

outWord

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Equality California Condemns Supreme Court Ruling That Enables Trump's Brazen Power Grabs

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In a grave blow to the ability of federal judges to check the otherwise unrestrained Trump Administration from gutting longstanding civil rights protections, the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling today dramatically limited the scope of lower court injunctions and effectively leaves Donald Trump's executive order targeting birthright citizenship intact. The 6-3 opinion written by Justice Coney Barrett overturned lower court nationwide injunctions in Trump v. CASA, Trump v. Washington, and Trump v. New Jersey, which blocked the executive branch from unilaterally gutting birthright citizenship. Equality California Executive Director Tony Hoang issued the following statement:

"This is a dark day for our democracy. With a Republican-led Congress functioning as little more than a rubber stamp for the president's most dangerous and chaotic impulses, it has fallen to the judicial branch to act as a critical check on executive overreach. Time and again—25 times, in fact—our courts have intervened to block or slow some of Trump's most unpopular and harmful policies: mass firings of federal workers, deep cuts to scientific research and innovation, rollbacks of migrant protections, and attacks on programs aimed at advancing equity and inclusion.

The Supreme Court has opened the door to ending the bedrock principles of the Constitution — that our democracy rests on the checks and balances of all three coequal branches of government and undermines the Constitutional right to citizenship granted to all people born on U.S. soil.

Donald Trump's executive order destroying birthright citizenship is a direct attack on immigrant families, communities of color,

Donald Trump's executive order destroying birthright citizenship is a direct attack on immigrant families, communities of color, and the very idea of who belongs in America.

and the very idea of who belongs in America. This decision is part of a broader pattern of attacks on marginalized communities — from transgender youth to immigrant families — orchestrated by Trump and far-right extremists. It erodes the American rule of law and should not be tolerated."

The ruling threatens to undermine the 14th Amendment's Citizenship Clause, a bedrock principle that has protected generations of Americans born to immigrant parents. By weakening or eliminating lower courts' ability to offer nationwide injunctive relief from unconstitutional executive action" the Supreme Court has significantly undercut judicial oversight—a key constraint on presidential power—and made it harder to stop future illegal attacks on civil rights protections.

Equality California stands in solidarity with those impacted and will continue to fight for the protection of the freedoms and futures of all people, regardless of their origin or identity.

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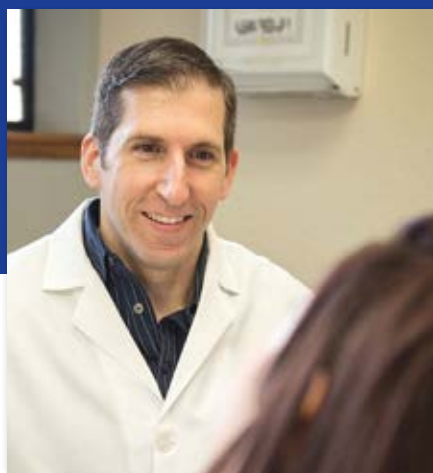
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Supreme Court Upholds Affordable Access to Lifesaving HIV Prevention Under the ACA

In a significant decision for public health, the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld critical preventive healthcare coverage requirements under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in the case *Kennedy v. Braidwood*. This ruling preserves mandatory insurance coverage for a range of preventive services, including the HIV prevention medication PrEP, breast cancer screenings, depression assessments, and testing for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The Court's decision affirms the constitutionality of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) structure and its recommendations, which insurers must cover without cost-sharing. This effectively overturns part of the Fifth Circuit Court's earlier ruling that threatened to limit access to these essential services.

For millions of Americans, especially those in the LGBTQ+ community who disproportionately rely on PrEP, the ruling ensures continued access to a medication that reduces the risk of HIV transmission by nearly 100% when taken as prescribed. Access to PrEP has been a vital tool in ongoing efforts to curb the HIV epidemic.

Kelley Robinson, President of the Human Rights Campaign, welcomed the ruling, stating, "Millions of Americans can now breathe easier knowing lifesaving preventive care remains within reach—not a luxury for the privileged few. The LGBTQ+ community has long faced systemic barriers in healthcare, worsened by recent political attacks on equality and access. While today's decision blocks one harmful effort, vigilance



is still needed as threats persist from policymakers undermining critical protections."

Robinson emphasized the need for continued advocacy to ensure equitable healthcare access for all, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, income, or location.

This ruling marks an important step in safeguarding public health and upholding the promise of the ACA to provide comprehensive, affordable preventive care to all Americans.

Supreme Court Overturns Inclusive Curricula, Backs Parents Opposing LGBTQ+ Content in Schools

In a controversial decision, the U.S. Supreme Court recently sided with parents challenging inclusive school curricula that feature LGBTQ+ characters and families, overturning previous efforts by educators to foster understanding and respect for diversity. The case, *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, involved parents who argued that age-appropriate lessons and storybooks including LGBTQ+ themes infringed on their religious beliefs.

By ruling in favor of these parents, the Court has effectively elevated the religious views of some families—who consider LGBTQ+ identities morally wrong—above the educational mission of public schools to represent and respect all students. This decision marks a significant setback for inclusive education, signaling that public classrooms may no longer be safe spaces for learning about the wide range of human experiences.

Educators and advocates warn that this ruling opens the door for parents to opt their children out of any part of the curriculum they find "objectionable," which could lead to increased censorship and limit exposure to important social issues. More troubling, LGBTQ+ students

and their families may feel marginalized, as the decision sends a message that their identities and stories are not equally valid or worthy of recognition in schools.

Public schools have long been arenas where young people are introduced to diverse perspectives to foster empathy and prepare them for life in a pluralistic society. By allowing religious objections to dictate curriculum content, the Supreme Court risks undermining these values and excluding vulnerable students from feeling seen and supported.

