got boring ... which it did a lot. The actors are really good but the script, as good as it is, is poorly constructed. The movie starts off hilarious and by the end I was considering suicide.

Judd: That's how I feel about every romcom — except there's nothing hilarious about them and I'm considering suicide by the end of the opening credits. Now I will grant you that *Away We Go* was a little maudlin by the end, and the movie would have done better to disperse the depressing stuff throughout the story. I will also agree that there were some scenes that were pointlessly "quirky" for quirkiness' sake. Pointlessly quirky is kind of like the gratuitous pillow fights in those chick flicks you like so much. It's something we both have to stomach as best as we can.

Swanner: I just kept envying all those people walking out of the movie last night. How did you like the "indie" title cards they kept slapping up on screen to tell you where the next location was. I'm sure they got some 5 years olds with sharpies to make them. I don't want to totally dog the movie. As I said the cast was good. I thought Catherine O'Hara, Maggie Gyllenhaal and Allison Janney were outstanding in supporting roles and the two leads do a fine job. My big problem still seems to be the positioning of the script and the pacing that are my stumbling blocks.

Judd: I didn't mind the indie title cards. They were very Wes Anderson, though they weren't done in the Futura typeface that he likes to use. The movie is basically a set of vignettes as Rudolph and Krasinski try to find a place to settle and each family they visit has their quirks. Gyllenhaal and her husband are a horrible hippie couple. I thought they were hysterical because I dated (yes, I've had relationships) someone just like her and he was an equally pretentious hippie. But Janney was by far the best character in the film. What a hysterically awful mother!

Swanner: Let's not forget I sat in front of Darth Vader. At first I thought he was asleep... that I could understand but then the person he was with asked him a question I realized that it was the sound of him breathing. The theatre was like a Cambodian sweat shop, and I hate the chairs 'cause they're like some child's ride as they wiggle from side to side. All this added up to a night in hell. I'd rather be dragged behind a car than sit through that again.

Judd: Aww, you poor thing. I have to suffer through walks on the beach, shopping

sequences, pillow fights, women falling off their shoes, bridesmaids fighting, the "hysterical" results of miscommunication, Stanley Tucci being a eunuch, Diane Keaton being "goofy", Kate Hudson being Kate Hudson, and full grown women lip-syncing with hairbrushes to 70s pop songs in their underwear and then falling down laughing and exhausted. And I suffer through this crap at a rate of twice a month. Twice a month! Women don't even get their periods that often! So fuck you! The next romcom we go to I'll gladly drag you behind a car.

Swanner: 2 Stars (for the performances)  
Judd: 4 Stars



### THE PROPOSAL

Swanner: A pushy boss (Sandra Bullock) forces her hot young assistant (Ryan Reynolds) to marry her in order to keep her Visa status in the U.S. and avoid deportation to Canada. Did you notice I added hot to Ryan's description? Wasn't he dreamy in the movie? I had such a good time, I don't want to hear you spread your hate about this wonderful film

Judd: Look, people know that I can't stand romantic comedies. They're all the same, recycled insipid stories, banal jokes, and saccharine romance. *The Proposal* is insipid, banal and saccharine, and while I won't go so far as to say it was tolerable, it wasn't as nauseating as I expected.

Swanner: That's like a four star review from Brian for a Romcom. I knew you'd love it. Wasn't the supporting cast good? Betty White and Craig T Nelson were so good. I love the way they used Alaska as the back drop. It was so beautiful. Ryan Reynolds, all the clean clear air and Betty White ... I think I need a cigarette. Did you notice I was giggling through the whole movie? It's always a good barometer if I giggle during romantic comedies.

Judd: The scenery was beautiful. White and Nelson were very good as father and

grandmother, but the movie still falls back on a lot of routine romcom shenanigans and too many scenes were set up just to showcase Bullock's "Isn't she quirky?" comedy style. I will say that I enjoyed the first hour, the last 40 minutes is when it got to be intolerably "cute".

Swanner: Is that why you kept checking your watch? So you could check when the movie goes too cute? That was scene one for me. It was adorable. Did I mention the chemistry of the two leads? You could cut the sexual tension with a knife. How about the naked scenes? It was very sexy ... even when Bullock is naked it was sexy. I'll admit there were a few "isn't she quirky" scenes but the film is so lovable that it's forgivable and the audience really loved "those"

scenes.

Judd: Yes, the first time I looked at my watch it was to mark the time of death. Seeing Ryan Reynolds almost fully naked was a nice treat. Watching a naked Sandra Bullock being cornered by a "cute" Pekinese puppy, or whatever the hell it is, wasn't so cute. I recognized absolutely no chemistry between the leads. I related mostly with Craig T Nelson's character at the end of the film. When all the women were telling him that Bullock really loved Reynolds, his reaction was "She does? Who can tell?"

Swanner: You don't get romantic comedies the way I do. The is definitely 27 Dresses for me ... which I loved as well. I thought the script was good and as I mentioned, the supporting actors were as good as the leads. It's nice when two of my favorites work well together on screen. It was a big win/win for me. Having a Barry Manilow song hovering in the background is the only thing that might have made this movie better. I hope this comes out on Blu-ray soon or I might have to travel back to the theatres to see it. I loved it.

Judd: It didn't make me ill or angry. Does that count?

Swanner: 4 Stars  
Judd: 2 ½ Stars



## SPOT REDUCTION OF FAT: FACT OR FICTION?

Answer: Fiction! Spot reduction refers to the supposed ability of losing fat from one specific area of the body. Spot reduction is a deceptive marketing gimmick, claim or idea (spoken or implied) that the product being marketed, targets a specific muscle group being worked and reduces the amount of fat in that specific area.

This implied advertising ploy is commonly used to sell abdominal exercise machines, DVDs, and diet pills, seen in magazines, newspapers and TV infomercials in an effort for people to focus on losing weight mentioned in reference to losing fat from the stomach area. The term "spot reduction" is not stated by name, but the strong visuals (repeated flat stomachs, and few full body shots) and implied references are clearly unmistakable.

These countless useless ab workouts, exercises and abdominal machines that currently exist, use spot reduction as a way to trick uninformed people into buying useless junk (usually in the form of abdominal machines) thinking that losing fat from the

specific area of their choosing (in this case, the stomach) is actually possible. It's not! This ridiculous spot reduction claim is not limited to reducing belly fat but any fat from any specific area of the body. People think that if they do a certain exercise for a certain body part, they can directly target the fat on that body part. But you can't! It's impossible! There is no such thing as spot reduction.

What you need to know: You will never attain a flat stomach just by performing abdominal exercises. Muscle does not own the fat that surrounds it. Sit-ups, for example, will definitely strengthen your abdominal muscles, but sit-ups alone will not get rid of the layer of fat that is covering the muscles. To lose fat anywhere on the body you need to burn calories by following a program that involves both cardiovascular training and weight training (circuit training combines both). By doing this, you will decrease fat stores throughout the entire body, including the problem areas.

Ever notice when losing fat that some areas reduce quicker than other areas? This is due to a genetic selective pattern and not due to a particular type of exercise. Body fat increases and decreases the same way over the entire body. It's a fact, men tend to gain fat in their abdominal region, and women tend

to gain fat in their gluteal (buns) region. Men and women do not lose fat in the same areas equally when following similar programs. Losing fat in the gluteal region is much more difficult for women than it is for men.

Abdominal exercises will NOT get rid of fat on your stomach. Leg exercises will not get rid of the fat on your legs. Back exercises will not get rid of the fat on your back. Bicep exercises will not get rid of the fat on your arms. Catching on? This holds true for every single muscle group and body part. Exercises will take care of building muscle and strength, diet and cardio takes care of losing fat.

You can't decide where on your body you will lose fat from. Spot reduction implies that you can. A person with the goal of losing fat can only lose it from the body as a whole. There is no way to change that no matter what any abdominal product or exercise machine claims. They are sorely incorrect and uninformed.

Another common myth: The muscle gained during a strength training program will turn to fat once strength training has stopped. Not true. Muscle and fat are two different tissues which are completely independent of each other. If you stop weight training, your muscles will shrink because the stimulus to increase or maintain their size is no longer there; but by no means can they, or will they, turn into fat.

Spot reduction only applies to losing fat, not building muscle. You CAN certainly target specific muscles. However, you CAN NOT target specific fat. Exercises build and strengthen the muscle of a body part. Exercises do nothing directly to the fat on that specific body part.

If you feel your body is becoming less toned or softer it is because the proportion of fat to muscle has changed. Fat, although you may not have gained any more of it, is now dominant simply because you have lost muscle. Another possible reason for the change is a common problem that exists with many people, primarily athletes. The problem is that they stop exercising, but maintain their eating habits, and slowly begin to put on weight. If you had been exercising but stopped, be sure to make dietary changes to compensate for the decrease in daily energy expenditure.

Many of my clients wish spot reduction was actually possible. I know a lot of people still think it is. People are still doing the same ab exercises in gyms year after year because they truly believe it helps them lose fat from their stomach. Wish they'd catch on when their waist size doesn't change. It just goes to show, how big a myth and scam spot reduction is. Next time an abdominal infomercial is on, see if you can spot the pitch for the implied spot reduction. Better yet, here's my favorite "Exercise Tip & Secret," go outside, enjoy the day, get some exercise, and have some fun!

