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**WHEELS &  
TECH ISSUE**



VW's ID Buzz  
Electric Micro Van

Iconic Neon Sign  
Lights Up Old  
Sacramento  
page 6

Living Electric  
with a VW  
page 8

Easy Being  
Green  
page 11

Mighty Thor  
Returns to  
Theaters  
page 17

Three-way  
on the  
Freeway  
page 19





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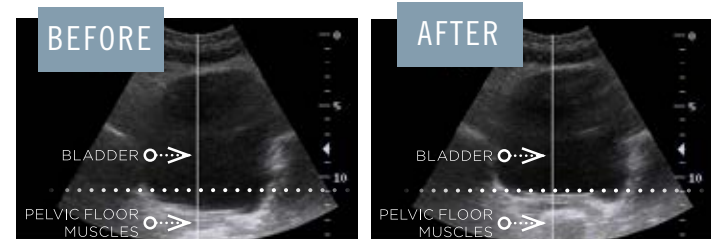
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Nat. Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce  
Nat. Gay & Lesbian Journalist Association  
Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce



# Sacramento Rainbow Chamber Of Commerce Appoints New Executive Committee Members

The Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has elected its new Executive Committee members. Positions include a new Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary, effective July 1, 2022.

"We couldn't be more excited to welcome such an accomplished, dedicated team to serve on this year's Board," said Fred Palmer, Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. "We are proud to have this diverse group of individuals representing our business community and contributing to the success of the Greater Sacramento region."

The Board welcomes Samuel N. Jones, Executive Director for University Housing Services at Sacramento State and former Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Vice Chair, as its new Chair. He succeeds Alexandra Michel, Head of ODH B Production at Opendoor, who served as last year's Board Chair.

"It is an honor to continue serving on the Executive Board, this time in the role of the Chair of the Rainbow Chamber," said Jones. "I look forward to collaborating with our diverse Committee to strengthen the organization and the LGBTQ+ business community."

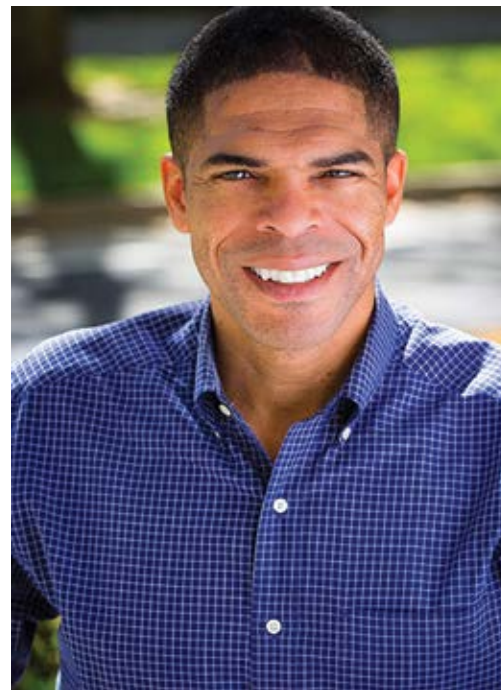
Sara Hanson, Associate Director of Marketing at Broadway Sacramento, will assume the role of Vice Chair.

"I couldn't be more proud to serve alongside this dedicated group of individuals," said Hanson. "I have no doubt that together, we will accomplish great things for the Sacramento business community."

Alexandra Michel, former Rainbow Chamber Chair, was elected as Treasurer. Austin Cooper, a Realtor for Grounded Real Estate, is the new Secretary.

The elected committee members will serve a one-year term and lead the Chamber in its strategic initiatives to serve the Sacramento Region's LGBTQ+ business community.

To learn more about the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, visit: [www.rainbowchamber.com](http://www.rainbowchamber.com).



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Chair**



**Sara Hanson,  
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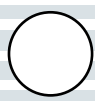
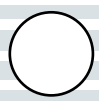
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## Senator Wiener and Assemblymember Haney Joint Statement on Growing Monkeypox Outbreak

**M**onkeypox is a growing public health issue in our community. While the virus can infect anyone, it is particularly impacting gay and bisexual men. We have very little time to contain this outbreak and prevent it from getting out of control and potentially becoming endemic. The good news is that we have an effective vaccine that prevents monkeypox. The bad news is that the federal government has once again had a public health failure, this time by failing to order enough vaccine doses to prepare for this foreseeable outbreak. The federal government needs to dramatically increase the supply of the vaccine and distribute it to impacted local communities as quickly as possible. We have no time to spare. It's completely unacceptable that the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and other community clinics are receiving so few doses. We need a sufficient quantity of vaccines so that everyone who is at risk has access.



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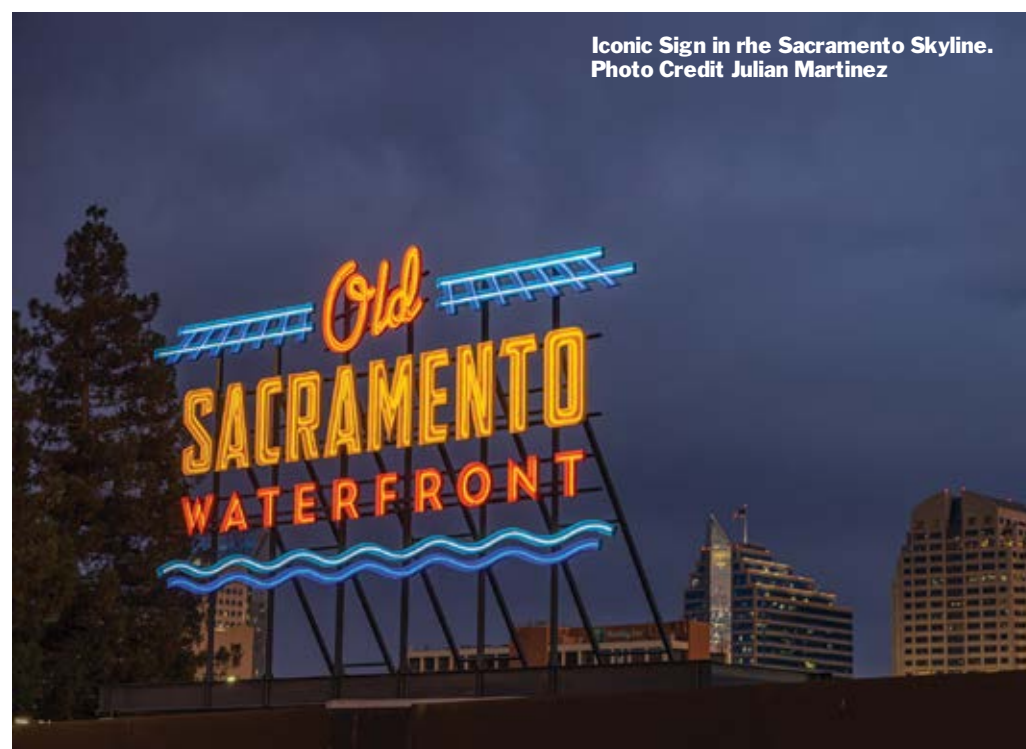
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# Iconic Neon Sign Lights Up Old Sacramento Waterfront

Rising more than 20' above the California State Railroad Museum rooftop and clearly visible from I-5, a welcoming Old Sacramento Waterfront beacon officially lit up the Capital City skyline for the first time at nightfall on June 22, 2022. Over two years in development, the neon-replica sign was custom-designed by Sacramento-based Pacific Neon Company using an environmentally friendly neon alternative, drawing on 7.7 amps (which is less than a hair dryer or a toaster oven would use). This is the largest LED sign of this size and scope in the region, with the next closest in Southern California.

