SN&R
Sacramento News & Review

# Rich dinner, poor dinner



Eating local should be for everyone. Our writer asks how Sacramento can truly become America's farm-to-fork capital.

by Alastair Bland • page 16

FREE

## WHOLE FOODS IN MIDTOWN?

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## GANGS, YOUTUBE, HIP-HOP VIDEOS

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## FARM-TO-FORK WEEK EVENTS!

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## DOOMBIRD'S RETURN FLIGHT

see Music, page 34

## FOUR-STAR HOT DOGS!

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

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September 19, 2013 | Vol. 25, Issue 23

## 'Fork' lift

The Yeung Farms heirlooms on my dining partner's plate won't shut up. "Hey, buddy. Tomato season is almost over. Get some!" they taunt. So, I steal a bite: stab one of the yellow-green wedges, drag it through vinegar, *chomp.* These beauties journeyed 11.1 miles from West Sacramento to Mulvaney's B&L in Midtown, then finally into my belly this past Saturday night. Damn delicious. Farm to fork, you gotta love it, right?

But this is Sacramento, so even when it comes to fresh produce, there's controversy.

Like so much contentiousness, maybe the drama began with the mayor and his declaration of Sacramento as the nation's "Farm-to-Fork Capital." There's no denying that his higher-than-an-eagle speak makes even the most bullish Sacramentan groan. "Oh. Great. Another world-class yada yada."

But this city also brims with haters. And I don't fault the mayor for his passion. Sacramento's chefs rock, and the region's bounty is unequaled.

Sadly, as Alastair Bland reports in this week's cover story (see page 16), Sacramentans don't eat much local food. And tens of thousands of poor and low-income residents never access the likes of crunchy kale or plump figs. That must change.

Maybe Farm-to-Fork week, which kicks off this Friday (see page 23 for event details), can inspire.

I also chatted with chef Patrick Mulvaney on Saturday and learned that F2F is more than just fancy dinners. It will bring a farmers market to Sacramento State University. Goodbye Panda Express, hello brain food. Students will learn the way of the watercress.

Then, maybe, farms will soon find Sacto's food deserts and underserved neighborhoods. Our embarrassment of edible riches will begin to solve this nation's embarrassing hunger crisis. It could happen.

Let's hope Farm-to-Fork week is a lift.

**—Nick Miller**
nickam@newsreview.com













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COVER DESIGN BY
BRIAN BRENEMAN

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Asked at El Camino and Watt avenues:

# What are you running from?



**Dana McBride**
salesperson

I am starting to learn now [that] I think what I run from is my best self, my best own self. I have a lot of responsibilities with my children. It is time to stop running from it and just do it. There are a lot of obstacles. Sometimes I run away from doing what is right.



**Lanson Kovac**
engineer

[I am] running away from my adolescence and starting to be a big boy in the world now. I just graduated from college recently and [am] kind of on a path of growing up. I am coming into a world where I need to be responsible. I just bought a car for the first time. I had to learn all of the ins and outs that come with that.



**Sarah Collins**
nursing assistant

If I think I will fail, if I think I don't have the confidence, then I will run from that. I have a test I need to take, and I don't think I will pass the test. I am doing other things instead. I have a bad habit of doing that.



**Debbie Muniz**
retail employee

Well, when you have a fear, you just have to hit it head-on, and get it over with. So, no running for me. I can't think of one [thing I am running from].



**Luis Torres**
customer service

I love my parents and my family, [but they are] 3,000 miles away. ... [But] I know if I go back to the fear [that] is in me, I might end up like my cousins, who are not doing anything good for themselves. So, when I am not [certain] about what our monthly income is going to be, I run from that feeling, and I just work harder.



**Alejandra Robles**
unemployed

I really love to ride my bike. I like to run and exercise, and it makes me feel better. I have energy. My mind is open after exercise, and I can do things. No, I am not running from anything.



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health happens here
In Neighborhoods

BUILDING A **HEALTHY** SACRAMENTO

# Making Food Fun

## Nonprofit educates kids on how to eat healthy

BY MIKE BLOUNT

Getting kids to eat healthier doesn't just mean telling them to "eat their vegetables," according to Amber Stott, founder of the California Food Literacy Center. It's about food literacy.

Stott's organization aims to prevent obesity in children from lower-income neighborhoods by going into classrooms and teaching students how to eat healthier. The California Food Literacy Center also holds taste-testing sessions and invites local chefs to share their healthy recipes.