"Top 10 Reasons to Exercise" and The Best Workout Time" were last issue's topic. Remember today's tip, clip it out, save it on the fridge, and make sure to read next issue's topic, "Trainers & Gyms!"



BY MICHAEL COOK  
FITNESS-HAPPENS.COM

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## Erika Jayne Pretty Mess

If disco balls, ecstasy, pearls, Studio 54, sex, crystal chandeliers, Purple Rain, and Crème Brûlée, could be whipped in a blender and made into a delicious pop-dance musical confection, you would have *Pretty Mess*, the debut CD from dance-pop's latest sensation Erika Jayne. *Pretty Mess*, which includes the No. 1 Billboard Dance Radio Airplay hit singles "Rollercoaster" and "Stars" and

a guest appearance from Sheila E., will drop August 11.

It's typically a no-no to be so bold as to compare any new artist to the Queen of Pop, Madonna. But, when it's comes to Erika Jayne, it's impossible not to make the comparison. Just ask the *Guardian U.K.*, which wrote, "Erika Jayne is Madonna trapped in the moment when she recorded the *Erotica* album. She's Nicole Kidman in *Moulin Rouge* goes trance with a dash of debauchery, or Gwen Stefani goes burlesque. She's equal parts Hollywood glamour and S&M chic, the spawn of a Sapphic union between Rita Hayworth and Traci Lords." "That is a perfect description of my music and vibe, actually," says the Atlanta-bred, Los Angeles-based singer-songwriter proudly. "All of that influenced me, as did *Purple Rain*, the feel of Studio 54, Kylie Minogue, and the Old Hollywood designers Edith Head and Adrian Adolph Greenberg. They were all about having a good time, and that is what my record is about. I want people to have fun, dance, and escape into fantasy. It's a very sensual, erotic, luxurious-feeling album."

To honor her love of all things Prince, Erika scored Prince protégé Sheila E. to play percussion on the sexually charged "Time to Realize," one of the four songs Erika co-wrote. "Having Sheila play was a dream come true!" she says.

The singer also recorded a cover of Apollonia 6's 1984 hit "Sex Shooter," which was featured in *Purple Rain*. "When I saw her perform the song in the movie in lingerie, I was totally shocked. It was so provocative, and I loved that." Erika also scored heavy-hitters on the production side for her 14-song collection of dance, rhythmic pop, and dreamy electronica songs. Peter Rafelson (Madonna, Britney Spears, Stevie Nicks) and Eric Kupper (Shakira, Destiny's Child, Kylie Minogue) produced and co-wrote *Pretty Mess*, while Canadian singer-songwriter Esthero (as Pinklake), Jahi Lake (Chris Brown) and Ike Dirty (Lil' Scrappy, Ying Yang Twinz, and son of legendary artist Isaac Hayes) contributed additional production.

The third single to follow the two chart-toppers "Rollercoaster" and "Stars" is the upbeat disco-flavored dance track "Give You Everything." "It's the first song I recorded. I did it in one take. It's my favorite song," she says. "Run Along" is my Atlanta song. I love my hometown. It has like Dirty on it. We were feeling very glamour-ghetto-royalty when we wrote it. 'I Lose Myself' is about an orgy and the decadence of Paris in the '20s. 'Rollercoaster' is simple, catchy, and fun. 'Just a Phase' is my sassy, blow-off song. 'Everybody Wants Some' is a total

performance number, very sex kitten."

Erika gravitated to performing as young as her earliest memory. "My mom was a young mom, 18, so she would always have the latest music on in the car. And she was also a classically trained pianist who taught lessons in our home," explains Erika. "At 3-years-old, I would go in the closet, ask my mom to introduce me, and pop out to put on a show for my family. I would usually sing 'Little Miss Muppet.' Then, when I was 5, I won the Best Little Performer award in my dance class, and my first performance was singing Dolly Parton's '9 to 5' in the third grade school talent show." The precocious child also did musical theater (she was Val in *A Chorus Line* and Frastrada in *Pippin*) and honed her singing, dancing, and acting chops at North Atlanta School of Performing Arts for high school. It was in high school when she got her first real taste of what it would be like to be an international pop star. She toured the world in the school's revue show where she performed "9 to 5" and Madonna's "Into the Groove." "I was singing and dancing five nights a week on top of going to school," says Erika, who is also a skilled ballet dancer. "At 18, I moved to New York and was in a few girl groups, but I always wanted to step out on my own."

Erika has indeed accomplished more before the release of her debut CD than most artists. Along with two chart-topping dances radio tracks, the sensual video for "Stars"—directed by Scott Speer (Will.i.am, the Veronicas, Paris Hilton)—spent 12 weeks (peaking at No. 2) on LOGO's The Click List, and the song also hit No. 1 on the Billboard Dance Play chart and is featured in the 2009 movie *American Summer*. Three other songs have been placed in movies as well—"Rollercoaster" is in 2008's *Deal* featuring Burt Reynolds and in the horror film *Bumper*, and "I Lose Myself" and "Just a Phase" are in the 2007 Matthew Modine flick *The Neighbor*.

"I couldn't have asked for a more fitting scene in *The Neighbor* for 'Just a Phase' to be playing in," Erika explains. "These young girls are having a slumber party and they are just jumping up and down and going crazy to the song. It reminded me of when I was a little girl and would jump on my bed singing along to music. Just pure, unadulterated fun! It's what I hope everyone will do when they listen to *Pretty Mess*. It's all about that feeling."

ERIKAJAYNE.COM



## GARBEAU'S CEO JOINS STAGE NINE IN FOLSOM AND LOOKS TOWARD EVENTUAL REOPENING

After closing his 28 year old dinner theatre June 1, Garbeau's owner and CEO, Mark Ferreira, is now the marketing director for Stage Nine Theatre in Folsom. "We've been great friends for years," said Ferreira, "And now we're family," finished Connie Mockenhaupt and Mike Jimena, founders of Stage Nine Theatre.

Apart from marketing the theatre located on Sutter Street in Historic Folsom, Ferreira also has an eye toward eventually relocation of Garbeau's in a new venue. To start the fundraising, Stage Nine will be launching "Garbeau's Mini," a cabaret of Broadway showtunes the first and third Sundays of each month beginning in July. Ferreira will be at the piano and ticket sales will go toward a fund to reopen Garbeau's.

Ferreira will also serve as the theatre's pianist beginning with the July 31st opening of Hats! The Musical. The show highlights The Red Hat Society, a national organization for women age fifty and above. Through his position at Garbeau's, Ferreira was made an honorary member of the society and said, "though it may end hopes for a political career, the ladies will indeed see me wearing the very noteworthy hat made for me by some of their more adventurous members."

Stage Nine Theatre is now in its final weekend of performances for Visiting Mr. Green before opening Mary, Mary, opening June 26th. More information can be found at [www.stagenineinfoolsom.com](http://www.stagenineinfoolsom.com) or by calling their box office at (916) 353-1001.

## DINNER FOR THE ARTS

Dinner for the Arts will be a weekly event that will give local arts organizations the opportunity to promote their productions or events and reach out to a new to new audiences. The event strives to put the spotlight on local arts organizations and artists and to promote the arts in Sacramento. Featuring Sacramento Entertainer Courtney Parks as the hostess for the evening, Dinner for the Arts will feature local theatre companies, dance troupes, singers and other artists each week. In addition to live entertainment, each week will also feature local artists giving live demonstrations in various mediums such as painting, jewelry-making, metal-work and many others.

Dinner reservations will be limited to 50 people each Tuesday night and there is additional seating for others wishing to see the evening's entertainment. Featured drinks Judy Garland, Liza's Martini, Sinatra's Manhattan, Bernadette's Red Apple and the Elphaba.

Although not quite as well known in

Sacramento as her native home of Alaska where she performed the lead roles in many musical theatre productions and sang at political fundraisers and sports events, Courtney Parks' reputation as an extremely talented vocalist is catching on quickly in Sacramento. Prior moving to Sacramento Courtney won Spokane Idol and sang live onstage with Beth Hart. Locally, Courtney has performed on Good Day Sacramento as Judy Garland in December of 2008. She also co-wrote and performed a one-woman cabarets titled Under Their Influence: A Tribute to Judy Garland, Bette Midler and Barbra Streisand at The Studio Theatre and It's All About Me at Badlands Nightclub featuring the award-winning title song from the upcoming production of The Green Room at California Stage.

Headhunters Patio (20th & K Streets) Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Reservations: contact Headhunters at 492-2922 until 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the show Friday evenings through Tuesdays, contact Friends of Dorothy at (916) 534-7496. For more information check out [www.headhuntersonk.com](http://www.headhuntersonk.com) or [www.fodproductions.com](http://www.fodproductions.com)



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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.

ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING SERVICES: HARM REDUCTION SERVICES, 3647 40TH ST., WEDNESDAYS 8AM - 5PM; APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR TESTING. 916-875-6022

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. CAPCITYAIDSFUND.ORG

CARES: HIV/AIDS HEALTH CLINIC, OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND PREVENTION. FREE, RAPID HIV TESTING M-F 9AM TO 5PM. 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. 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. 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

## INFECTIONS AMONG YOUNG CONTINUE TO CLIMB...

The highest rates of new HIV infections are among young men 13-24 years of age. And in that age group, the highest rates are among African American youth, says a recent report from the Center for Disease Control analyzing statistics for 2006.