As this ruling reverberates across the nation, educators, families, and advocates face the challenge of balancing religious freedoms with the fundamental right of all students to learn in an inclusive and respectful environment.



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Attorney General Bonta Sues Trump Administration Over Illegal Sharing of Californians' Health Data with ICE

resource AG Bonto press release

California Attorney General Rob Bonta, leading a coalition of states, has filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for unlawfully transferring millions of Medicaid recipients' personal health data to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which oversees Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

For decades, federal law has strictly limited how Medicaid data can be used—only for administering the program or advancing public health. But in June 2025, states learned that HHS had quietly sent vast Medicaid records to DHS to aid immigration enforcement. Bonta condemned the move as an attack on immigrant communities that will deter vulnerable people from seeking critical medical care.

"I'm sickened by this latest salvo in the President's anti-immigrant campaign," Bonta said. "We're going to court to stop this misuse of sensitive data and to protect Californians' rights."

Medicaid, created in 1965, provides health coverage for nearly 80 million Americans, including millions of noncitizens.

California's Medi-Cal program alone insures one in three state residents. Federal law allows Medicaid access in emergencies regardless of immigration status.

The Trump Administration claims the data was shared to verify benefit eligibility. But Bonta argues this justification is a smokescreen for creating a massive deportation database. The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Northern California, asserts that the data transfer violates the Administrative Procedure Act, the Medicaid Act, HIPAA, and other federal protections.

Bonta and attorneys general from 19 other states are asking the court to block any further transfers and prevent DHS from using Medicaid data to target immigrants, warning that fear and confusion will cause people to forgo life-saving care.

Voces con Orgullo

words and photo by Chris Allan

For two days last month, Sacramento's Consulate General of Mexico and the Sacramento LGBT Community Center hosted "Voces con Orgullo (Voices with Pride): LGBTQ+ Voices Driving Equity, Inclusion, and Global Change." It was the fifth time that LGBTQ+ advocates, allies, and institutions have gathered to raise the voices of sexual and gender-diverse communities working toward the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

"It's an important event because it addresses the intersection of human rights of those of us who often are marginalized peoples across borders," said Shamir Kalir Griffin, an attendee with Alta California, an organization serving people with developmental disabilities. "Too often we are treated as a political enemy or tool to sway or win an election."



Participants Shamir Kali Griffin (Alta California) and Noel Mora (SacState and Natomas Unified School District Trustee)

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Senate Republicans, House Majority, and President Enact Sweeping Law Slashing Medicaid, SNAP, and Funding for Planned Parenthood

Despite widespread public outcry, the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives approved a sweeping reconciliation bill that will gut core safety net programs and eliminate funding for Planned Parenthood. As expected, Trump signed the legislation into law. Although Republican lawmakers ultimately removed provisions that would have barred Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) from covering health care for transgender people, the law still represents an unprecedented assault on the health and economic security of millions of Americans. The [Human Rights Campaign \(HRC\)](#), the nation's largest LGBTQ+ civil rights organization, condemned the measure for its far-reaching harm to vulnerable communities.

"At every step, Senate and House Republicans tried to hide the cruelty of this bill," said Kelley Robinson, President of the Human Rights Campaign. "They misled the American public about its devastating consequences. Now, with the president's signature, this dangerous legislation will rip health care away from millions, slash

Parenthood is one of the few affirming spaces to access STI testing, contraception, and critical care.

Economic Hardship: Nearly a quarter of LGBTQ+ adults live in poverty—far above the national average. Cuts to Medicaid and SNAP will deepen inequality and force more families into crisis.

"What do I tell 663,000 people in North Carolina in two or three years when President Trump breaks his promise...?" - *Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC)*

nutrition assistance, and gut community health resources—all to bankroll tax cuts for corporations and the wealthiest Americans."

Robinson continued, "This law endangers our nation's progress against HIV, undermines reproductive freedom, and punishes LGBTQ+ people who already face higher barriers to care and economic security. We will not stand by as our communities are put at risk."

Key Background on the Law's Harmful Impact on LGBTQ+ Communities:

Medicaid Cuts: According to the Congressional Budget Office, the enacted provisions will strip health coverage from at least 14 million people. Medicaid is a lifeline for LGBTQ+ Americans, including 21% of transgender adults and 40% of people living with HIV who rely on it for essential care. Medicaid is the largest payer for HIV treatment in the U.S., and these cuts will severely jeopardize efforts to end the HIV epidemic.

SNAP Restrictions: The law imposes harsher eligibility requirements, benefit reductions, and stricter work mandates on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). LGBTQ+ people already experience higher rates of food insecurity—more than 27% of LGBTQ+ adults reported struggling to afford food in the past year. LGBTQ+ women, young people, and communities of color will be hit especially hard.

Defunding Planned Parenthood: The legislation eliminates federal funding for Planned Parenthood, a trusted provider of reproductive and preventive health care. For many LGBTQ+ individuals, Planned

During debate, even some Republican senators raised alarms. Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC) asked, "What do I tell 663,000 people in North Carolina in two or three years when President Trump breaks his promise and pushes them off Medicaid because the funding's gone?"

Other advocates voiced their outrage and resolve to keep fighting:

"This law is a deliberate attack on people who are already struggling to make ends meet," said Dr. Maya Greene, Executive Director of the National Center for Health Equity. "It is unconscionable to rip away food and medical care so billionaires can enjoy another tax windfall."

Kierra Johnson, Executive Director of the National LGBTQ Task Force, said, "Let's be clear: this is about control and cruelty. It's about sending a message that poor people, LGBTQ+ people, and those who depend on reproductive health care don't matter. But we see them, we stand with them, and we will not stop fighting."

Rebecca Marques, Policy Director for Positive Women's Network-USA, underscored the bill's impact on HIV care: "We are outraged that leaders would so callously undermine the lives of people living with HIV and strip funding that keeps so many people healthy and alive. This law will cost lives."