Iconic Sign in the Sacramento Skyline.  
Photo Credit Julian Martinez



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The project was made possible through the Downtown Sacramento Foundation, a public 501(c)(3) nonprofit that funds services and projects that complement the efforts of the Downtown Sacramento Partnership to build a more inclusive and diverse downtown.

"This vibrant and eye-catching new LED sign celebrates the Old Sacramento Waterfront as the heart of our city," said Michael Ault, Executive Director of Downtown Sacramento Partnership. "The iconic sign will serve as an inviting landmark to literally and figuratively elevate Sacramento's profile as the center of innovation, commerce, connectivity, and culture for our region."

This privately funded project cost approximately \$250,000 and was made possible in partnership with many community-driven business and organizations, including (but not limited to): Harvego Family Foundation, Visit Sacramento, SMUD, Union Pacific, Rotary Club of Sacramento Young Professionals, California State Parks Capital District, California State Railroad Museum, Downtown Rail Yard Ventures, DOCO Merchants Association, Downtown Sacramento Partnership, Old Sacramento Waterfront District, Brass Ring Amusements, and the City of Sacramento. Upon completion of the install, the sign was gifted to California State Parks as the future steward of the sign on top of its permanent

home on the California Railroad Museum.

"My father felt that this project was incredibly important to the continued vitality and visibility needed for Old Sacramento to thrive," said Terry Harvego, whose father Lloyd Harvego, the owner of the Firehouse Restaurant and long-time advocate for Old Sacramento Waterfront was a driving force for the iconic sign. "This is one of the last projects - of many - that he poured himself into for our community. I know he would be so proud to see it come to life."

Moving forward, the Old Sacramento Waterfront sign will light up each night at sunset and remain lit until sunrise each morning. While also visible in daytime, the large-scale sign is exceptionally brilliant at night. It is estimated that the sign will be visible to approximately 520,000 individuals each week, all year long.

"This placemaking project is a wonderful example of how our business community, leading organizations, local leadership and public entities such as California State Parks worked together to create something special and meaningful to our city that will increase visitation downtown, drive business and install a sense of community pride," added Ault.

For information and details about the Old Sacramento Waterfront is available at [www.oldsacramento.com](http://www.oldsacramento.com). And, for more information about downtown Sacramento, please visit [GoDowntownSac.com](http://GoDowntownSac.com).





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# Living Electric with a VW

words and photo by Dr. Marc Parent, DNP, RN, CNOR, NPD-BC

I recently purchased an ID.4 Pro. It is an all-electric SUV with an estimated range at full charge of 280 miles. Currently, for electric vehicles that have not reached a threshold market share, the federal government offers \$7500 in tax credit for the vehicle. You can also get up to \$2000 in tax credits for having an in-home charging station installed. California also has grant programs to help subsidize the installation. Getting an EV also qualifies for HOV access once you have applied and the DMV sends you the stickers

Now, for the nitty-gritty. The VW ID.4 does have some issues. Whether this is a general problem, or just my particular vehicle, the ID.4 has computer issues. I get some random errors while my car is booting-up. Usually it is the lane-assist that has an error but the other day, my dome light was slowly blinking on and off. There is also a known problem with battery cooling system. If bubbles develop in the cooling system, you will get a very scary "Car electrical system fault – please service vehicle" message appear. Considering that the car is electric, that message is concerning. Luckily, it is an easy fix, they just have to "burp" the cooling system and the problem goes away. The voice-activation is terrible. I have to repeat myself often and sometimes end up using the touch screen instead of voice activation. However, the vehicle is VERY quiet and does have good acceleration. I did drive it down to SF, around SF a little and back on a 100% charge and still had 20 miles left over.

The range of the vehicle is variable. Very variable. The range depends on what is in use on the vehicle while you are driving it. Use of A/C or heat immediately decreases the range by at least 10 miles. Use of the headlights decreases the range while in use but you get some of that back when the lights aren't in use. I have gone as low as a 20 mile range remaining but typically, I recharge at around 50 miles.

Charging is relatively easy. You get 3 years of free rapid charging at Electrify America stations. The car can charge from 20% charge to 80% (recommended level) in about 40 minutes. It takes about 4-5 hours for me to charge at home with a 9.6 kW station; at a 6.2 kW station, it takes 8-9 hours. At home, for a 42 kW charge (typical) it costs \$5.46. If you charge 3 times a week, that's \$16.38. A gas car with a 12 gallon tank will cost \$65.88. Other companies are out there as well, Chargepoint and EVGo are most common. Prices vary from location to location, be aware!



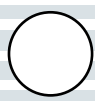
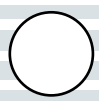
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The road toward a Clean PowerCity means creating more energy from renewable sources, reconfiguring power plants to improve the region's air quality and accelerating the adoption of new technologies. It also means investing in electric transportation and electric solutions for homes and businesses so everyone can benefit from a clean energy future.

As a founding member of the California Mobility Center – a private-public nonprofit innovation hub that helps mobility companies from around the world get their ideas off the ground – SMUD also supports workforce development, training and education opportunities in this promising sector.

**You can travel the fast road toward zero carbon by doing your part. By visiting [CleanPowerCity.org](http://CleanPowerCity.org), you can join the Charge for a healthier environment, cleaner air and an exciting future. You can also learn about 37 ways you can make an immediate difference on cutting back on carbon emissions by visiting [cleanpowercity.org](http://cleanpowercity.org).**

California's vehicles accounted for about 40 percent of statewide greenhouse emissions in 2019. So, getting behind the wheel of electric vehicles will be one of the most effective ways to reduce carbon emissions on the road toward zero carbon.

Visit SMUD's electric vehicle information page ( <https://www.smud.org/en/Going-Green/Electric-Vehicles/Residential> ) to better understand your choices and to see all the ways you can save when you decide to make the EV switch.

## Save when you buy or lease an EV

SMUD partners with the California Resources Board to provide the California Clean Fuel Reward ( [cleanfuelreward.com](http://cleanfuelreward.com) ) on eligible plug-in vehicles. The reward is for up to \$750 and is available to anyone who purchases or leases a new electric vehicle,

but it must feature battery capacity that's greater than 5 kWh. Hybrid vehicles also qualify.

As a point-of-sale rebate, EV shoppers should work with their dealer at the time of the transaction. The reward should be listed on the lease or purchase agreement. Just look for "rebate," "EV incentive," or "other," to make sure the rebate is applied. The rebate could be combined with other offers, so it is important to double check.

## Save while you charge your EV

SMUD offers an EV rate discount to encourage electric vehicle owners to charge during off-peak hours. With SMUD's Time-of-Day rate ( [www.smud.org/en/Rate-Information/Time-of-Day-rates/Time-of-Day-5-8pm-Rate/Rate-details#EVdiscount](http://www.smud.org/en/Rate-Information/Time-of-Day-rates/Time-of-Day-5-8pm-Rate/Rate-details#EVdiscount) ), plug-in EV owners receive a 1.5-cent per kWh discount when they charge between midnight and 6 a.m.

This lets EV customers save as they sleep. And when they wake up, they'll have a recharged vehicle for the days ahead.

## Save on EV charging equipment

Electric vehicle adopters can also save on charging equipment and installation costs.

SMUD's Charge@Home ( [www.smud.org/en/Going-Green/Electric-Vehicles/Charge-at-Home-application-page](http://www.smud.org/en/Going-Green/Electric-Vehicles/Charge-at-Home-application-page) ) incentive lowers the cost of a qualified Level-2 charger at home. Customers who've purchased a new or used electric vehicle after July 2, 2021, are eligible for up to \$500 toward the purchase of equipment and \$500 for electric work and for any building permit costs.