During that year, over 56,000 individuals became HIV positive in this country. About 19,000 of those (over one third) were between 13-29 years old. The report noted that during the three-year period ending in 2006, 54 percent of new HIV infections in those aged 13-29 years were transmitted from one male to another, while heterosexual contact accounted for 34 percent of new cases.

African Americans between 13-24 years of age were twice as likely to become HIV positive as white or Hispanic youths. The study also indicated that African American and Hispanic youth become infected at earlier ages (13-29 years) than do whites (30-39 years old).

## ROSE GARDEN SEEKS HELP...

The city's Parks Dept, together with the Sacramento Rose Society, held a community meeting in late June in the McKinley Park Rose Garden that explained a modified plan to replace old irrigation lines and diseased roses, lay out a walking path that's accessible to those with disabilities, and address the question of memorials in the garden.

A continuing critical problem, however, is that after repairs have been made, and healthy donated roses have been planted, there is no funding for maintenance. City budgets are taking a beating, and the parks are a big target. The Rose Garden "staff" of two may soon be down to one. Rose Society volunteers will continue their annual pruning events and are coordinating the donation of hundreds of new roses to replace old or diseased bushes. But both the city and the Rose Society are calling upon local citizens to make targeted donations for the garden's upkeep, and volunteer to provide needed services, at least for the next few years, until the parks budget might stabilize.

The meeting also addressed the concerns of those who have purchased memorial plaques or benches at the site in the past. Current plaques will be returned to their location after they are moved during irrigation and other repairs, and the city would like to create a plan to allow future dedications, both to meet the desires of local citizens and to fund the continued maintenance of the garden. A suggestion was made at the meeting that the city consider making the needed path for those with disabilities out of bricks or similar material that could be inscribed with memorial dedications and funded through donation.

Meeting coordinators emphasized that citizens need to be made aware of the maintenance crisis. Some attendees said they would make time to just drop by and

pull weeds, and cart them off in plastic bags. Others said they would make regular donations to help cover fertilizer and other maintenance of the garden. Councilman Steve Cohn, who helped conduct the park meeting, said he's confident that supporters and citizens are willing to make sure the garden continues, and that its needs can be funded privately, even with limited city resources.

Kudos to all city officials and Rose Society volunteers who worked closely with the public, and one another, to develop an architectural proposal that seems to meet the complex concerns of our citizenry. To offer any assistance toward garden maintenance, call Lori Harder of the city's Gifts to Share program (808-5172) [www.giftstoshare.org](http://www.giftstoshare.org), or Ellie at the Rose Society (483-0615).

## LOCKED-UP CONDOMS...

CVS pharmacies, the nation's largest drug store chain, is being pressured by community groups to make condoms easily accessible at all its 2200 locations. Currently, CVS has identified 19 market areas where they say shoplifting is likely more prevalent, and the condoms must be accessed by a sales associate. According to the Change to Win group, its survey showed that, in nine of these markets, CVS was three times more likely to lock up the condoms in communities of color.

Among other drug chains, Walgreens said it does not keep condoms under lock and key but does have other security measures in place. Rite Aid does not have a specific policy regarding condom access but, there too, people might require the assistance of a sales associate to obtain condoms in some stores where a high level of theft is an issue, said the company's spokesperson.

## STARTLING RAPE STATISTICS FROM SOUTH AFRICA...

A study commissioned by South Africa's Medical Research Council finds a high degree of sexual violence in that country (based on responses from two provinces).

A sampling of 1,738 South African men from the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provinces were interviewed, using computer-assisted collection to ensure anonymity. Twenty-eight percent (about 487) said they had raped a woman or girl, and about 3 percent said they had raped a man or boy.

In more specific interviews with those who identified as rapists, 75 percent (about 370 of them) said they had first attacked while still in their teens. Nearly half acknowledged doing so more than once. One in 20 men reported raping a woman or girl within the past year. And one in 10 said he himself had been forced into sex with another man.

The study also found that men who are physically violent are twice as likely to be HIV-infected, and more likely to pay for sex and not use condoms. Any woman raped by a man over age 25 has a 25 percent chance

of her attacker being HIV-positive.

"We have a very, very high prevalence of rape in South Africa," said one study coordinator. "I think it is down to ideas about masculinity based on gender hierarchy and the sexual entitlement of men. It's rooted in an African ideal of manhood." Consequently, reporting rapes nearly always leads nowhere. Only 7 percent of reported rapes result in a conviction.

While one would hope that guidance from government officials might emphasize the need for citizens to change their attitudes toward this behavior, that might not soon be forthcoming in South Africa. In fact, the country's president, Jacob Zuma, prior to being elected, stood trial for the rape of a family friend (a 31-year-old AIDS activist who is HIV positive) and was eventually acquitted of that charge as well as accusations of corruption, racketeering, fraud and other charges. Tens of thousands of his supporters demonstrated in the streets around the court house, verbally attacking the woman.

Zuma declared at his trial that the encounter was consensual and that he took a shower afterward "to cut the risk of contracting HIV." His ignorance was lampooned in numerous political cartoons afterward, but he easily went on to win the presidency. The country's previous administration suggested that citizens take garlic, olive oil, and lemons to cure AIDS. South Africa is home to nearly 6 million with HIV and AIDS, more than any other country in the world. Only a small percentage have access to medications. AIDS activists and educators there have a big job ahead of them.

## PORN CLINIC RAID...

California health and occupational safety officials recently conducted a surprise inspection of a medical clinic that tests adult-film actors for HIV and STDs. Since the recent disclosure of another female performer's positive HIV test result, public health officials and AIDS activists have complained that the Adult Industry Medical Healthcare Foundation (AIM) was not cooperating fully in the investigation of that case. The state plans to subpoena information on 18 additional HIV diagnoses AIM has reported since 2004.

"We were unaware of all of these cases until recent reports came out," said a spokesperson for the state Division of Occupational Safety and Health. Legally, AIM clinics should report such information within seven days. "That's why we wanted to get into the clinic. We wanted to interview staff that work there. We wanted to look at records. We want to understand this."

Regulations require film makers to provide protection against the transmission of disease, such as condoms or using film techniques that involve simulations. "There is no reason these infections should be occurring if these employers are following these precautions," said the state spokesman.

The actress who tested HIV-positive and



her two sexual partners have been barred from porn work pending additional testing. In addition, other co-stars of the woman have tested negative but have been quarantined from acting and advised to be re-tested in two weeks because medical experts say it takes almost that long for a person to show signs of infection. The state spokesperson says the industry standard of re-testing every 30 days is inadequate.

### PRODUCT WATCH...

\*\*\*The Food & Drug Administration is warning consumers not to use skin products made by Clarcon because of high levels of disease-causing bacteria found during recent inspections. Some of these bacteria can cause opportunistic infections of the skin and underlying tissues and could result in the need for medical or surgical attention, or cause permanent damage. FDA says its findings, following a recent inspection of the Clarcon facility, are particularly troublesome because the products are promoted as anti-microbial agents that claim to treat open wounds and damaged skin, and protect against various infectious diseases.

Examples of products that should be discarded include Citrusshield Lotion, Dermalentials DermaBarrier, Dermassentials by Clarcon, Antimicrobial Hand Sanitizer, Iron Fist Barrier Hand Treatment, Skin Shield Restaurant, Skin Shield Industrial, Skin Shield Beauty Salon Lotion, Total Skin Care Beauty and Total Skin Care Work.

\*\*\*Homeopathic remedies are also coming under greater scrutiny. (Homeopathy is a philosophy that interprets disease and sickness as caused by disturbances in a hypothetical life force. "Remedies" often contain animal, plant, or mineral substances. Over the years, numerous scientists have viewed homeopathic remedies as quackery -- ineffective but mostly harmless because the actual drugs in them are present in only tiny amounts. But an analysis of a side-effects report by FDA found that more than 800 homeopathic ingredients were potentially implicated in health problems last year. Complaints ranged from vomiting to attempted suicide.)

Recently, FDA has ordered the maker of Zicam homeopathic products to stop marketing three nasal products that contain zinc gluconate after over 130 individuals reported that they had completely lost their sense of smell. The agency ordered Zicam Cold Remedy Nasal Gel, Nasal Swabs and Swabs in Kids' Size taken off the market and said that, before the items can be marketed again, they must be tested for safety and benefit, like any conventional drug.

Let your physician know of all products that you take (aspirin, supplements, etc.), no matter how harmless they may seem, as they could hold potential harm to your immune system and health, or interfere with the performance of the HIV meds that you take.