Although the law is now in effect, HRC and partner organizations pledge to fight its harmful impacts and support communities bearing the brunt of these cuts. We urge every American to stay engaged, help neighbors access resources, and hold elected leaders accountable for this devastation.

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Newfound Wines: The Name Says It All

words by Diana Kienle, Certified Specialist of Wine, photo by Cathy Schwamberger

Newfound Wines is a new winery that has created a new expression of wines that will impress. This is the endeavor of Matt and Audra Naumann, who began their journey with land in the Sierra Foothills in 2016. They replanted the vineyard in an effort to strike a balance between nature and the fruit. Because their own vineyard is young, they produce wines from other vineyards that are family-owned and organically farmed in Napa Valley, Sonoma County, and the Sierra Foothills.



Our tasting took place in a charming house located in St. Helena. It is one block off of Main Street downtown. We had the pleasure to meet with Matt himself as he led us through the wines. He shared that he worked with Ehren Jordan, vintner and winemaker of Failla Wines, for over eight years. He was inspired to step out on his own with a new expression for himself. It was a distinct pleasure to spend time with the winemaker himself as we explored the lineup of varietals.

We started with a refreshing Chardonnay that was immediately refreshing and bright with lemon and tangerine notes with white flowers on the nose. The focus of the tasting was on Rhone varietals which Matt considers to be a real opportunity, most importantly Grenache. We tasted two Grenaches, both from Mendocino County (Cemetery Vineyard) – one from 2022 and the other from 2021. They were both lush and displayed bright red fruit. The 2021 had richer notes that stood out. We then explored a varietal that, for most, is a blending grape. Matt poured two 100% Mourvèdre wines that were remarkable. Matt does not do punch downs, only pour overs; and I believe this contributes to the bright fruit notes that truly danced out of the glass. The last wine was, for me, most captivating and remarkable. This was a blend from Moon Mountain made from Mourvèdre, Grenache and Syrah. It was a

wonderful expression of the blend that was bold and full of rich fruit yet light on the palate.

Here is what Antonio Galloni, renowned wine critic, has to say about the wine from his experience with Newfound.

"I was so impressed with these wines from Matt and Audra Naumann. The 2023 reds, which I tasted from barrel, were especially brilliant. The Naumanns source fruit from several vineyards in Northern California for wines that focus on freshness and expression of place. The reds are done with a light hand in the cellar, typically with a very high percentage of stems and a preference for large-format neutral oak. Newfound is a relatively young project, but the wines continue to grow in stature. I can't recommend these wines highly enough."

What is also so remarkable about Newfound Wines is the accessible price. The price per bottle of the wines we tasted was \$50. Yes, that is not a typo. They are providing wonderful fla-vors and quality in each bottle, and the price is very reasonable. It is a real pleasure to enjoy wine with freshness and depth of flavor at an attainable price.

This is an opportunity to explore the wines of Newfound. You can set up a tasting for yourself the next time you are in Napa Valley or simply [visit the website](#) and purchase some bottles to try.

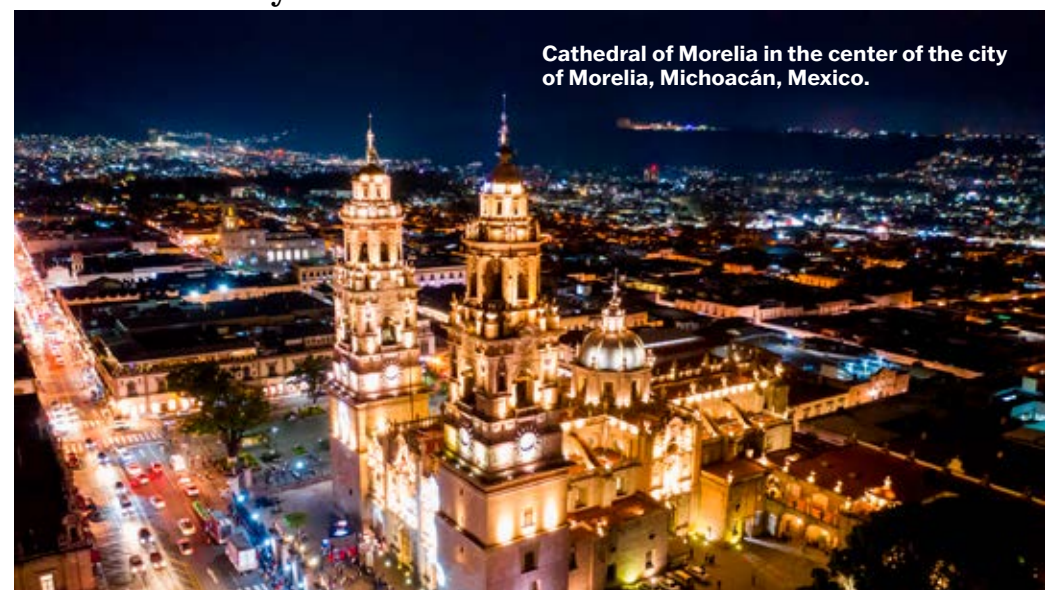
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Sacramento International Airport adds New Non-Stop Route to Morelia, Mexico

by Jennifer Sweeney

Tucked away in the heart of Michoacán, Mexico, the city of Morelia remains one of the country's most underrated destinations. With its colonial architecture, rich culinary traditions, and vibrant cultural life, Morelia offers a deeply authentic experience for travelers seeking history, heritage, and beauty without the heavy tourist crowds.

Cathedral of Morelia in the center of the city of Morelia, Michoacán, Mexico.