## Save on commercial electric transportation technology

Light-duty cars, trucks, semi-tractors and electric vehicle charging installations are all covered in SMUD's commercial EV program. Fleet incentives range from \$750 to \$15,000 depending on vehicle classification and scope of charging project.



**As part of the journey toward zero carbon, SMUD partnered with Zeus Electric Chassis, Inc. and the California Mobility Center to procure custom, all-electric work trucks. The trucks are the only all-electric work truck chassis manufactured in North America in the medium duty class and will be customized for a variety of uses throughout SMUD's service area.**

SMUD's electric forklift incentive pilot program ( [www.smud.org/-/media/Documents/Going-Green/EVs/3652-ElectricForklift-Application-fillable.ashx](http://www.smud.org/-/media/Documents/Going-Green/EVs/3652-ElectricForklift-Application-fillable.ashx) ) offers a \$500 commercial customer incentive for electric forklifts. The benefits include lower operating costs, zero emissions, quieter operations and reduced maintenance costs compared to traditional Class I, II and III forklifts. For a full list of commercial fleet and charging rebates, go to: [www.smud.org/en/Going-Green/Electric-Vehicles/Business](http://www.smud.org/en/Going-Green/Electric-Vehicles/Business)

## Road to Zero Carbon

SMUD is working hard to reach zero carbon. The daily energy SMUD delivers is already 50 percent carbon-free, and it's getting greener every day as SMUD expands

its portfolio of renewable energy sources and technologies.

Here is what the future looks like. SMUD's utility-scale batteries will store clean electricity when renewable resources are most abundant, so dispatchable energy is at the ready when needed the most.

With no tailpipe emissions in sight, the highways will hum with the takeover of electric vehicles. The reflection of residential and commercial solar panels will be brighter than ever. The Sacramento region will continue to run on solar, hydropower, geothermal, reimagined power plants, wind-power and other clean energy sources.

So now is the time to hitch a ride toward a clean energy future and its promises of a healthier and more vibrant environment for everyone.

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## Launching A New Vehicle Or Renewing The Current Whip? by Todd Patterson

**Q**uick & EZ Titles and Tags gets you out on the road for your next wild ride without waiting in line

Sacramento business owner Todd Patterson loves his cars, but not the hassle that comes with keeping his tags and documents up to date. Just a few years ago, Todd was stuck in a long line at the California Department of Motor Vehicles for a routine renewal and needing answers for a few simple but specific questions. As he waited for his number to be called, he knew he could create a more efficient experience that offered flexibility and convenience. That is when Quick & EZ Title and Tags was born.



hassle that comes with keeping his tags and documents up to date. Just a few years ago, Todd was stuck in a long line at the California Department of Motor Vehicles for a routine renewal and needing answers for a few simple but specific questions. As he waited for his number to be called, he knew he could create a more efficient experience that offered flexibility and convenience. That is when Quick & EZ Title and Tags was born.

"Driving is freedom, but bureaucracy is not!" Todd laughs. "I'm always looking for a better way, and I definitely saw an opportunity to design service for customers like me, who want a quick experience with the option of personal connection if something needs attention."

In 2019, Todd began to strategize his solution. "We became an authorized partner with the State of California Department of Motor Vehicles to offer online and in-person service. We opened a storefront at 3100 O Street, here in Sacramento, and started getting people back on the road."

The way it works is deliciously efficient. A customer visits the company's site: <https://www.caevronline.com/eztitledtags> and enters their basic information into a secure webform that connects with the DMV. The customer can print many documents directly, like a registration renewal. Sometimes a physical item, such as a license plate or tag, or an official document, like a title, comes into play. These items can be sent by mail to the customer, delivered locally, or picked up in person at the storefront. That is as quick as can be!

"So often people put off updating their information because they know it will be a hassle. We bypass the hassle entirely, while offering personalized services and multiple fulfillment options for people with different needs," Todd notes.

While many customers can obtain services fully online, sometimes not knowing the answer to a question creates confusion and people get stuck. "We have the resources to answer questions and provide direction as needed. Most of the lead work can be done by the customer online, and then the document, tags, and plates can be accessed quickly through us. We also work directly in-person

makes sense to make a visit to get started. We have the means to work with people however they feel comfortable."

Quick & EZ Title and Tags serves a mix of customers, including individuals, families, and fleets of all sizes. Customers can use the service for cars, trucks, motorcycles, trailers, and recreational vehicles (RVs). A small fee is charged depending on the service, in addition to the standard cost set by the DMV. All fees are communicated up front and are listed on the company's website.

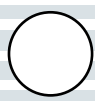
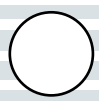
Creating the authorized partnership with the State of California DMV was a long road, made even more critical by the obstacles created by the pandemic. "Obtaining that authorization was a significant milestone. This process touches on so many issues, including privacy and legal compliance, but the authorization is at the foundation of what we do. Customers feel secure in the knowledge that all of our processes flow securely in alignment with the DMV, and that all of our work is continuously monitored for legality and excellence."

Todd is no stranger to business development in Sacramento. "I have been working with our community for years, and I couldn't imagine living anywhere else." Before opening Quick & EZ Title and Tags, Todd served customers in a variety of roles. He owned a Parcel Plus storefront, designed and sold fireplaces, and even provided social work resources for at-risk populations, including people with HIV and elders. "The diversity of culture in Sacramento makes life here so amazing. I have always felt welcome, and we carry that forward in all of our interactions with the community."

"The common thread throughout my career is service and approaching problems with a fresh eye," he says. "Everyone needs help sometimes. Designing a service flow to offer that help makes our community a better place. We live in a driving culture. Driving is fun, but also a critical means of transportation for people and businesses. Anything we can do to streamline and demystify the process of getting and keeping people on the road safely serves Sacramento, and we are here for that!"

For more information visit: [www.eztitledtags.com](http://www.eztitledtags.com) or call 916-452-7777





# Easy Being Green

by Ron Tackitt  
photo courtesy of Apple

For the past six months, I have been using an Apple M1-chip iMac that is a lovely shade of light green on the front and dark green on the backside. While there are a couple of things I would like to be able to do to this machine, I can see how a typical home user would be totally happy with this computer.



To this day, this new design of iMac is only available with a 24" screen. It is stunning in detail and color, but coming from an old 27" iMac, I found it hard to make the switch. I don't know if Apple intends to replace the aging 27s with a model sometime soon, but my aging eyes sure did enjoy the bigger screen.

These M1-chip iMacs can only be ordered with a maximum of 16 GIG of RAM. That is the working memory you use with doing anything on a computer. Again, for most people, writing letters, scrolling Twitter and the like, I found 16 GIG surprisingly adequate. However, using demanding programs like Photoshop, InDesign or Illustrator, would push this computer to its limits. It would start to slow down, and on occasion, one of the above mentioned programs would crash on me. (I haven't seen that happen in a really long time). 32 GIG would be perfect, but that is simply not an option. And the standard 8 GIG is laughable.

The rest of my experience with this little green machine has been truly delightful. Everything works as it should. That is always been high praise for computers, since you rarely can just take a computer out of the box and be up and running in a matter of minutes - with everything doing what it should.

The built in camera, microphone and speakers are quite good. The speakers are actually better than they have any right to be, considering the body of the computer is less than half an inch thick.