### IN LOVING MEMORY OF FRIENDS LOST IN JULY

JULY 1985:  
LEON MOUTON  
CLYDE PHELPS

JULY 1987:  
AL ADAMI

JULY 1988:  
JOSE PEREZ  
EDWARD SPRETER  
MICHAEL MATTOS

JULY 1989:  
GREG LYNN  
GARY KRAMP  
ROBERT STEARNS  
DON WRIGHT  
KENT JAY ("KJ") VASCO  
PATRICK NOE  
MILTON MEADOWS  
DUANE TRAVIS

JULY 1990:  
DAVID TOOTHAKER  
EDDIE NUNES  
SCOTT E. SMITH

JULY 1991:  
STEVE KOPPE  
ROBERT HATTON  
MICHAEL QUEEN

JULY 1992:  
KERRY SUTTON  
SPENCER CLARK FIELDS  
CHUCK NOVAK  
PIERRE NADEAU  
DAVID JONES

JULY 1993:  
TODD CRONKHITE  
REV. LARRY DUNLAP  
CHRISTOPHER CALDWELL  
RAUL RESENDEZ  
CURTIS LYMAS  
SEAN C. L. MCGILL  
ROBERT PRICE  
STANLEY SPEAKMAN  
KENNETH JOHNSON  
BOBBY HARRIS  
PHILLIP JAMES REED

JULY 1994:  
GLENN COOPER  
TOM DESROSIER  
ROB AUMAN  
ROB GILL  
DALE PARKER  
DWIGHT BOWES  
RON BENTLEY  
JIM GEARHEART  
BRETT BOULDEN  
TERRI HANNA  
ERIC MICHAEL MOORE  
JAMES PATTERSON  
GILL FORMAN  
MANZEL JOHNSON  
DICK CONGDON

JULY 1995:  
PHILLIP R.  
KIMBERLY SHAMPINE  
JOHN MARK VINCENT  
MICHEL BONDIEU  
EUGENE HARRIS

JULY 1996:  
RICKY REA

CHRIS KEEFE  
MICHAEL S.  
COREY E.  
MARK J.  
DIANE HAYES  
BILL GREGORY

JULY 1997:  
DAVID HELMSLEY  
DAVID "STEVE" COULAM  
THEODORE HAGGERTY

JULY 1998:  
STEVEN GOEBEL  
JOHN "LA KISH" DARLING

JULY 1999:  
DARREL "BUZZ"  
GARETTE

JULY 2001:  
LARRY DUANE OAKS

JULY 2003:  
JONATHON BOYER  
MICHAEL BENBROOK

MARGARET ALTON  
KEN DEVAULT

JULY 2004:  
JUDIE ZUNTAG  
ERIC TEGTMEYER

JULY 2005:  
CAMERON ROBB

JULY 2006:  
WES PATTERSON  
NEAL LINDHJEM

JULY 2007:  
BILL BERSET

YEAR UNKNOWN:  
WENDELL MEEKS  
BOB MOORE  
JOHN MURPHY

## LOVED, REMEMBERED AND FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

TO ADD THE NAMES OF LOVED ONES TO MGW'S REMEMBRANCE COLUMN CALL 737-0309.





BY MICHAEL R. GORMAN

## A Spiritual Struggle That is No Longer Mine

When I read about my gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered brothers and sisters and sisbros who struggle in such pain to find admittance into the faith communities of their families and their upbringing, I find myself feeling compassion and frustration in equal measure. Part of me understands the desire to be welcomed into the faith families that have never before welcomed us. I remember that hope vividly. I grew up torn between love and anger toward my pre-Vatican-II-mass-in-Latin-bones-of-the-saints-Irish-Catholicism. We were hard core Catholic; I was an altar boy, and later a eucharistic minister, lector, catechism teacher, and musician for folk masses, and I even attended the Catholic grammar school in Maryland founded by the first native born American saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton! Even the fundamentalist, Pentecostal Christian church that was my eventual rebellion against the church of Rome was a home in which I desperately wanted to live as a valued son. After I came out of the closet at age 30 and was tossed over the wall with the rest of the Satanic refuse, I tried repeatedly to find a church that would accept me, my son, and my lover as an equal family in the faith. But one can only stand the burning brimstone speech so many times before giving up in tears.

Then there is the frustration of the other part of me who watches the religious struggles of my queer tribe, the part that has found spiritual peace outside the church who wants to shout that the faith communities who continue to discriminate against us do not deserve our fabulous presence, our prodigious talents, our deep abiding spiritual longing, and our creativity. They do not deserve our unconditional generosity of time and ability in the face of their continued marginalization of us. I want to shout like a prophet out of the Torah, "Come out of the desolation and the wilderness and enter the promised land that has always been here for you!"

Ironically, it was my ancestors who saved me from the shame of the churches of my parents.

As a vilified outsider to the church, I began to see other things I found impossible to reconcile in my former church homes: the patriarchal structure, the fact that the Godhead had a son and a father but no mother and no daughter and certainly no gay son, the uncomfortably close relationship of the church leadership and the seats of money and power in the secular culture, the silent collusion of churches to such travesties as slavery, anti-Semitism, sexism, genocide of indigenous peoples, predatory capitalism, homophobia, xenophobia, war. And the money. Always the money, those number branded artificial leaves of green that never can approach the beauty of a single dogwood leaf in the forest. I began searching in the hopes of finding a spirituality that was compatible with the little boy I used to be, whose heart of hearts loved the rainbow of diversity among people and animals and flowers, and who hiked alone into the natural world to converse with the trees, greet the birds, and dance secretly with the faeries.

I saw deity in the face of a pond and the patterns of the clouds more than I ever saw it on the rough splinters of a bloody cross, but I knew instinctually that I could not share my apostasy with anyone lest I be condemned in the worst way, labeled an enemy of the God of Abraham. Well, once I was free of the closet and transformed overnight from everyone's ideal father, church leader, and husband to the evil spawn of Satan, I found myself already condemned as a gay man, and that gave me a great freedom to embark on my own spiritual journey unencumbered by dogma and fear and judgment. Once you belong to hell, what more can they do to you? I think I know why others stay in the church to struggle against it's animosity and distrust toward us, but I chose instead to open the Wittenberg doors rather than nail demands on them, and to walk out rather than wait for the permission from the clergy to be honestly me and spiritually me at the same time. To my great delight, I walked out into the arms of my ancestors.

I learned in my search for spiritual roots that my Irish Celtic ancestors, even well into the Christian era, had always considered GLBT people to be a sacred part of the tribe. Because the Celts took their wisdom from the natural world, believing the creation to be an accurate reflection of the creator, and since we queer folk were a part of the natural world simply by virtue of our existence, we were therefore sacred as nature is sacred. I quickly exchanged original sin for original sanctity. I learned that all of those things I longed for in my participation in civil rights struggles — celebration of diversity, equality of women, acceptance of queer folk, the eradication of poverty, harmony with the environment, the replacement of revenge with rehabilitation in the law — were written into the law of the Celts, as we still have recorded in the Brehon Law, a thousand years before the dawn of the Christian era. I learned that, as in Native America culture, queer folk in Celtica were not only considered integral to the whole tribe, they were considered special. The educated class of the Celts, the Druids, were often called "the walkers between the worlds" in their philosophic, social, and spiritual bridge building capacity, so when a child showed signs of being gay, that child was deemed one of the special ones, born walking between the worlds, and was sent off to study with the Druids to become one of the wise ones. I learned that one of the greatest heroes of Celtic mythology, a warrior and Druid name Finn McCool, was fostered, raised, and trained by a lesbian couple, one a warrior woman and the other a Druid, the sister of Finn's mother. Why did no one ever tell me that my own ancestors considered me special!? What a revelation! What a joy! What a freedom! What a challenge to the false and discriminatory way that my own history was fed to me at home and at school. What a vindication of the longings of my heart!

It was the Roman style church that continued the work of Julius Caesar and tried to burn all traces of the egalitarian, gender inclusive, nature honoring, universal education advocating ways of the ancient Celts, because they were such a threat to the system that was Rome, both secular and sacred. What woman would tolerate being property of her husband if she were to meet a Celtic woman who was a judge? How would the common people, the plebeians, be kept working their lives away unquestioningly for the enrichment of the wealthy few if some Druid were to start educating them the way they did their own working class folk? How would the foundations of Rome stand if every person considered himself or herself sacred to their extended family of deities who were as egalitarian as the Celts were? How would the power structure of the empire continue without the wrath of the angry gods to hold over the heads of the people? How could the people be frightened into submission of they were to understand the reconciliatory nature of the Celtic justice system rather than the bloody imagery of the crucifixion lined roads of Rome? How could Rome sustain the supremacy of men if their warriors acted like Celtic warriors and felt free to make love to each other, thus betraying their gender and embracing the role of a woman, rather than restricting their same gender sex to the dominance of subservient boys and effeminate men who are no better than women anyway? How could land ownership continue as a foundation of the empire if the people learned from the Druids that land, water, and air are the free heritage of everyone and must be equally shared? How would the priests and bishops and popes hold the loyalty and money of the people if the people listened to the self empowerment nonsense taught by the Druids and began to think they could speak directly to the spirits of nature and to the Gods and Goddesses as if they were beloved family members? No, this dangerous culture must be burned and buried and wiped off the face of the earth without delay!

Everywhere the Caesar went, the burning of the libraries was sure to follow. And the Rome of Caesar gave birth to the Romanized Church and Romanized England, and those two parents gave

birth to America, so the cover-up continues ... for now.