A new non-stop Volaris flight, launching on July 4 from Sacramento International Airport, takes travelers directly to the capital of the Mexican state of Michoacán. The new service will operate four times per week, on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Morelia's historic center is a stunning show-case of 16th to 18th-century Spanish architecture. Stroll along streets lined with pink stone buildings, explore sun-drenched plazas, and take in views of the city's elegant churches and archways. The Morelia Cathedral is baroque masterpiece that glows at night during its weekly light show. The city's preserved 18th century Aqueduct, which supplied its water until 1910, impresses with 253 arches with many illuminated at night. The Casa de la Cultura and Palacio Clavijero houses a cultural center brimming with contemporary art, photography and other creative exhibits.

Michoacán's cuisine is not only delicious but is also one of the pillars of Mexico's culinary identity, and Morelia is its flavorful heart. In fact, UNESCO recognized Michoacán's traditional cuisine as "Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity," largely because of its rich indigenous roots and preservation of pre-Hispanic cooking methods. Much of Michoacán's food heritage comes from the Purépecha people, whose influence is seen in traditional cooking techniques like the nixtamalization of corn and the use of metates and wood-fired clay ovens. Arguably Michoacán's most famous dish, carnitas, are well known here in California but have their roots in the region.

Morelia has built its reputation as a city of music. In November, the Morelia Music Festival showcases ancient, colonial, classical

and folk music as, well as electronic music. The Morelia International Film Festival (El Festival Internacional de Cine de Morelia) each July supports Mexican filmmakers and is open to film lovers as well as the international film community. Winning short films in the fiction, animation, and documentary categories are eligible for entry into the Oscar® awards.

While Morelia may not have a big nightlife scene like Mexico City or Guadalajara, it is known for its welcoming attitude and a growing LGBTQ+ presence, especially among artists, students, and creatives. The city hosts its annual LGBTQ+ Pride every June, and several local businesses fly rainbow flags year-round. The more artsy, student-populated neighborhoods near Avenida Madero and Calle Bartolomé de las Casas tend to be especially LGBTQ+ friendly.

Morelia isn't the only easily accessible Mexican destination for Northern California travelers. Several flight options are available on Southwest Airlines, Alaska Airlines, Volaris and AeroMexico offer non-stops to Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta, Guadalajara, Lyon and Mexico City.

If you're looking for a destination that offers heritage without the hype, flavor without the fuss, and authenticity over artifice, Morelia will surprise and charm you. It's a place where Mexico's past and present blend gracefully and are ready to be explored.

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HAIM Are Not Quitters *by Chris Narloch*

The lovely ladies of HAIM are at it again, releasing another killer album and filling concert venues on their current “I Quit” tour, which is also the name of their latest, 15-song collection.



The female pop-rockers are real-life sisters Alana, Danielle, and Este Haim, who all sing and play guitar, although Danielle handles most of the lead vocals. The trio contributed a terrific track to the “Barbie” movie soundtrack, and the band has collaborated with Taylor Swift live on stage and in the recording studio. HAIM’s harmonies are hypnotic, and the band just gets bigger and better with each album, bringing the history of female L.A. rock bands that began with The Runaways, The Go-Go’s, and The Bangles current in 2025.

“King James” is Another Slam-Dunk for CapStage *by Chris Narloch*

In “King James,” two local actors are offering Sacramento audiences a master class in how to navigate a play in which they are the only two characters on stage.



Tarig Elsiddig and Ian C. Hopps have been given the gift of a funny and moving script – with terrific dialogue and the kind of stage business that requires skill and a great deal of rehearsal – and both men nail all of it. Rajiv Joseph’s thoroughly entertaining play follows an unlikely friendship that develops over more than a decade between two basketball fans who meet and haggle over the sale of tickets for the Cleveland Cavaliers, the team that LeBron James led to its only championship in 2016. The two men develop opposing feelings about “King” James for a while, but their bond survives the team’s ups and downs, and this clever comedy, smoothly directed by Michael Stevenson, explores friendship and sports fandom in equal measure. As someone who knows basically nothing about basketball, I will confess that I was not looking forward to reviewing this play, so imagine the surprise as I found myself on my feet at its conclusion, joining the rest of the theater in a standing ovation. “King James” continues at Capital Stage through July 27, 2025. Don’t miss it. For more information, go to: <https://capstage.org>

‘Existence is Resistance’ Showcases Queer Art and Resilience at ARTHOUSE on R *by Matthew Burlingame*

On a quiet stretch of R Street in downtown Sacramento, bold voices are making noise. Existence is Resistance opens July 11 at the ARTHOUSE on R Gallery and is more than just another art exhibition—it’s a visual chorus of protest, from LGBTQ+ artists.



The exhibit brings together the work of six artists—Caitlin McCarthy, Glenn Arthur, Lauren Elizabeth Miller, Richard Munoz-Moore, K. “Pony” Goodwin, and Chelsey Costa—whose diverse styles reflect the spectrum of queer experience. The opening reception, held during Second Saturday on July 12 from 5 to 8 p.m., will allow attendees a chance to meet the artists behind the work. “I think this show is important because it is serving my LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters,” says Richard Munoz-Moore. “I want people within my community to know that they are not alone and that they have a tribe of people fighting for them to have their place at the table, like our LGBTQIA+ forefathers and foremothers did before us.” Munoz-Moore’s piece Bring Andry Back brings attention to the kidnapping and disappearance of 21-year-old Andry Hernandez Romero, a young queer immigrant from Honduras last seen in Texas after being detained by U.S. immigration authorities. The work reflects on how identity can affect whose stories are told, as well as whose are ignored. “It was clear to me,” Munoz-Moore explains, “that Andry didn’t get the same attention because of who he was. I had to say something with my art.” “What I think is most powerful about this show is that [the artists] are all so very different,” he reflects. “But [we] have certainly faced similar intolerances and hate. And our community, more than any other, creates beauty from what may have been ugly.” Ultimately, Existence is Resistance offers more than visual impact, it creates space for memory, for protest, and for Pride that endures. As Munoz-Moore reminds us: “Pride today, Pride tomorrow, Pride forever—not just for June.” For details, [visit downtownsac.org](https://visit.downtownsac.org)

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Out & About

with Matthew Burlingame

As summer heats up with record-breaking temperatures, it's more important than ever to stay cool and hydrated. Whether you're heading to an outdoor concert or weekend festival, be mindful of signs of overheating and take plenty of water breaks. And don't forget about your furry friends! Keep pets indoors during peak heat hours and make sure they have access to fresh, cool water. Enjoy the season safely while soaking in all the fun Sacramento has to offer!