The included keyboard is compact, without the numeric keypad on the side, but I got use to it, and it takes up so much less room on my desktop. That's important if you have the trackpad and also a drawing tablet vying for desk space. Speaking of which, the trackpad (that I opted for) is handsome, of

good size and, like the keyboard have green tinted bodies so they match the computer. The setup has a very high quality feel and it's nice that they are cordless and rechargeable. I found that even with everyday use, the charge will last for weeks.

I mentioned the M1 chip earlier and would have to agree with all the praise it is receiving in oh so many reviews. It performed flawlessly and is very speedy. I didn't try any speed tests or torture tests, other than enormous files in Photoshop, and the chip performed very well, and hardly ever giving me the spinning color wheel (while it was computing).

Years ago it would have been crazy to call a 24" monitor "small" but these days, 32" monitors are readily available and simply dwarf the 24", and they are pretty affordable. Speaking of which, this green machine will run one of those 32" monitors along side its own monitor, perfectly, but you will need to buy the Thunderbolt to Displayport cable. Amazon has them for \$19. You might also need to buy some sort of dock so you can hook up older USB devices, like printers or hard drives. This machine sports only USB C and Thunderbolt ports...

I checked the Apple store to see if they have given these machines a boost, but they have not. Maybe they will offer more RAM when they update the iMac to the new M2 chip? Regardless, it is important to order the configuration you want, because these machines are NOT user upgradable.

Overall this cute, green iMac is a great machine. It's fast and elegant. Apple also offers them in several colors, so green is not your only option. Order it with 16 GIG of RAM and a big enough hard drive and you will have a machine that should serve you well for years to come. [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)



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# New Music from the Queens of Country

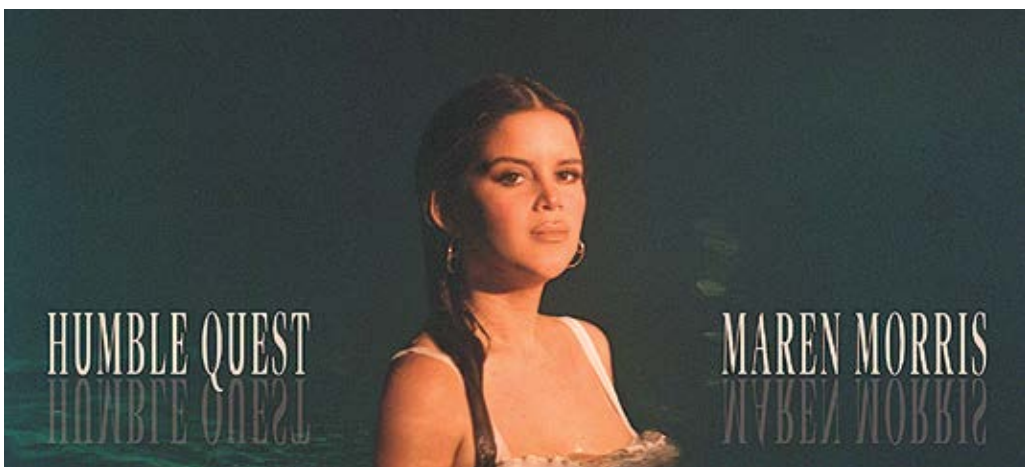
by Chris Narloch

It's been a banner year for country music, and 2022 is only half over. Despite rampant ageism and sexism in the music industry, these five talented women have been wildly successful. Here are reviews of their recent records.



## Dolly Parton – Run Rose Run

This is the companion CD to a mystery novel of the same name that Parton collaborated on with James Patterson, but the album stands on its own as pure Dolly. Mostly upbeat musically, “Run Rose Run” features real country songs with banjos, violins, and Parton’s unmistakable vocals. My favorite cuts include “Firecracker,” “Big Dreams and Faded Jeans,” and the stunning mountain music tearjerker love story “Blue Bonnet Breeze.”



## Maren Morris – Humble Quest

“Humble Quest” is the third major label studio album from Morris, a gifted singer-songwriter, and it’s another winner for the 32-year-old Texan, who – like Miranda Lambert – is charting her own course in country music rather than following commercial radio trends. The navel-gazing title track is catchy without being cringey, and Morris declares her love for her man on two beautiful songs, “I Can’t Love You Anymore” and “What Would This World Do.” Then the singer pivots and breaks your heart with the mysterious “Hummingbird.”

## Carly Pearce – 29: Written in Stone

This relatively new country queen won the 2021 CMA Female Vocalist of the Year Award on the strength of this brilliant breakup disc, which records the various stages of grief and anger before, during, and after her divorce from fellow country singer Michael Ray. The album includes the seven songs from an earlier EP, as well as eight new ones, and they are often raw and revealing. “Diamondback,” “Dear Miss Loretta,” “Next Girl,” “Day One,” and “What He Didn’t Do” are just a few of the classic country cuts on “29: Written in Stone.”



## Carrie Underwood – Denim & Rhinestones

This incredibly popular country queen has stayed on top for years thanks to her patented brand of countrified pop and rock. Underwood’s music isn’t what you would call innovative or risk-taking, but formula can be fun when it’s done well, and there is no denying that the singer can really belt. She projects strength even on sad songs, and new tracks like “Ghost Story,” “Burn,” and “Pink Champagne” should sound great live.



## Miranda Lambert – Palomino

I keep thinking that this extremely prolific country queen is going to lose her mojo and put out at least one dud album, but it hasn’t happened yet. The current ACM Entertainer of the Year is back with another superb collection of songs, some of them sexy and some of them sad but all of them wonderful. From the sassy “Acting Up” and the passionate “I’ll Be Lovin’ You,” to the nostalgic “Carousel” and “That’s What Makes the Jukebox Play,” Lambert never hits a false note vocally, lyrically, or musically.



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TUESDAY | AUG 16



WEDNESDAY | AUG 17



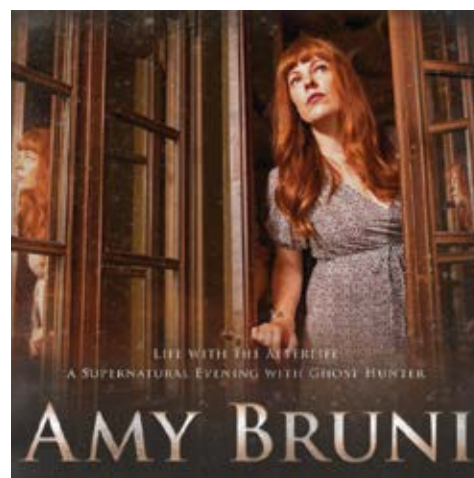
SATURDAY | AUG 20



SATURDAY | AUG 27



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ANIMATION

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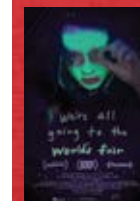
CASABLANCA  
(1942)

SATURDAY, JUL 16, 7:00PM



CHILDREN'S FILM  
FESTIVAL SEATTLE:  
BEST OF THE FEST!  
LIVE ACTION

SUNDAY, JUL 17, 3:00PM



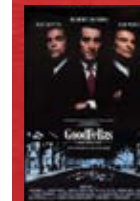
WE ARE ALL  
GOING TO THE  
WORLD'S FAIR  
(2021)

THURSDAY, JUL 21, 7:00PM



THE OUTSIDERS  
(1983)

FRIDAY, JUL 22, 7:00PM



GOODFELLAS  
(1990)

SATURDAY, JUL 23, 7:00PM



CHRISTMAS IN JULY:  
ELF  
(2003)

SUNDAY, JUL 24, 3:00PM



VHCREST PRESENTS:  
KNIGHTS  
OF THE CITY  
(1986)

THURSDAY, JUL 28, 8:00PM



ROBOCOP  
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FRIDAY, JUL 29, 7:00PM

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# Pride Returns to San Francisco

words by Corey Egel, photos by Matthew Sherman

There are many reasons to be concerned about what's going on around us locally, nationally and globally. At times, it's very difficult to understand how we reached this point. Now, more than ever, it is time to show pride in who we are and for our diverse community to come together and shine as vibrantly as the rainbow flag.