That is why so few people of European descent know of the culture of the Celts, or even that the Celts at their height stretched from Turkey to Portugal and from the Mediterranean Sea to the tip of Scotland. (The Romans called the Celts "the Galli." St. Paul's letter to the Galatians in the New Testament is a letter to a Celtic settlement in what is now Turkey. He called them stubborn. That makes me happy.) Almost anyone of European ancestry has some amount of Celtic blood and therefore claim to a heritage of at least 3000 years of spiritual and social acceptance and celebration of gay people. And that heritage has continue unbroken until today, sometimes underground, sometimes blossoming out in bohemian communities in the cities of the western world. (Bohemia was originally a Celtic area of Europe named after the Boii subtribe of the Celtic nation.) And now, that unbroken heritage is being directly reborn as never before in the modern neo-Pagan movement, the Druid revival of the past 100 years or so, and in the Celtic revivals across the land. (When was the last time you saw a "Roman Music" section in a store? A Celtic Music section?)

When it comes to spiritual history, (and the history of music and art, as well) no tradition from Europe is older than the Celtic tradition (which includes, by the way, the nature-based Celtic Christianity born in Ireland that the Roman Church worked so hard to bury along with its parent culture), and no western pattern of homophobia can hold a candle to the longevity and resilience of the true European heritage of acceptance and celebration of everyone who brings a different perspective to the table, most assuredly and adamantly including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people. As for the other areas of the globe, a look at the indigenous peoples from around the world will find a similar reverence for the wisdom of nature, and therefore an inclusion of all varieties of people, including sexual and gender minorities. In a tribal culture, as in any natural ecosystem, diversity is a necessity for survival. Any high school biology text will tell you that lack of genetic diversity is a recipe for death. That is a simple fact of the sacred natural world, eugenics be damned.

The hierarchical, patriarchal, anthropocentric form of Christianity may have won out over Celtic Christianity at the Synod of Whitby in 650 CE, but it will never be able to rival the much older and still strong history of queer acceptance that historians are now begrudgingly beginning to acknowledge. Why would anyone today struggle against the newcomer traditions of homophobia when such a rich heritage is ours for the taking?

As for me, I need no priest or pastor to tell me I am okay when my ancestors are so busy setting up the banquet that is my inheritance. I have too much life to live and too much joy to embrace and too much truth to seek and to much creation to participate in to be distracted and slowed down and encumbered by the upstarts who have not yet overcome the rule of Rome. I have too many spirits in my family still, from the rivers to the trees to my human family to my beloved Gods and Goddesses to get to know and love more completely.

Finally after a long and winding spiritual journey, I have no restrictions on love, and I have no intention of ever returning to any community that tells me there is some group or some individual, or some aspect of the wonder of creation that I cannot love and celebrate unconditionally. There are too many lifetimes of love and discovery to live to be tied to such backwards foolishness.

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## Earth Talk

EMAGAZINE.COM

**Don't some scientists point to sunspots and solar wind as having more impact on climate change than human industrial activity?**

Sunspots are storms on the sun's surface that are marked by intense magnetic activity and play host to solar flares and hot gassy ejections from the sun's corona. Scientists believe that the number of spots on the sun cycles over time, reaching a peak—the so-called Solar Maximum—every 11 years or so. Some studies indicate that sunspot activity overall has doubled in the last century. The apparent result down here on Earth is that the sun glows brighter by about 0.1 percent now than it did 100 years ago.

Solar wind, according to NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, consists of magnetized plasma flares and in some cases is linked

to sunspots. It emanates from the sun and influences galactic rays that may in turn affect atmospheric phenomena on Earth, such as cloud cover. But scientists are the first to admit that they have a lot to learn about phenomena like sunspots and solar wind, some of which is visible to humans on Earth in the form of Aurora Borealis and other far flung interplanetary light shows.

Some skeptics of human-induced climate change blame global warming on natural variations in the sun's output due to sunspots and/or solar wind. They say it's no coincidence that an increase in sunspot activity and a run-up of global temperatures on Earth are happening concurrently, and view regulation of carbon emissions as folly with negative ramifications for our economy and tried-and-true energy infrastructure.

"[V]ariations in solar energy output have far more effect on Earth's climate than soccer moms driving SUVs," Southwestern Law School professor Joerg Knipprath, writes in his 'Token Conservative' blog. "A rational thinker would understand that, especially if he or she has some understanding of the limits of human influence. But the global warming boosters have this unbounded hubris that it is humans who control nature, and that human activity can terminally despoil the planet as well as cause its salvation."

Many climate scientists agree that sunspots and solar wind could be playing a role in climate change, but the vast majority view it as very minimal and attribute Earth's warming primarily to emissions from industrial activity—and they have thousands of peer-reviewed studies available to back up that claim.

Peter Foukal of the Massachusetts-based firm Heliophysics, Inc., who has tracked sunspot intensities from different spots around the globe dating back four centuries, also concludes that such solar disturbances have little or no impact on global warming. Nevertheless, he adds, most up-to-date climate models—including those used by the United Nations' prestigious Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)—incorporate the effects of the sun's variable degree of brightness in their overall calculations.

Ironically, the only way to really find out if phenomena like sunspots and solar wind are playing a larger role in climate change than most scientists now believe would be to significantly reduce our carbon emissions. Only in the absence of that potential driver will researchers be able to tell for sure how much impact natural influences have on the Earth's climate.

**Contest: NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, [www.solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov](http://www.solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov); Token Conservative Blog, [www.tokenconservative.com](http://www.tokenconservative.com); IPCC, [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch).**

**Are the United States' vast oil shale resources a potential source of energy?**

Oil shale is a fine-grained sedimentary rock that contains significant amounts of kerogen, a solid mixture of organic chemical compounds that can be converted into synthetic liquid fuel similar to oil, or into shale gas similar to petroleum-derived natural gas.

Geologists believe there is more oil shale out there in the rocks of the world—three trillion barrels worth of fuel—than there is oil in existing reserves globally.

Oil shale has been mined extensively in Brazil, China, Estonia, Germany, Israel and Russia, but up to two-thirds of the world's supply lies in the Green River basin of the western United States, including parts of Wyoming, Utah and Colorado. To date, these American oil shale resources remain virtually untapped, but an 11th hour executive order by the Bush administration in 2008 put two million acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land across Wyoming, Utah and Colorado up for lease to oil shale extractors.

Other nations with oil shale reserves have been mining them for decades for power generation and other uses, but American enthusiasm has run hot and cold, depending on oil prices. The U.S. was bullish on oil shale during the 1970's oil shocks, but when gas prices fell again, so did the enthusiasm for oil shale.

American companies didn't look into mining domestic oil shale again until 2003—again, thanks to spiking oil prices. George W. Bush's Energy Policy Act of 2005 officially opened federal lands to oil shale extraction. But then once again lowered oil prices, along with environmental concerns and growing enthusiasm for renewable energy sources left oil shale's future in the U.S. again uncertain.

For their part, environmental groups are unequivocally against oil shale extraction. For one, extracting operations destroy affected landscapes, forcing plants and animals out, with regeneration unlikely for decades. Another big issue with oil shale extraction is water usage. The process requires as much as five barrels of water—for dust control, cooling and other purposes—for every barrel of shale oil produced.

Oil shale extraction is also very energy-intensive, and as such is no solution to our global warming woes. Researchers have found that a gallon of shale oil can emit as much as 50 percent more carbon dioxide than a gallon of conventional oil would over its given lifecycle from extraction to tailpipe.

Due to these concerns and others, 13 environmental groups, including the Wilderness Society, Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council, teamed up in January 2009 to file suit against the federal government for opening up all that western U.S. land to oil shale development. The suit contends that the BLM failed to properly consider air quality and endangered species impacts in the region. The groups also contend that the development would require the construction of 10 new coal-fired power plants in order to get at and process the oil shale, significantly upping the carbon footprint of the entire region.

Green groups hope that the Obama administration will overturn Bush's decision to lease development rights on the land, which is near three national parks in one of the least developed parts of the U.S.

**Contacts: Bureau of Land Management, [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov); Wilderness Society, [www.wilderness.org](http://www.wilderness.org); Sierra Club, [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org); Natural Resources Defense Council, [www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org).**

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# LGBT NON-PROFIT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTORY



**GAYSACRAMENTO.ORG**



**GAYSACRAMENTO.ORG IS AN ALL-INCLUSIVE, INTERACTIVE INFORMATION AND RESOURCE HUB FOR LGBT SACRAMENTO.**

**THE SITE OFFERS A SPRING BOARD TO ALL OTHER LGBT WEBSITES IN SACRAMENTO AND KEEPS OUR COMMUNITY INFORMED ON THE LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS AND WHERE TO FIND THE COMMUNITY RESOURCES THEY NEED.**

## ACTIVISM

Equality Action NOW, a Sacramento based grassroots organization dedicated to mobilizing concerned citizens to promote equality for all. Formed in the wake of Prop. 8 the group works to see that LGBT voices and concerns are represented in the larger community. 916.446.1082, [equalityactionnow.org](http://equalityactionnow.org)

## BARS

1099 Club: 1099 S. Virginia St. Reno NV, [ten99club.com](http://ten99club.com) 775-329-1099

5-Star Saloon: 132 West St. Reno NV, [5starsaloon.com](http://5starsaloon.com)

Badlands Dance Bar: Mon - Sat 4pm to 2am, Sun 2pm to 2am, 2003 K St., 916.448.8790, [sacbadlands.com](http://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](http://sacbolt.com)

Brave Bull, 701 S 9th St., Modesto, 209-529-6712, [thebravebull.com](http://thebravebull.com)

Cadillac Lounge, 1114 E. Fourth St. Reno NV

Club 21: 1119 21st St.