July 10

Step into a time-bending night of art and revelry at ArtMix: Time Warped on Thursday, July 10, at 6 p.m. at the Crocker Art Museum. This 18+ event features DJed music, artmaking, live performances and more, all inspired by Cara and Diego Romero: Tales of Futures Past. Free for members; \$25 for nonmembers. Crockerart.org

July 11

Join us July 11 at *Outword's* monthly happy hour at Badlands Sacramento, 2003 K Street for a dose of Liquid Therapy! Everyone is welcome to enjoy the fun from 5:30-7 p.m. with chances to win prizes and enjoy drink specials. Reconnect with old friends and make new ones. [Visit their FB page here.](#)

Thunder Valley Casino Resort presents comedian and former Daily Show host Trevor Noah on Friday, July 11 at 8 p.m. at 1200 Athens Ave. in Lincoln. Known for his sharp wit and global perspective, Noah brings his award-winning stand-up to the stage for one night only. Don't miss this night of laughter and insight. Thundervalleyresort.com

The Emo Night Tour brings its nationwide tribute to emo classics to Harlow's, 2708 J St., on Friday, July 11. Doors and show start at 8 p.m. (21+ only). Expect live performances, DJ sets, and all your emo favorites from Fall Out Boy to My Chemical Romance. Feel the nostalgia—Warped Tour vibes without the sunburn. Harlows.com

The Set brings the "cream of the crop" to the stage on Thursday, July 11, at Ooley Theater, 2007 28th St. This special showcase features the best sketch comedy from the past 11 years, performed by a dynamic, multi-generational cast. Written and directed by David Humphrey and Daniel Rankin. It's bold, original and definitely not TV.



July 11 - 17

Broadway At Music Circus presents "West Side Story" at the UC Davis Health Pavilion, 1419 H St., from Thursday, July 11, through Wednesday, July 17. Experience this timeless tale of love and conflict, set to Leonard Bernstein's powerful score and featuring classics like "Maria," "Tonight" and "Somewhere." Broadway at its best. BroadwaySacramento.com

July 13

The Sacramento LGBT Community Center hosts a safe and welcoming space for Black queer and trans community members to connect and build support on Sunday, July 13, from 2 to 3 p.m. at 1015 20th St. Held every 2nd and 4th Sunday, this Midtown gathering fosters connection and healing. Email mentalhealth@saccenter.org

Punch Line Sacramento and Lolgbt+ present "Makeup & Mimosas: Drag Brunch with a Punch" on Sunday, July 13, at noon. This all-ages event (13+ with guardian) features fabulous drag performances and bottomless laughs. Join the fun at Punch Line Sacramento, 2100 Arden Way. Sip, slay and celebrate summer with style at this lively brunch bash. Punchlinesac.com

Faces Nightclub, 2000 K St. hosts RuPaul's Drag Race star Daya Betty on Sunday, July 13. A preshow meet and greet begins at 7 p.m., with the drag show starting at 8 p.m. Presale VIP includes early entry, meet and greet, and a photo—but does not include show cover. Don't miss this fierce night with a fan favorite! FACES.net

July 15

Spark fresh connections with the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce at its July Networking Mixer, Tuesday, July 15, 6 - 7:30 p.m., at Roscoe's Bar & Burgers, 2007 K St., Sacramento. Enjoy relaxed summer vibes, light bites and no-pressure mingling while building your LGBTQ-friendly business circle. Admission is free for members, \$10 for nonmembers and guests. Rainbowchamber.com



July 18

Join Outword Magazine for the *Outword* Supper Club on Friday, July 18, at Roscoe's Bar & Burgers, 2007 K St., with seatings at 5 and 6 p.m. Enjoy \$5 martinis, craft cocktails, and bold bites in the heart of Midtown. It's more than dinner—it's a celebration of community, connection and fabulous Friday night vibes. [For more info click here.](#)

CapLit presents an evening of gripping fiction on Friday, July 18, at 7 p.m. at the Auditorium at CLARA, 1425 24th St. Actors will perform dramatic readings of stories by Jamil Jan Kochai and Priya Balasubramanian. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for prime seating, wine tasting by Lucid Winery, and CapLit's signature cookies. Caplit.org

Aug. 9

Rebecca Clark stars in Hello Gorgeous! A Tribute to Barbra Streisand at the Harris Center for the Arts, 10 College Pkwy in Folsom, on Saturday, Aug. 9, 2025. This one-woman musical celebrates Streisand's legendary career through live vocals, humor, and iconic hits like "Evergreen" and "The Way We Were." Grab your tickets early! Harriscenter.net

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



The CA State Fair is Ready to Rock

by Chris Narloch

Summer concert tickets can be very expensive, but every year the CA State Fair offers the best bang for your buck with its Toyota Concert Series, on the Sky River Casino Stage at Cal Expo.

2025 is no different, and this year's not-to-be-missed shows at the Fair include rap and hip-hop (Ludacris, Cypress Hill), classic soul (En Vogue, Tower of Power), country (Joe Nichols, [Brothers Osborne](#), Dustin Lynch), soft rock (Air Supply), metal (Bret Michaels), Latin music (Majo Aguilar and Joss Favela), and Sacramento's hometown heroes ([Tesla](#)), plus tribute bands dedicated to the music of Journey, Queen, and Taylor Swift.