The energy during the first in-person San Francisco Pride in two years washed over you with smiles, laughter and pure jubilation. Everywhere you looked, no matter the age or background of the person, whether it was their first Pride experience or

an annual tradition, the unabashed joy was contagious. A sea of people lined the parade route waving flags, cheering, clapping and completely in the moment. The politicians showed their support and guest dignitaries stirred excitement while rows of people

seven deep showed each other kindness, families shared stories, strangers became friends – and for this brief period – we were all one.

So often, we identify ourselves through various distinctions. We get lost in our efforts to connect with one another and unintentionally set aside what truly matters: we are living beings. We yearn, we ache and yes...we love. The 52nd San Francisco Pride provided an array of events, along with the opportunities put on by local businesses, for anyone attending to express their true self and

feel safe doing so. What a fitting way to show our pride and remind our allies, along with those who oppose the LGBTQIA+ community, that this year's theme of "Love Will Keep Us Together" is key for all of us to move forward.

Words can only describe so much. Hopefully, these photos will convey the moment even further. Celebrating Pride is powerful and transformative – we must channel this energy and use it to let the joy rise year-round ...and for what lies ahead.

Show pride in who you are...what you do...and make sure your voice is heard.







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**ANDY MCKEE**  
THURSDAY, JUL 14



**LEO KOTKKE**  
SUNDAY, JUL 24



**JOE LOUIS WALKER**  
FRIDAY, JUL 29



**STROLL DOWN PENNY LANE**  
SATURDAY, JUL 30



**PAUL THORN**  
THURSDAY, AUG 18



**PAULA FUGA**  
SUNDAY, AUG 21



**MARIA MULDAUR**  
FRIDAY, AUG 26



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# Mighty Thor Returns to Theaters Plus, More New Movies Reviewed

by Chris Narloch

MCU fans have been waiting impatiently for the return of Thor, and gay male fans (plus straight female ones) have been waiting to see Chris Hemsworth naked again on the big screen. Below, I offer my thoughts on Taika Waititi's latest "Thor" movie and three other new films in theaters.

## The Black Phone

Ethan Hawke and his garish fright masks did give me the creeps in this horror flick about a serial killer of children, but despite some fine acting and a few good jump scares, "The Black Phone" is ultimately undone by too many plot points that are either far-fetched or overly familiar (or both).

Based on an excellent short story that has been padded and stretched out to feature film length, the movie's suspense isn't taut enough, despite dynamite performances by two child actors who play siblings in the film. My advice would be to save your money and hang up on "The Black Phone."



The Black Phone



Cabaret

## Cabaret

Winner of eight Academy Awards, including Best Actress in a Leading Role for Liza Minnelli's iconic performance as Sally Bowles, "Cabaret" is one of the finest movie musicals of the modern era, and it's back on the big screen this month thanks to TCM Big Screen Classics and Fathom Events.

"Cabaret" will sing and dance onto a theater screen near you for two days only, July 17 & 20, with its brilliant score and its startling story of a flamboyant American singer who falls in love with a Brit in 1931 Berlin, as the Nazis rise to power in Germany. Don't miss the 50th Anniversary of "Cabaret." Visit [www.fathomevents.com](http://www.fathomevents.com)



Thor: Love and Thunder

## Thor: Love and Thunder

Your reaction to the fourth "Thor" film will probably depend on whether you like the irreverent approach to filmmaking that is the trademark of the popular New Zealand director Taika Waititi, who never met a goofy joke he didn't like or a story trope he couldn't send up.

Waititi's non-stop barrage of self-reflexive humor and zaniness can be exhausting, but I personally prefer MCU movies like this – that don't take themselves too seriously – as opposed to dull, pretentious ones like last year's "Eternals" or the last couple installments in "The Avengers" franchise.

So, although it has the depth of Donald Trump – and I don't mean that as a compliment – I had fun at "Thor: Love and Thunder," watching hunky Chris Hemsworth and a newly-buff Natalie Portman play lovers again.

There are also cute cameos by Matt Damon, Melissa McCarthy, Sam Neill, and the cast of "The Guardians of the Galaxy," and a very-relaxed Russell Crowe (as Zeus) also made me laugh. The finest performance in the film, however, is without a doubt given by a bald Christian Bale, who plays a villain to the hilt here.

As for the sexy scene where all of Thor's clothes are briefly ripped off, I can only give thanks to Chris Hemsworth and Taika Waititi for having the good sense to show off one of the best butts in the business.



The Forgiven

## The Forgiven

Ralph Fiennes ("The English Patient") has been giving great performances for decades, and he comes through again in this absorbing but very uneven drama about a wealthy London couple (Fiennes and Jessica Chastain) who accidentally kill a boy with their car while driving through the Moroccan desert.

The film's depiction of privileged, jaded white tourists is terribly forced and overdone, but the central storyline is suspenseful, and Fiennes, playing a flawed and conflicted man, is riveting, as always. "The Forgiven" opened at Sacramento's Tower Theatre on July 8th.



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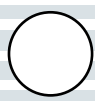
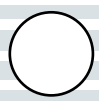
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# Three-way on the Freeway

words and photo by Brad Buyse

She's slick. She's fast. And oh so very special that her mere beauty will blur your eyes. I'm talking about our Baby Bee, the only throuple allowed in our lives. She's our spectacular white chic coupe - the Bentley, our third car. If her beauty doesn't obscure your vision, her healthy growling 608 HP engine that tops out at a stunning 200 mph certainly will.

If you look closely, she can be spotted in front of Badlands during hours when it's time to stop for liquid therapy. Or she'll dazzle you when she zips us up to Tahoe or the wine country for some R & R. Or you may get a glimpse of her sweeping by on a weekend drive to San Francisco. Her impeccable condition never fails to turn heads and get people scrambling to capture a photo.

She is rare and - she is ours. Our throuple. Since 2018, Baby Bee has been our third car. I get it, two gay men driving a Bentley. But there's absolutely nothing there to worry about. She upstages us everywhere we go.