Club Yamagata, 16225 Main Street Guerneville, [clubyamagata.com](http://clubyamagata.com), 707-869-9383

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

FACES Nightclub: 2000 K St., 916-448-7798, [faces.net](http://faces.net)

Mercantile Saloon: 1928 L St., 916.447-0792

Headhunters/ROK: Restaurant, Bar Service until 2am, 1930 K Street, [headhuntersonk.com](http://headhuntersonk.com)

Mustang Club, 413 7TH St, Modesto, 209-522-0393

Neutron Bar, 340 Kietzke Lane - Reno

Rainbow Cattle CO, 16220 Main St. Guerneville, [queersteer.com](http://queersteer.com), 707-869-0206

Russian River Resort (Triple R), 16390 4th St. Guerneville [russianriverresort.com](http://russianriverresort.com), 707-869-0691

The Patio: 600 West 5th St. Reno NV. 775-323-6565, [thepatiobar.com](http://thepatiobar.com)

Tronix: 303 Kietzke Lane, Reno NV

## BUSINESS

Rainbow Chamber of Commerce: Business association promoting networking within the gay and lesbian business community and its supporters. [rainbowchamber.com](http://rainbowchamber.com)

Valley Rainbow Pages: A directory of LGBT-owned and LGBT-friendly businesses in the Greater Sacramento Valley. [vrp.info](http://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](http://www.campitup.org)

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

Lesbian Families: A forum for Lesbian couples with children. [geocities.com/lesbianfamilies/index.html](http://geocities.com/lesbianfamilies/index.html)

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


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](http://pflagsacramento.org)

## FESTIVALS - EVENTS

Reno Gay Pride, August 15th 2009, [renogaypride.com](http://renogaypride.com)

Sacramento Pride: (June) Annual Pride celebration for

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TO ADD YOUR LISTING: [EDITOR@MOMGUESSWHAT.COM](mailto:EDITOR@MOMGUESSWHAT.COM)**




877-887-9218 [WWW.RRWOODS.COM](http://WWW.RRWOODS.COM)  
16486 4th Street, Guerneville, CA 95446

**SeniorGays.org**  
Support Group for the Senior GLBT Community



As seniors we face common problems of aging, illness and the loss of friends, partners, and relatives. As LGBT people, we sometimes face estrangement from our neighbors and families. It would be good to unite to form a community of support for each other in Sacramento as well as online. In other cities such organizations have flourished and have provided companionship, fellowship, and mutual nurturing to LGBT seniors.



Sacramento, hosted by the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian center. [sacmentopride.org](http://sacmentopride.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](http://rainbowfestival.com)

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

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

Sonoma County Pride. Guerneville May 31, 2009

## GALLERIES

Crocker Art Museum: The longest continuously operating art museum in the West founded 1885. [crockerartmuseum.org](http://crockerartmuseum.org)

Kennedy Gallery: 1114 20th St. Tues.-Sat. Noon to 7pm and by appointment. [mmkgallery.com](http://mmkgallery.com)

## HIV | AIDS

Anonymous HIV Testing Services: Harm reduction Services, 3647 40th St., Wednesdays 8am - 5pm; Appointments are required for testing. 916-875-6022  
Breaking Barriers: Provides a wide range of services for people living with HIV. 2200 21st St., 916-447-2437, [breakingbarriers-sacramento.org](http://breakingbarriers-sacramento.org)

Capital City AIDS Fund: Raises money for HIV/AIDS services in the Sac. area. CCAF's activities include Oscar® Night (Feb. 2010), NorCal AIDS Challenge (May 14-17, 2009), and Sacramento Valley AIDS Run Walk (Sept., 2009). [capcityaidsfund.org](http://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](http://caresclinic.org)

Face to Face - Sonoma Co. AIDS Network [www.f2f.org](http://www.f2f.org) 707-544-1581

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](http://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](http://norcalaidschallenge.net)

Northern Nevada H.O.P.E.S., P.O. Box 6420, Reno NV. [nnhopes.org](http://nnhopes.org), 888-467-3144

Sacramento Valley AIDS Run/Walk: Sept. 14, 2008. 916-448-1110, [sacvalleyaidsrunwalk.org](http://sacvalleyaidsrunwalk.org)

Sac. Valley Pozabilities: HIV+ social group. [sacvalleypozabilities@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://myspace.com/cgnie)

## LAW | POLITICS

California Communities United Institute promotes the social, economic, and human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals, couples, and families; people affected by HIV/AIDS; people of color; women; and people of low economic status. We urge elected officials to enact and support legislation that accomplishes this goal. [calcomui.org](http://calcomui.org)

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](http://cvstonewall.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](http://cappac.net)

Green Party of Sacramento County: P.O. Box 2082, Sacramento, CA 95812, 916-484-4000, [sacgreens.org](http://sacgreens.org)

Libertarian Party of Sac.: P.O. Box 3003, Orangevale, CA 95662, [lpsacramento.com](http://lpsacramento.com)

Log Cabin Republicans: [logcabin.org/logcabinca/sacramento\\_chapter.html](http://logcabin.org/logcabinca/sacramento_chapter.html)

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](http://saclegal.org)

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](http://sacstonewall.org)

## NEW MEDIA

Being Gay Today: Sacramento's oldest, still-running LGBT TV show. Comcast Cable. Access Sac, channel 17. Thurs. 10pm, Now on myspace and youtube. [beinggaytoday.com](http://beinggaytoday.com)

Checkedred Nation Video Show: A gay-focused internet chat show in and around Sacramento. [checkedrednation.com](http://checkedrednation.com)

Transponder Radio: Internet radio show covering many transgender issues. [transponder.com](http://transponder.com)

## PERFORMANCE

A Small Difference Women's Choral Ensemble: Women, under the direction of Sage Brown, dedicated to performing music with a message. [smalldifference.org](http://smalldifference.org)

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](http://sgmchorus.org)

Sacramento DanceSport: The Largest Same-Sex Dance Program in the United States. Classes, performances and competition. [sacdancesport.com](http://sacdancesport.com)

True Colors Women's Chorus: Women building a community through their love of music. 877-758-7827, [truecolorschorus.org](http://truecolorschorus.org)

## RELIGION - SPIRITUALITY

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

Atheists and Other Freethinkers: Promoting the civic understanding and acceptance of atheism in our community. [aofonline.org](http://aofonline.org)

Atonement Lutheran: Welcomes all people, regardless of race, language, previous denominational affiliation, gender, or sexual orientation. [at-one.org](http://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](http://groveoftheoak.org)

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer: LGBT affirming and supports the Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministries. [lcorsac.org](http://lcorsac.org)

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

Sacramento Friends Meeting (Quaker) 890 57th St, Sacramento., 916-457-3998 [sacfriendsmtg.org](http://sacfriendsmtg.org)

St. Mark's United Methodist Church: A Christian community welcoming a diverse congregation. [stmarksumc.com](http://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](http://stpaulssacramento.org)

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral: LGBT affirming. Christian worship, life and ministry. 2620 Capitol Ave., 916-446-2513, [trinitycathedral.org](http://trinitycathedral.org)

Valley Ministries: Existing to communicate God's love and accept all people. 4118 Coronado Ave, Stockton. 209-464-5244, [valleyministries.com](http://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](http://westminsac.org)

## RESOURCES

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

GaySacramento.org: Interactive online resource for LGBT Sac. news, events and community resources. [gaysacramento.org](http://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](http://lavenderlibrary.org)

[yourgayreno.com](http://yourgayreno.com) Online resource for Reno residents

[outsacramento.com](http://outsacramento.com): Internet links, photos, message board and news for LGBT Sacramento. [outsacramento.com](http://outsacramento.com)

Diversity R Us: Support group for Yuba City-Marysville LGBT. [groups.yahoo.com/group/diversityrus](http://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](http://flagamador.webs.com)

Gaysonoma.com: Online Guide to events, personals, gay businesses, community organizations, classifieds, for Sonoma County LGBT. [gaysonoma.com](http://gaysonoma.com)

"If The Shoe Fits": Gay/lesbian organization in the Foothills of El Dorado County that provides

social/recreational activities for members. [itsnews.org](http://itsnews.org)

Nevada County Pride: Social network of gays and lesbians in western Nevada County in California. [nevadacountypride.org](http://nevadacountypride.org)

Out In The Mother Lode: Social network for fun/support among the LGBT in the central sierra foothills. [outinthemotherlode.org](http://outinthemotherlode.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](http://rainbowfrontier.org)

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](http://saccenter.org)

Sierra Gay Men's Network: A newsletter & blog with news for Gay Men and their friends in the Sierra Foothills of California. [sgmn.org](http://sgmn.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](http://solanopride.org)