Brothers Osborne
Photo by Katie Kauss



Tesla (the band)

That eclecticism has always been a hallmark of the headline shows at the Fair. (Local acts also perform throughout the Fair's run, from July 11 to 27.) Tickets to enter the Fair range from \$10 for children and \$12 for seniors, to \$16 for adults, and reserved seats for the Toyota Concert Series are available in front of the free section, via the Fair's website.

In addition to magnificent music, fantastic food, and the marvelous midway, other attractions at the Fair include an Appreciation Day for all military, veterans, and first responders, plus pie eating and corn dog eating contests, Sacramento Republic FC Nights at the Fair, cooking challenges, monster trucks, discount days for kids and seniors, a gospel celebration, and Out at the Fair.

For more information, please visit: <https://castatefair.com>

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July 11-27



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11 Ludacris 	12 Bret Michaels 	13 Air Supply 	14 Blank Space: The Taylor Swift Tribute 	15 Happy Together Tour 2025 	16 Dirty Heads 
17 Dustin Lynch 	18 TESLA 	19 Queen Nation 	20 Majo Aguilar & Joss Favela 	21 Journey Revisited 	22 Cypress Hill 
23 Joe Nichols 	24 Tower of Power 	25 O.A.R 	26 Brothers Osborne 	27 En Vogue 	

THESE 2025!

New Hours of Operation:

Mon-Thur: 4pm - 10 pm

Fri-Sun: 10am - 10 pm

Sun, July 27: Gates Close at 8pm

Purchase reserved seats now at CAStateFair.com

Concerts start at 8 pm





photos by Rahn and Juli

Pilots & Pups

Pilots and Pups

Out & About

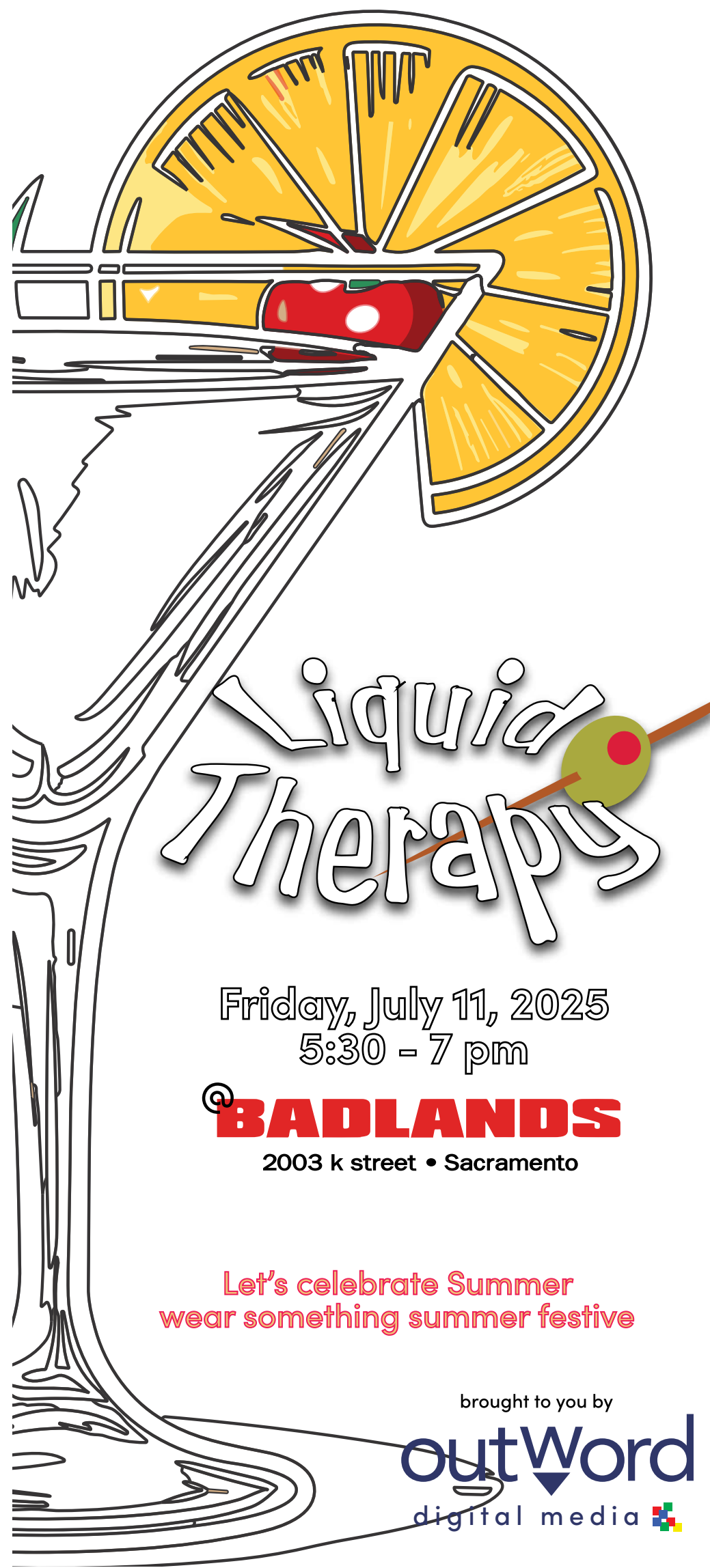
Such debauchery, such mayhem, such fun—and always for a good cause! This time, it was all in support of Pilots & Pups, an incredible effort that rescues pups from overcrowded shelters and flies them to facilities where they have a better chance of finding their forever homes. More than \$2,500 was raised—and so much more! Huge thanks to the charity for their dedication, to the Rainbow Chamber crew for their expertise, and of course to the incomparable DoMe Moore—for, if nothing else, the way she wields that microphone! What a fantastic night. See you all again on August 7th!