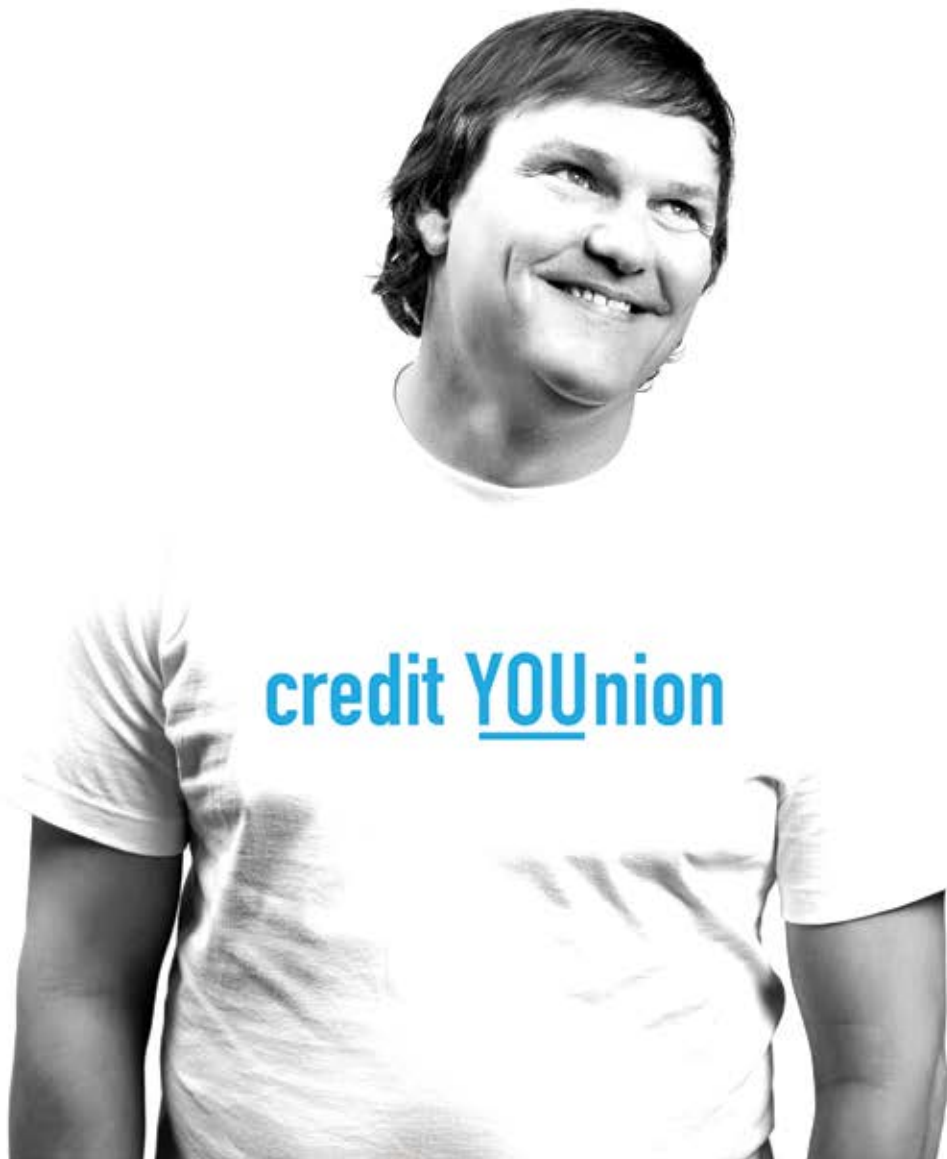
We're a household of two drivers. There's just my husband Troy Stauss and me. During our more than 30-years together, we've bought and sold dozens of cars. There have been periods when we've owned three cars that included a playful weekend getaway vehicle.

In 2018, we were just a couple. Just a couple of guys in love owning a couple of cars. Then! We stumbled upon Baby Bee. And did she ever change our lives.

She's unlike any car we have ever owned. She's not only full of pep, she securely hugs the road, nearly navigating for us. That's right. Baby Bee is an absolute pleasure to drive. She's often a reason to get up and get out.

Troy and I have been enthralled with cars for years. In fact, we're freaks about nice ones. Afterall, you spend a lot of time traveling on four wheels. So why not get what you want!

Baby Bee is everything we want. In fact, sometimes more than we can even imagine. During these challenging political times, an escape is just what the doctor ordered. Lower your blood pressure, take a drive, yard sale along the way to lunch, and do it all in your throuple relationship with - Baby Bee. And for us - this throuple is the only one we'll ever have...it's our three-way on the freeway!



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## “Smart People” at Capital Stage & “Kiss Me, Kate” in the Round

by Chris Narloch

This summer's Broadway at Music Circus season is on a roll and will host a classic Cole Porter musical next. Also in midtown, Sacramento's Capital Stage has another thought-provoking dramatic comedy currently underway. Read on for details about both shows.

# KISS ME, KATE

### Kiss Me, Kate

Battle lines are drawn as a bickering divorced couple find themselves working on the same musical, a Broadway version of William Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew."

The beloved multiple Tony Award-winning musical comedy "Kiss Me, Kate" is filled with backstage shenanigans, onstage mishaps, and unexpected romance.

The show features a terrific Cole Porter score with some of the composer's wittiest lyrics and catchiest melodies, including the favorite songs "Another Op'nin', Another Show," "So in Love" and "Too Darn Hot."

"Kiss Me, Kate" performs July 12-17, at Sacramento's UC Davis Health Pavilion. For more information, visit [www.broadwaysacramento.com](http://www.broadwaysacramento.com)



### Smart People

If musicals aren't your thing, check out this dramedy about four smart people – a surgeon, an actress, a psychologist, and a neuropsychiatrist – with very different opinions on race and romance.

On the eve of Obama's first election, two couples are searching for love, success, and identity in this seriously sexy comedy by Lydia R. Diamond.

The playwright does keep us entertained while she reveals how her characters' biases and assumptions about social and sexual politics inform their professional and romantic lives, although I think "Smart People" ultimately overstays its welcome in terms of length.

The talented four-person cast at Capital Stage works hard to keep the laughs coming, and director Judith Moreland stages the action with panache – although I wasn't crazy about the neon-accented backdrop.

Tiffanie Mack probably has the most interesting character and dialogue – she plays the actress – and Ms. Mack makes Valerie gutsy yet vulnerable, and very sympathetic.

"Smart People" continues with live performances and virtually on demand through this July 24. To purchase tickets, go to <https://capstage.org>

## Don't Miss Bernadette Peters & SF Symphony



The timeless talent of Bernadette Peters will join with the San Francisco Symphony later this month when one of Broadway's brightest stars presents an evening of music from her iconic shows and Grammy Award-winning albums. The glamorous concert will feature standards from Rodgers & Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim, and many more. Don't miss Bernadette Peters, on Saturday evening, July 30, at Davies Symphony Hall, for one night only. For more information, please visit [www.sfsymphony.org/calendar](http://www.sfsymphony.org/calendar)

## "Mormon No More" On Hulu Is A Must-See



All four episodes of the new Hulu Original documentary series "Mormon No More," following two married Mormon moms who fall in love and leave the faith, are now available. The series explores how the couple navigates telling their husbands, families, and the church, and what it's like to co-parent their combined seven children with their ex-husbands. Their journey includes other Mormon and ex-Mormon LGBTQ+ allies who wrestle with the church's prohibitive doctrine on same-sex relationships. Their powerful testimonies speak of shame, rejection, and ultimately hope.



# The Sac Zoo Welcomes A Baby Mongoose Lemur



A baby mongoose lemur was born this July 3rd at the Sac Zoo. Since mongoose lemurs are a critically endangered species, a new life is great news! The baby is likely a male but is not 100% confirmed. The furry family currently has indoor/outdoor habitat access at the Small Wonders exhibit and has been choosing to spend the majority of their time outside. The baby (pictured above, nestled in parental fur) will be attached to mom until it has begun to wean (~135 days). Around that time, the baby will become more independent and will start exploring on its own. Visit: [www.saczoo.org](http://www.saczoo.org)

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### THE DAVE BASS TRIO

Dave's just-released *THE TRIO VOL. 2* features bassist Kerry Kashiwagi and drummer Scott Gordon alongside Dave on piano. "He's a badass jazzbo through and through."

– Chris Spector.

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## Out & About with Matt Burlingame

California is stimulating us again because we're being price gouged at the gas pump. One Assemblymember stated how this few hundred dollars could help us with the rising food costs for two years. And rental assistance. Now I don't know where he shops—or rather his housekeeper, but when the prices of most food had almost doubled, and median rent prices are \$2000 a month, a few hundred is like the old hot dog down a hallway metaphor. Still, I ain't one to turn down free money. Ca\$happ me, brah!