Stanislaus Pride Center: Resources and support for LGBT persons in Stanislaus and surrounding counties. [stanpride.org](http://stanpride.org)

Stonewall Alliance of Chico: Services and support for LGBT people in Chico and surrounding areas. [stonewallchico.org](http://stonewallchico.org)

## SENIORS

Senior Gays: A resource for the senior LGBT and friendly community. [SeniorGays.org](http://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](http://iagsdc.org/capitalcity)

High Sierra Primetimers, 1730 Aquila Dr. Reno, 775-324-6785

Males Au Naturel Sacramento (MANS) - A gay/bi male naturist organization for men who enjoy social naturism in positive. [groups.yahoo.com/group/malesaunaturelsacramento](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/malesaunaturelsacramento)  
Natomas LGBTQ: A group to connect Natomas area queers for in-person social activities. An alternative to the bar scene. [natomaslgbtq.wordpress.com](http://natomaslgbtq.wordpress.com)

Sac Woof Society: A social group for bears and bear lovers. [sacwoofsociety.net](http://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](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sacgaybookgroup)

Pink Pistols - LGBT group with an interest in shooting sports and self defense. [pinkpistols.org/local/sacramento](http://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](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SacramentoProfessionalMensGroup)

Sac. Valley Bears: A social and charitable organization for bears and bear admirers. [sacvalleybears.org](http://sacvalleybears.org)

Sac. Valley Knights: Northern California motorcycle club whose membership consists solely of those who own and ride motorcycles. [valleyknights.org](http://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. [svclub.org](http://svclub.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](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WesternSlopeMensSocialGroup)

Yuba-Sutter Unity: Social, education & community involvement. [gayubasutter.com](http://gayubasutter.com), [groups.yahoo.com/group/Yuba-Sutter-Unity](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Yuba-Sutter-Unity)

## SPORTS

CHEER Sacramento: Volunteer cheerleading squad now cheering at games for West Sacramento Wolverines. [cheersacramento.org](http://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](http://frsac.org)

Gay & Lesbian Sierrans: Lesbians and gay men who enjoy outdoor adventures and camaraderie. [motherlode.sierraclub.org/gls](http://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](http://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](http://rivercitybowlers.homestead.com/about.html)

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

Sacred City Derby Girls (SCDG): Sacramento Women's Roller Derby team. [sacredcityderbygirls.com](http://sacredcityderbygirls.com)

## THEATRE | FILM

Lambda Players: LGBT theatre company now in its 19th Season. 1028 R Street, 916-444-8229, [lambdaplayers.com](http://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](http://sierra2.org)

Capital Stage - Capital Stage, Delta King: 1000 Front Street, [www.capstage.org](http://www.capstage.org)

Mondavi Center - 530-754-ARTS, One Shields Ave. Davis, [mondaviarts.org](http://mondaviarts.org)  
Shiny Object: Weekly showings of independent films and Rocky Horror Picture Show. 600 4th St. West Sacramento, [shiny-object.com](http://shiny-object.com)

The Crest Theatre: 1013 K St., 916-44-CREST. Shows independent and LGBT films. Often hosts Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Film Festival. [thecrest.com](http://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](http://saccenter.org)

Kings of Drag: Performance troupe of women dressing in male drag. [kingsofdrag.com](http://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](http://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](http://geocities.com/Sigma_Delta_Gamma)

Transgender Law Center — Works to make California a state in which we can all fully and freely express gender identities. 870 Market St., Room 823, San Francisco, 415-865-0176, [transgenderlawcenter.org](http://transgenderlawcenter.org)

Sacramento FTM Support Group, Lavendar Library located at 1414 21st St. Sacramento, First Tuesday of every month, A safe, supportive environment for individuals who were born female bodied and identify as male. [lavenderlibrary.org](http://lavenderlibrary.org)

Sacramento Transgender Coalition, SacTGC, is an alliance of transgender groups who wish to strengthen the transgender community in Sacramento so we can collaborate to make changes and educate the general public about the proper terms and treatment of all transgender individuals, young and old. [sactgc.org](http://sactgc.org)

Trans Families Sacramento, Support group for families with transgender members. They meet on the third Sunday of every month in the Lavender Library (1414 21st St., Sacramento) from 6-8 p.m., [transfamilies@sactgc.org](mailto:transfamilies@sactgc.org)

River City Gems, Celebrating Feminine Expression, A social and support group serving the crossdressing and transgender community of Northern California, [info@rivercitygems.org](mailto:info@rivercitygems.org)

Sutter Gender Identity Support Group at Sutter General Hospital, 2801 L St (28th and L) Downtown Sacramento, The MCC group is an open, non-religious, non-profit, non-sexual social group for those who are serious about their transformation. Meets on the third Saturday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Sutter General Hospital, 2nd floor Conference Room C, 2801 L St. Sacramento, for a potluck and fellowship meeting.

Sacramento Trans Youth, Peer support group for young people in their teens through early twenties, [sactyouth-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:sactyouth-owner@yahoo.com)

Colage, Equal Justice For People with LGBT Parents & Our Families, a national movement of children, youth, and adults with one or more lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or queer (LGBTQ) parents. 1550 Bryant Street, Suite 830, San Francisco, 415-851-KIDS, [colage.org](http://colage.org)

Our Family Coalition, Bay Area LGBT Family Organization, Promotes the rights and well-being of Bay Area LGBT families with children 870 Market Street, Suite 872, San Francisco, 415-981-1960, [info@ourfamily.org](mailto:info@ourfamily.org)

TransGender San Francisco (TGSF), For all members of the Transgendered Community. 415-839-9448, [transgendersanfrancisco@yahoo.com](mailto:transgendersanfrancisco@yahoo.com)

Trans:Thrive, A drop-in center by and for trans. 815 Hyde Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, 415-409-4101

## WOMEN

Adventure Out Women: Business networking, social activities, special events and recreational adventures throughout California year-round. [adventureoutwomen.com](http://adventureoutwomen.com)

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

Rainbow Womyn (Sac.): Online social group for Womyn. [groups.msn.com/RainbowWomynof](http://groups.msn.com/RainbowWomynof)

## SacramentoCA

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](http://sacnow.org)

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

Sisters of Scota Foothills Chapter: Women's Motorcycle Club who rides mostly in the foothills. [soswmcfoothills.org](http://soswmcfoothills.org)

Sisters of Scota 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](mailto:hotmail.com), [soswmc.org](http://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](http://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](http://groups.msn.com/SingleLesbiansofSacramento)

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](http://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](http://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](mailto:pride@csus.edu), [csus.edu/pride](http://csus.edu/pride)

Delta Lambda Phi: A non-secret, non-hazing, national social fraternity founded by gay men for all men. [dlp.org/iota/DLP.htm](http://dlp.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](http://ldlucdavis.org/about.htm)

Modesto LGBTQ Youth: LGBTQ Youth in Modesto and surrounding areas. [myspace.com/lgbtqmodesto](http://myspace.com/lgbtqmodesto)

Rainbow Club Of American River College: LGBT students on the American River Campus. [geocities.com/arc\\_LGBTqclub](http://geocities.com/arc_LGBTqclub)

Queer Straight Alliance CSUS: Social/Activist group on campus. [myspace.com/queerstraightalliance](http://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](http://RespectSacramento.org)

Sac Youth Yahoo Group: Forum for LGBT and friendly youth under 21 years old. [sacyouth.net](http://sacyouth.net) [groups.yahoo.com/group/sacyouth](http://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](mailto:PitmanG@scc.losrios.edu), [wserv.scc.losrios.edu/~LGBT/index.html](http://wserv.scc.losrios.edu/~LGBT/index.html)

U.C. Davis LGBT Resource Center: Campus Center for LGBT students. 530-752-2452, [lgbcenter.ucdavis.edu](http://lgbcenter.ucdavis.edu)

## LAVENDER LIBRARY ARCHIVES & CULTURAL EXCHANGE

1414 21ST ST. • [LAVENDERLIBRARY.ORG](http://LAVENDERLIBRARY.ORG) • 916.492.0558



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FRIDAY: 4:30PM - 8PM  
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SUNDAY: NOON - 6PM**



*Sacramento*

*We meet the third Tuesday of each month.  
Come Join Us!*

**(877) RCC-SAC4**  
(877) 722-7224

[www.RainbowChamber.com](http://www.RainbowChamber.com)





**Dragaliscious at FACES every Sunday night!**  
**Photos by Jay Lensch**  
**More Photos available at [momguesswhat.com](http://momguesswhat.com)**



# KENNEDY GALLERY ART CENTER

**GRAND OPENING  
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Featuring some of Northern California's finest artists: Brenda Boles, Kristen Hoard, Keith Hopkins, Bill McClain, Michelle McKenzie, Judith Monroe, Phil Meyers, Pat Orner, Angela Ridgeway, Lori Wylie

Kennedy Gallery Art Center  
1114 20th Street, Sacramento, CA 95811  
916-446-1522, [www.MMKGallery.com](http://www.MMKGallery.com)

Hours of Operation:  
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Above and right: More photos from Guerneville Pride Weekend. Below: Renee' (Angel) Garcia, owner and river guide at Russian River Outfitters, [russianriveroutfitters.com](http://russianriveroutfitters.com). Photos by Nina Cantacessi











MIZZMONQUIE74@AOL.COM

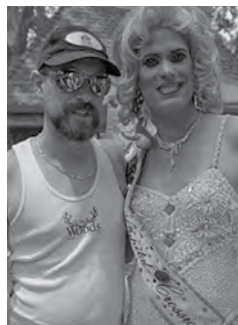
## The Last Word

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2000 K ST., SACRAMENTO

Hope everyone had a great Pride Month! Let me start this off by congratulating the current semi-final winner from the FACES Queer Idol contest, Damien, who sang "Sweet Transvestite" from the *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. He was amazing: dressed the part, acted it out and won! Now he's off to finals in nine weeks! I am a judge at every Queer Idol and gave him very high scores that night. Queer Idol is a Karaoke contest held at FACES Nightclub every Monday night right after my Movie



Madness Monday which starts at 9 p.m. and ends at 11 p.m.