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Sacramento History Museum's "Sacramento In a Can" Exhibit Open Now Thru September 1

The Sacramento History Museum's popular exhibition, "Sacramento In a Can - Featuring the Campbell's Sacramento Story," will remain on display only through September 1, 2025. Visitors have just a few weeks left to explore this special look at the Capital City's canning heritage.



Image provided by and courtesy of Sacramento History Museum.

Presented across two floors of the Museum at the Old Sacramento Waterfront, the exhibit chronicles Sacramento's century-long role as a canning powerhouse. On the first floor, guests can discover the story of the Campbell's plant in South Sacramento, which produced canned tomato products and soups that shipped worldwide. Historic images, factory tools, and rare artifacts illustrate how Campbell's shaped the local economy and left an enduring cultural impact.

The third floor expands the story to Sacramento's broader cannery industry. Major companies like Libby, McNeill & Libby; the California Packing Corporation (later Del Monte); and the California Almond Growers Exchange operated alongside smaller, family-run outfits. At its peak, canneries in the region employed thousands of seasonal workers—many of them women, children, immigrants, and Indigenous community members—who processed vast quantities of fruits, vegetables, and nuts.

"The plants pulsed with activity every harvest season," said historian Maryellen Burns. "The canneries were more than factories; they were places where families earned a living, labor movements took shape, and Sacramento's agricultural bounty was transformed into products sold across the country."

While today most of these facilities have been demolished or converted to other uses, the exhibit recreates the era when large parts of Sacramento smelled like tomato soup and syrupy fruit. Visitors will also learn how the city's location—near rivers, railroads, and farmland—made it the ideal hub for food processing.

"The Sacramento In a Can exhibit is a chance to reflect on a time when our city helped feed the nation," said William Burg, another local historian featured in the display.

Those interested in experiencing this slice of Sacramento history are encouraged to plan their visit soon. The exhibition will close permanently after September 1, 2025.

For hours, tickets, and additional information, visit www.SacHistoryMuseum.org.



“Megan 2.0” Reviewed Plus, “Jurassic World”

by Chris Narloch

Theaters around town continue to bring the occasional classic movie from the past back to the big screen for a day or two, and this summer is no exception.

Jack Nicholson won his first of three Oscars for his powerful performance in 1975’s “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest,” Milos Forman’s highly acclaimed movie version of Ken Kesey’s great novel.

That classic film will celebrate its 50th anniversary this month with showings on several local screens, including the Tower Theatre, July 13th and 16th. Below I review another cinematic blast from the past, plus three new movies currently in theaters.



M3GAN 2.0

This is the depressing follow-up to one of my favorite little B-movie horror flicks from the last five years, and it is cinematic proof that less is more. The modest budget of the first “M3GAN” forced the director, Gerard Johnstone, to keep the film small and tight.

Sadly, the new film is overblown and not scary. This time out, the title character not only does a crazy dance, she sings a silly song, and even flies like a bat. Those scenes are all fun, but the movie forgets the frights and instead cobbles together sci-fi, action, and comedy elements for an unholy mess. Currently in wide theatrical release.



28 Years Later

Director Danny Boyle goes for broke with the latest installment in this futuristic horror franchise about a rage-inducing virus that turns its victims into bloodthirsty cannibals. Partly set on a quarantined island in the UK populated by uninfected survivors, the movie follows a 12-year-old boy who ventures onto the very dangerous mainland to get medicine (or a cure) for his sick mother.

At that point, things get crazy and bloody, with Boyle including some surprisingly lovely scenes in between the gritty and realistic brutality. The movie’s cast, including Ralph Fiennes, Jodie Comer, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, and young Edvin Ryding, could not be better, but you have to have a strong stomach for “28 Years Later” which is currently in theaters.



Jurassic World Rebirth

Critics have not been kind to the latest franchisee in the JCU (Jurassic Cinematic Universe), but c’mon guys. It’s a summer monster movie about dinosaurs eating people. Give the movie a break. It has a terrific cast that includes Scarlett Johansson, Mahershala Ali, Jonathan Bailey, and Rupert Friend.

The talented director, Gareth Edwards, does a fine job with the CGI and the big action sequences. Best of all – spoiler alert – the very yummy Jonathan Bailey does not get munched by a T-Rex. Thank God for that!

“Jurassic World Rebirth” is currently in wide theatrical release. See it on the biggest screen you can find, and make up your own mind. It’s not Shakespeare, but I enjoyed it.



In The Mood for Love

This co-production between Hong Kong and France from 2000 was directed by the great Wong Kar-wai, and his film is rightly considered a masterpiece for its stunning cinematography and an incredibly moving love story.

Tony Leung and Maggie Cheung play star-crossed lovers who develop feelings for each other after discovering that their spouses are both cheating on them. To give any more away would be criminal so I will just say that if the film is still playing at Sacramento’s Tower Theatre when you read this, do not miss the rare chance to see it on the big screen.

Mememes from Facebook



“

This is game over. Across multiple issue areas. Just a complete loss across the board. **A loss for America, a loss for almost every American, egregious policies set in stone that will take decades to reverse if they can ever be reversed at all.**

@SAMSWEY

BTC

“

When your neighbor on the left is being dragged away by masked men and your neighbor on the right can't get an X-ray for their child, be sure to quickly explain that "both parties are the same" and whatnot.

@MrGeorgeWallace

BTC

"If you want to know who rules over you, look at who you are not allowed to criticize."

George Orwell

Mememes from Facebook

If you keep people exhausted and distracted, they won't organize. If you keep them struggling and divided, they won't resist. The system isn't broken, it's working as designed.



other98
20 hours ago



@Brettkins

 The Supreme Court has ended nationwide acceptance of birthright citizenship.