Welcome to our automotive issue! If you're like me and would love to take a ride in a classic beauty here's your chance! Every third Sunday of the month enjoy a free (with paid museum admission) ride in a beautiful classic car. A 1943 Army Jeep? A 1951 Ford Crestliner? Come to the museum from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the ride of your life down the streets of downtown Sacramento. Calautomuseum.org

The LGBTQ Pride Festival and CommUNITY Parade in Reno, NV will be in full swing Saturday, July 23, 2022 through the support and involvement of local organizations and businesses. Proceeds from the event will go directly to the programs of Our Center.

July brings awareness to the unique struggles that racial and ethnic minority communities face regarding mental illness in the United States. National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month focuses on promoting tools and resources addressing the stigma about mental health among racial and ethnic minority populations.

Get some uptown funk on Tuesday, July 19 at 6 p.m. at the July Rainbow Chamber Networking Mixer at Uptown Studios. Join us for an evening of networking. RSVP is required. Mixer tickets are free to members and \$10 for non-members. Masks required. Rainbowchamber.com

Holy woofers, Batman! A chance to dress up both you and your pup in your finest summer fashion and walk the runway for a chance to win prizes for both you and your four-legged friend! The Sacramento SPCA's Dog Days of Summer, 3747 W Pacific Ave. gets underway Saturday, July 16 from Noon - 10 p.m. Enjoy Pup Cups for the pets, Root Beer Floats for the kids, and Beer Slushies for the adults!

The Big Queer Picnic will hit Southside park on Saturday, July 23 from 4 - 8 p.m. is back for July! Watch live music from Ryan Cassata and more! Bring art supplies and instruments, roller skates and yoga mats, and of course your picnic.



The Outsiders

Stay gold, Ponyboy! The classic 1983 film The Outsiders will be shown at The Crest, 1013 K St., during their "Part of the Movies collection" on Friday, July 22 at 7 p.m. featuring some of the hottest young actors of the period the movie follows the rivalry between two gangs, the poor Greasers and the rich Socs as it heats up when one gang kills a member of the other gang. A truly iconic film! Crestsacramento.com

This summer Thunder Valley Casino Resort, 1200 Athens Ave., Lincoln, CA, is bringing back 80s and 90s legends in a big way! Saturday, July 30, 2022 Iconic trio Boyz II Men who redefined popular R&B will be performing all your favorites from their 25-year long career with the addition of new sounds featuring smooth harmonies and enduring themes. Joining them will be American R&B group favorite Hi-Five along with Father MC and Shai. Thundervalleyresort.com

How about a little Drag Wrestling? Yes, I said drag wrestling—with lube! Come to Deathdrop at Two Rivers Cider Company, 4311 Attawa Ave #103, hosted by Clive Maxx with commentary by A La Mode. Head to Head wrestling Thursday, July 28 from 6:30 - 9 p.m. with Ref Joe Desoul featuring Bijou Bentley, Manni Peddi, Shay D., Cloudy Goodtime, Cali Sweets, Kesha Deez Hands and food by Fusion Alley! Two Rivers is an all-ages venue and well-behaved dogs are welcome on leash. Tworiverscider.com

Events? Announcements? Birthdays? Anniversaries? Send them to me at matthew.burlingame@gmail.com.

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## Please Support the Outword Rainbow Fund

*For 26 years, we have been Sacramento's resource for LGBTQ+ information, politics, entertainment and we have helped connect and maintain our community.*

*Because of the continuing trauma being caused by COVID, many of our advertisers are doing everything they can to stay afloat - that includes Outword Magazine. At the onset of the pandemic we changed our distribution model to an online-only affair. That helped us weather the storm, but we have since returned to both online as well traditional, printed copies. Thankfully, the response we have received after returning to print has been fantastic!*

*Once again we are asking that you, our readers and advertisers help us with a contribution that will be used to help keep the presses rolling. This money will assist with publishing costs, both in print and online, and help pay our staff, distribution costs and a few of our writers, among other things.*

*We have established [OutwordRainbowFund.com](http://OutwordRainbowFund.com) for our readers and/or local businesses, should you wish to support us. If you consider us a valuable and vital resource for our LGBTQ+ community, please send some financial Love. As a Supporter, at any level, we will give you a listing in our full page ad with the Supporter level you are in, in upcoming issues (see next page for the list of those that have already contributed). If you have any questions, or comments, please feel free to drop us an email: [sales@outwordmagazine.com](mailto:sales@outwordmagazine.com)*  
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[OutwordRainbowFund.com](http://OutwordRainbowFund.com)

## "Ain't Nobody" Sings Like Chaka Khan



During her four decades as a singer, Chaka Khan has earned 10 Grammy Awards and a stunning collection of hits, both as a solo artist and prior to that, with the band Rufus. "Ain't Nobody," "I Feel For You," the original version of "I'm Every Woman," "Through the Fire," "Sweet Thing," "Hollywood," and "Tell Me Something Good" are just a few of her many hits. Khan will bring the funk and the soul to Sacramento this Friday, July 15, to open this year's CA State Fair Toyota Concert Series. Most of the shows, including Khan's, are free with general admission, and you can find the full list of performers at: [calexpostatefair.com/fair/toyota-concert-series-on-the-golden-1-stage](http://calexpostatefair.com/fair/toyota-concert-series-on-the-golden-1-stage)

## Don't Miss Calum Scott at Ace of Spades

The 33-year-old British hunk Calum Scott, one of the sexiest and most talented queer singers around, will grace the stage at Sacramento's Ace of Spades for one night only, on Tuesday, August 2, 2022. Scott, who is perhaps most famous for taking Robyn's dance floor masterpiece "Dancing on My Own" and turning it into a haunting slow-burn ballad, was a contestant on Britain's Got Talent in 2015. The singer/songwriter just released his second full-length studio album, the excellent "Bridges," so fans can expect to hear new songs and previous hits at his Sacramento show. To purchase tickets, go to [www.ticketmaster.com/calum-scott-tickets/artist/2209963](http://www.ticketmaster.com/calum-scott-tickets/artist/2209963)