This past month I have been out on the town quite a bit and getting a little tipsy at the clubs. I love to go club-hopping throughout Lavender Heights' strip of gay bars.

I went to the parade this year and got there really

early because my drag-son Gary — aka Silver Moore, the reigning Miss SCCGRA — was in the parade on the Rodeo float. I woke up at 6 a.m. after getting home from Club Papi at 3 a.m. which was open for after hours at FACES, at which I had a *fabulous* time!

I started painting my daughter Silver at 7 a.m. and got her to the parade around 9 a.m. and — WOW! — she looked like a thin Dolly Parton that day! The parade was great! It was great to see all the new types of organizations getting involved and marching and riding in the parade this year.

After we went into the festival which cost \$10 to get into — and I didn't understand why they were charging that much to get in, especially when they didn't even have a headline performer. San Jose had pop singer Brandy headlining the week before at their gay pride.

This year there were no drag queen entertainers performing on any of the stages — I have no clue why. I would have loved to have had my girls from the Dragalicious show perform — *for free* — like we did last year and rock the place. I just don't understand



why there wasn't any type of drag show at this gay pride event.

A lot of people were asking me what time the show was going to start and all I told them was, "Sunday night at 9 p.m. at FACES."

I had a fabulous time walking around and visiting all the booths. My favorite part of gay pride this year was in the liquor area where the Rodeo Association tent had a game for a dollar. The object of the game was a chicken had to lay a turd on your number on a board. If it does, you win \$50. It was hilarious! I almost won and you wouldn't believe how many people stood around watching, screaming and cheering for a chicken to shit.

After being at gay pride for seven hours I went home to rest and get into drag to go out club-hopping. Wow, did I get totally toasted that night bouncing from bar to bar. My last stop was



FACES where I ended the night of Pride Festivities.

I don't think I will be going to San Francisco's Pride Parade this year because Sacramento's wore my Cha-Cha Heels out.

Sunday came along and I headed to A Church For All, which is now being held at

Club 21 every Sunday afternoon at 1:30 p.m., and got some spirit in me. If you haven't been to this church, I encourage you to go because it is amazing! After getting the Lord in me, I went to prepare for Dragalicious. What a great night that was — but very exhausting.

Monday I got in drag again for Movie Madness Night at FACES where we watched *Dreamgirls*. I love this movie so much and that Jennifer Hudson can sing her heart out! But I still think that the original singer of "And I Am Telling You", Miss Jennifer Holiday, sings it the best. But Miss Hudson comes a very close second. Don't forget that every Monday night at 9 p.m. we show a new movie with free popcorn, lots of drink specials and sell yummy nachos!

Well all good things must come to an end, but before I head off into the sunset I'm gonna talk from my heart right now about a very personal matter and it's very hard to write this. My son who has lived with me for five months had a really bad alcohol problem, he turned 23 years old June 25 and it's hard to believe he is that young because he looks older. I noticed his problem a few months ago when he would go out seven days a week drinking. I spoke with him on this issue, but he never wanted to hear it and would always argue with me about it.

I finally talked him into going to AA. He went to the one at North Hall on Second Ave. which is for gay men and women. He really liked going and liked the people who were still in recovery there, because you are never cured from alcoholism no matter what anyone says.

After going there for two weeks and relapsing three times he finally decided he really wanted to change his life and had the opportunity to go to a rehabilitation center. He will be there for three months. While it hurts me so much to see him go and leave the wings of mother, this is for his own good and I am extremely proud of him for having the strength and courage to better himself.

When he left he said, "Mother, I'm going to prove to you that I can be a better person." I said, "Baby you don't need to prove anything to me. I am gonna love you no matter what way you are — it's all about proving it to yourself."

We cried, hugged and said good-bye. Today my heart is still aching, but I am praying that he will stay the whole three months and come out a better man. It's extremely hard to say good-bye to someone who is with you 24 hours a day and that is a loved one and best friend, which he is to me.

I will be able to visit him after a few weeks, so let me stop moping and start rejoicing that he will be victorious in his recovery! Well, friends and family I am riding off into the sunset. Please be sure to say hi to me if you see me out and about!

*This is Mizz Monique Moore always getting in "The Last Word".*





**WHERE REAL MEN GO TO PARTY!**



**EVERY WEEK AT  
THE BOLT**

**SUNDAYS**  
Beer Bust 3 p.m.  
Bike Night 8 p.m.

**MONDAYS**  
Underwear Night 9 p.m.

**TUESDAYS**  
Shot Night 9 p.m.  
Pint Night 9 p.m.  
Dart League Night

**WEDNESDAYS**  
Free Pizza 5 p.m.  
Free Pool

**THURSDAYS**  
Movie Night 10 p.m.

**FRIDAYS**  
Leather Night 9 p.m.

**SATURDAYS**  
Bear Chest Night 9 p.m.

**2560 BOXWOOD ST., SACRAMENTO**  
**916.649.8420 • WWW.SACBOLT.COM**



**GEAR NIGHT**  
Friday, July 3, 2009  
The Sacramento Valley  
Leathercorps and The BOLT  
present GEAR NIGHT the first  
Friday of every month, 8pm to  
midnight! Gear up and join us!  
We're looking for folks with  
leather/latex pants, chaps, vests,  
shirts, skin gear, uniforms,  
jackets, boots, harnesses - get  
the idea? **BOOTBLACKING** by  
boy dave! No speeches, no  
fundraising, and **NO COVER!**

**4TH OF JULY**  
Saturday, July 4, 2009  
Celebrate Independence Day  
with your friends at The BOLT!  
We'll have **FREE BBQ** (4pm 'til  
it's gone), drink specials, and  
**FIREWORKS!** The doors open at  
2pm! **NO COVER!**

**IML HOMECOMING**  
Saturday, July 4, 2009  
**MR. BOLT LEATHER 2009** for  
his return from the International  
Mr. Leather 2009 competition in  
Chicago! **\$8 BEER/SODA BUST**  
from 9pm to midnight benefits  
the **MR. BOLT LEATHER 2010**  
travel fund! **NO COVER!**

**CAPITAL CROSSROADS  
COWBOY/COWGIRL SOCIAL**  
Tuesday, July 14, 2009  
The second Tuesday of every  
month, join the **COWBOYS**  
and **COWGIRLS** of the Sac  
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!**

# HEAD HUNTERS

**20TH & K ST, SACRAMENTO**

**TUESDAY  
KARAOKE**

**SUNDAY BRUNCH  
10AM-2PM**

**\$10 BOTTOMLESS MIMOSA**

**SECOND SATURDAY  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**HAPPY HOUR STARTING AT 4**

**1ST SUNDAY 4-6PM  
3RD SATURDAY 7-9PM**

**RENDEZVOUS W/ COOL BEANS**

**ALL AGES FREE**

**MYSFACE.COM/RENDEZVOUSLIVEBAND**



# New Weekly Schedule

## Monday

*Win cash - Give-Away @ Midnight*

*Pool Open ALL NIGHT! Karaoke!*

*Movie Madness 9-11pm - Queer Idol @ 11pm*

## Tuesday

*Latin Night • Live Shows • Hot Dancers & Drink Specials*

## Wednesday

*\$1 Well Drinks & Domestic Draft Beers 6-9pm!*

*\$2 Well Drinks & Domestic Draft Beer 9pm-Midnight*

*\$3 Well Drinks & Domestic Draft Beers Midnight-2am*

## Thursday

*SEXXX Thursdays • All Male Strippers, Exotic Shadow Dancing  
Weekly Contests, Karaoke, Hot Dancers, & Drink Specials!*

## Friday

*15 bars & 3 Dance Floors*

*Furlough Fridays "NO COVER" With State I.D. (special events excluded)*

*\$1 Well Drinks & Draft Beers 7-9pm*

## Saturday

*15 Bars & 3 Dance Floors*

*70's Music, Top40, Country, High Energy, R&B & Hot Dancers!*

## Sunday

*Pool Party 2pm to Close!*

*\$2 Well & \$1 Domestic Draft Beer 2-8pm • Free BBQ @ 6pm*

*Dragalicious Show @ 9pm*



**FACES**  
Nightlife Built For You

20th & K Streets • Sacramento • (916) 448-7798 • [www.faces.net](http://www.faces.net)