Justice Sotomayor, in dissent, compares this to Dred Scott.



Heba Gowayed هبة جوييد
@hebagowayed

This is wild. This means that literally every person's citizenship is up for dispute. Naturalized or born here no one is safe.

A historical fact: The revoking of citizenship for Jewish people in Germany began by the Nazis in 1933.

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Erin Ekins (she/her)
@QueerlyAutistic

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I've come to the conclusion that the sole purpose of homework is to condition children into accepting that unpaid overtime and ridiculous hours and not even being able to escape work even in your own home are a normal things to expect in their future.

3:43 PM · Jul 19, 2020



Activating Taste Buds (ATB) submitted by Ron Tackitt

Mezcal Grill

This has become a staple for me. Not only is it just a block and a half away, but their food and service are consistently excellent. I think they offer some of the best Mexican food in town, especially given the very reasonable prices of their items. I confess, I usually get the Mezcal (wet) Burrito with either chicken or chile verde. Either is delicious, and the portion size will make you blush. For me, it is easily two meals or more.

They have a chip and salsa bar where you can help yourself to the different sauces and condiments—all of them very tasty, and a couple of them quite spicy (they are labeled). Their quesadilla is huge, the Super Nachos are heaping, and there is so much more. In this day and age, it is refreshing to get such delicious portions at such a fair price. Highly recommended.

They have two locations: one in South Natomas and the other in Tahoe Park.

mezcalgrill.net



Chips with four kinds of salsa available



Mezcal Burrito (Wet-Style) 14

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Photos taken at The Waterboy in Midtown

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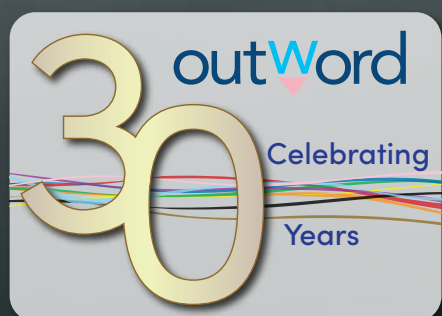
For 30 years, Outword Magazine - Sacramento's longest-running LGBTQ+ publication has been a trusted voice, sharing stories, uplifting our community, and keeping you informed.

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Thank you, from the Outword team.



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Downtown's Favorite Happy Hour Returns

Back by popular demand, Sunset Sips returns for its third year, now extended through the end of September to offer even more midweek fun in Downtown Sacramento. From 4 to 7 p.m. every Wednesday, now through September 24, participating bars, restaurants, and lounges will feature specialty drinks priced at \$5, \$7 and \$9—including beer, wine, cocktails, and refreshing mocktails.

With more than 20 downtown hotspots on board, Sunset Sips delivers an easy way to cool off, connect with friends and coworkers, and explore downtown's cocktail scene during the long Sacramento summer. The program supports local businesses at a time when weekday foot traffic tends to slow down—helping keep downtown vibrant, social, and thriving.

"Sunset Sips is a perfect example of how affordable and accessible programming can positively impact local businesses and bring people together," said Michael Ault, Executive Director of the Downtown Sacramento Partnership. "This year, we're keeping the buzz going through September, giving people more time to enjoy downtown."

2025 participating bars, lounges & restaurants include:

Amourath 1819
Butcher & Barrel
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Pampas
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at the Delta King
Revival at The Sawyer
Tequila Museo Mayahuel
The 7th Street Standard
Whired Wine Window
Willow

For more details about Sunset Sips, please visit <https://www.downtownsac.org/downtown-sac-experiences/sunset-sips/>. To learn about other ways to support local downtown businesses, visit

<https://www.downtownsac.org/>. Sunset Sips is produced by Downtown Sacramento Partnership with support from Sactown Magazine and Sacramento365.

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"Days of our Lives" Gay Wedding

For nearly sixty years, Days of our Lives has been more than just a daytime drama—it's been a cultural touchstone. Since its debut in the mid-1960s, the beloved soap has weathered sweeping political changes, social upheaval, and evolving attitudes toward love and identity. Through it all, Days has remained committed to reflecting the realities of contemporary life, exploring storylines that center on bisexuality, fluidity, and enduring same-sex relationships with care and authenticity.

On June 23rd, Days of our Lives will mark a milestone when longtime couple Paul Narita and Andrew Donovan, played by Christopher Sean and Colton Little, finally marry. Their wedding comes shortly after Paul's father, the iconic John Black (the late Drake Hogestyn), has passed away. Choosing to honor his memory, the couple decides not to postpone their plans, believing he would have wanted them to embrace their happiness.

Family and friends gather for a ceremony that promises to be both emotional and uplifting. For viewers who have followed Paul and Andrew's journey—from secret meetings to public declarations of love—this wedding celebrates years of storytelling and the show's commitment to representation and inclusion.

As soaps adapt to new generations, moments like this remind audiences why the genre endures: stories about resilience, love, and the belief that everyone deserves their own happily ever after. Days of our Lives, [streaming on Peacock](#), will celebrate its 60th anniversary on November 8, 2025.



Photo courtesy of Corday Productions/Days of our Lives)

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

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is out.



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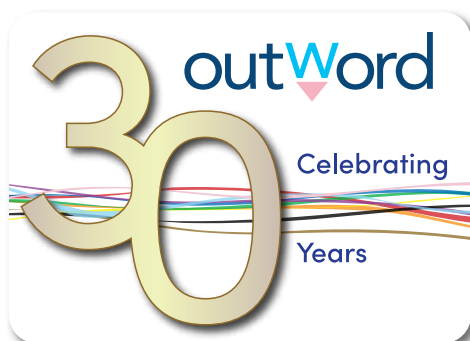
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