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

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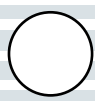
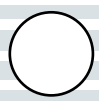
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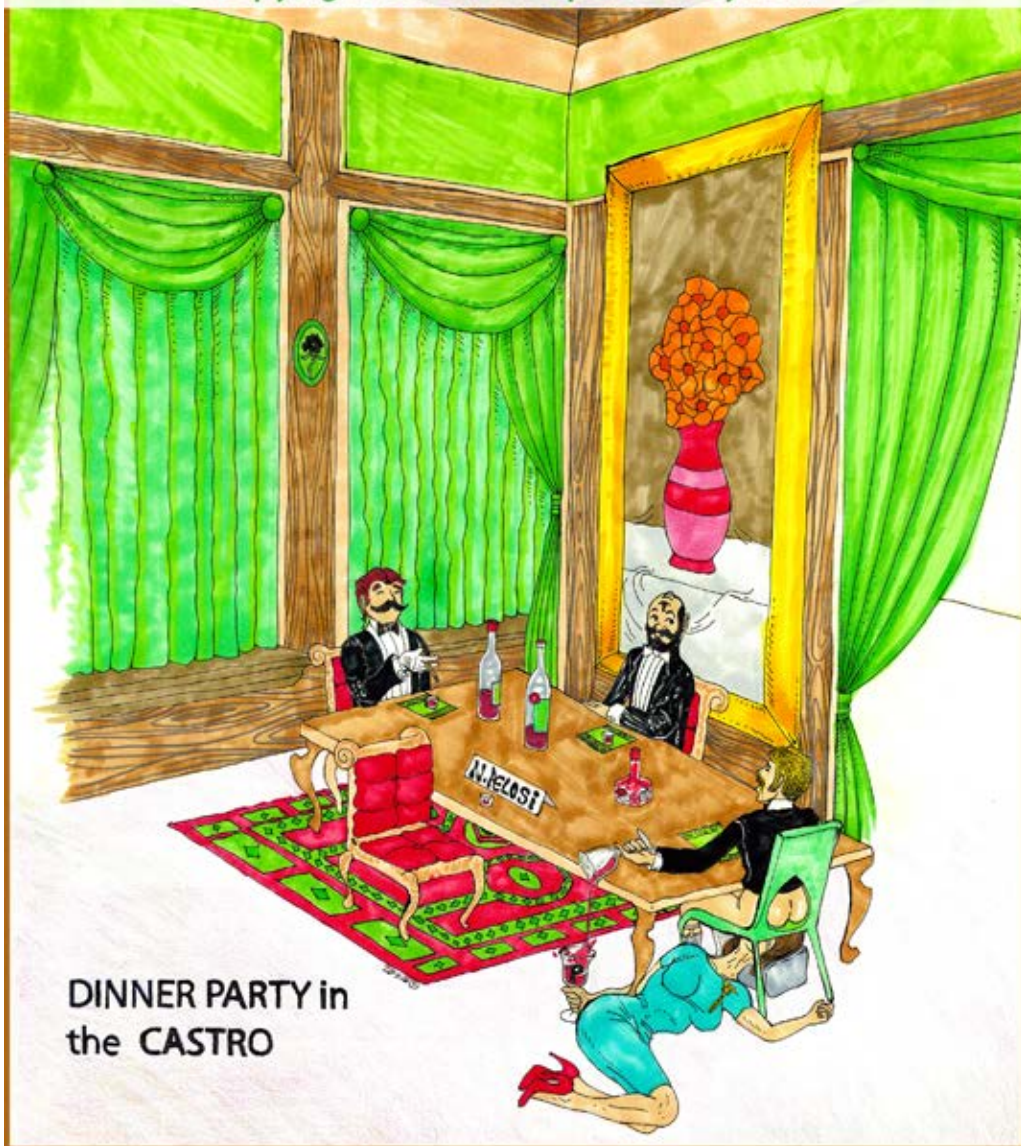
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**DINNER PARTY in  
the CASTRO**

# A Greater Attachment

by Ron Tackitt

The Kitchenaid Stand Mixer is anything but new or high tech. It is, however, a very solid and retro-stylish kitchen appliance that is the star of a number of cooking shows, especially if there is baking involved.



If you do not bake, or not that often, the uses become much more limited. I am on my fifth stand mixer because I found that it just took up space, looking lovely, on my kitchen counter. (So I would sell them - then wish I hadn't). I bought my current mixer primarily as kitchen decoration because it is beautiful mid-century modern-ish color and I can spare the counter space. However, this time I have paid more attention to some of the other uses for the mixer, and one of them is grating cheese. Don't judge, but I grate cheese a lot. I don't like store bought grated cheese because it is usually flavorless.

The grater attachment attaches to the mixer in the round hole at the top, front of the machine. Unscrew the decorative cap and slide the grater body in, and screw it tight. The grater I bought came with four grater inserts for different size and style of grating or slicing. (3 graters and 1 slicer). Honestly, I have only used the larger grater attachment at this time, but plan to find uses for the others in the future.

The point being, I love grating blocks of cheese with the mixer. I used to hand grate cheese, and that takes so much more time and effort! All you have to do with this is cut the block of cheese into smaller blocks that will fit in the feeder and then press down with the supplied feeder press. It's really kinda fun to have perfectly grated cheese in a couple of minutes. I love it.

Some of the pieces can be put in the dishwasher, but I prefer to wash them all by hand. Just to be sure, and so that they are ready to go at any time. One never knows when one will run into a cheese emergency...

Kitchenaid sells their own grater setup, but you can save some money by purchasing an off-brand model, like the one I bought. It cost about \$40 on Amazon.

I'm thinking that the fifth time is the charm. Although the stand mixer can do so many other things, it will always be worth the price and space on the counter, just because it can grate delicious cheese in no time.



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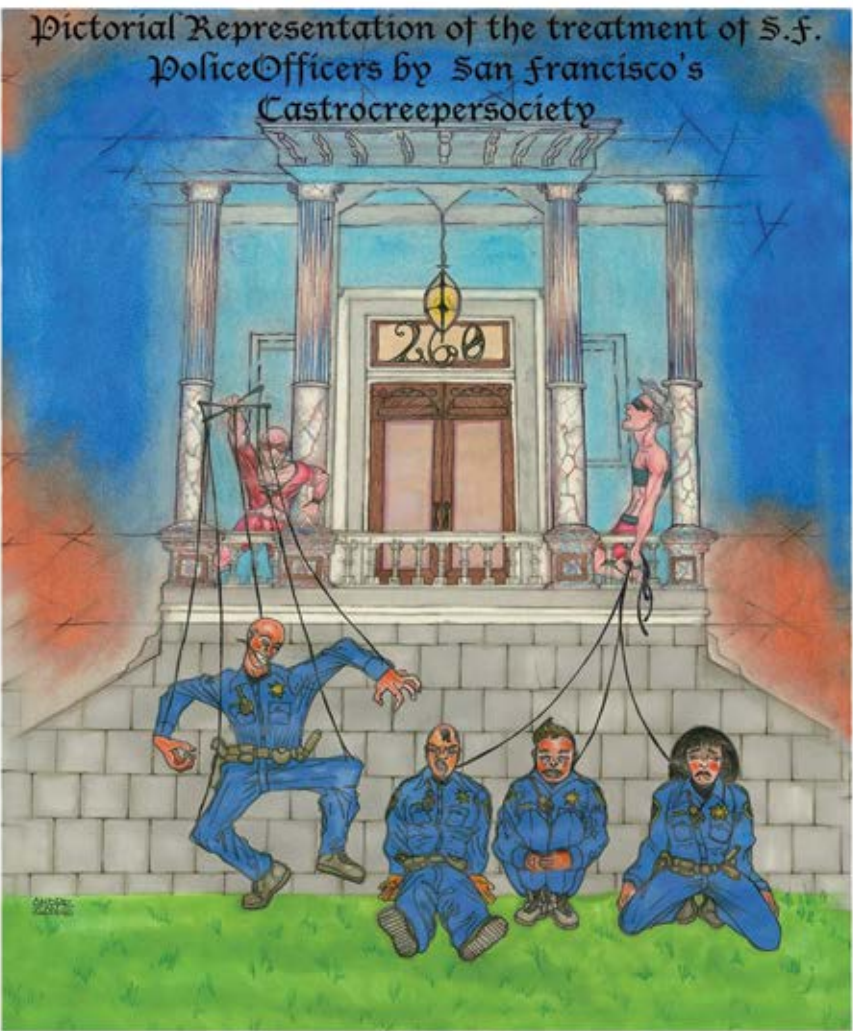
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**Fever. Chills. Headache. Muscle aches. Fatigue. Swollen lymph nodes.**

**Next a rash can develop.** The rash starts as flat, red bumps, which can be painful. Those bumps turn into **blisters**, which fill with pus. The blisters crust over and fall off — the whole process can last two to four weeks. You can also get sores in your mouth or anus.

**You may get better on your own, but it is best to see a medical provider.**

**How does it spread?** From person-to-person when you come in contact with respiratory droplets or oral fluids of an infected person usually through close, intimate situations like cuddling, kissing or sex.



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