Using her background in nonprofit work and her passion for healthy foods, Stott acts as a cheerleader for fruits and vegetables, getting kids excited about kiwi and cauliflower. If given the choice, she believes more kids would eat healthy foods if they had the opportunity to learn about the nutritional value of fruits and vegetables and how to prepare them for meals. But often, poor eating habits are passed down from parents to their children.

"As a society, I think we understand that fruits and vegetables are good for us, but there is a critical gap and that is food literacy," Stott says. "If you don't know how to prepare [vegetables] in a way that is delicious, you're not going to eat [them]."

By introducing children to different ways to prepare fruits and vegetables, Stott hopes kids will form good eating habits while they are young that will last their whole lives. And if children are excited about eating fruits and vegetables, she adds it could create a ripple effect in the household where adults feel encouraged to eat healthier foods with their kids.

One of the first major backers of the California Food Literacy Center was The California Endowment's Building Healthy Communities campaign, which gave Stott a grant to expand a summer program to reach 2,400 kids. Stott says that ultimately she would like to reach every kid in Sacramento with the message that good eating habits lead to good health.

> "THE SOONER YOU CAN GET KIDS EXPOSED TO FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, THE HEALTHIER THEY WILL BE BECAUSE THEY ARE CREATING A HABIT THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME."
> Amber Stott, founder of the California Food Literacy Center

"There are multiple studies that show that a low intake of vegetables in childhood leads to an array of diseases throughout a life span, including heart disease, diabetes and allergies," Stott says. "The sooner you can get kids exposed to fruits and vegetables, the healthier they will be because they are creating a habit that will last a lifetime."

Stott says that despite the health benefits, there are several obstacles that make it difficult to change eating habits. Among them are two generations of Americans that do not cook healthy meals or do not have the resources to do so, and the large marketing campaigns of the processed food industry.

"We're up against these giant marketing machines for junk food and they're targeting our kids, so we have to do the same thing, but for fruits and vegetables," Stott says. "We're cheerleading and bringing a positive message, trying to be as colorful and exciting as some of these cartoon characters are for junk food because at the end of the day, the majority of your options are going to be processed food."

### BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

In 2010, The California Endowment launched a 10-year, $1 billion plan to improve the health of 14 challenged communities across the state. Over the 10 years, residents, community-based organizations and public institutions will work together to address the socioeconomic and environmental challenges contributing to the poor health of their communities.



Amber Stott combined her background in nonprofits and her personal passion for promoting healthy foods to create the California Food Literacy Center.
Photo by Anne Stokes





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# Attack Syria

Re "Syria, seriously" by Nick Miller (SN&R Editor's Note, September 5):

As a Republican, I agree with President Barack Obama: We must strike Syria. We have moral and practical imperatives to do so. Morally, the blood-stained Assad regime committed a crime against humanity, using the same nerve weapon that even the Nazis found too abhorrent. Are we so indifferent to basic decency that we're willing to countenance the criminal slaughter of defenseless women and children? And with a weapon universally declared unlawful? Even Russian President Vladimir Putin is telling Syrian President Bashar Assad to end this despicable behavior.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

America's spent much blood and treasure since 9/11 to secure our safety. What safety, if we back down on basic moral and legal issues? What happens if such attacks are made on us or our allies? What of our credibility as a nation? As Edmund Burke said, "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." We must defend those principles of morality and humanity that are the touchstones of the American people.

**Donald Sizemore**
Sacramento

## Different kinds of rape

Re "Stop the teenage slut-shaming" by Rachel Leibrock (SN&R Editor's Note, September 12):

As a feminist of many years' standing, I find myself troubled by this Editor's Note.

The editorial characterizes as "stomach-turning" the light sentences handed down in two recent cases of what the editorial refers to only as "rape." What is never quite clarified, though, is that the "rape" in those two cases was not forcible rape, but statutory rape. There is a world of difference between the two.

Forcible rape accomplished through violent coercion is indeed a stomach-turning crime that naturally arouses our feelings of horror and revulsion, regardless of the victim's age. Statutory rape, on the other hand, is a more legalistic concept; it is far more perplexing to contemplate, fraught with social and philosophical complications too intricate to be discussed in the space of this letter.

Used alone, the word "rape" evokes terrifying mental images of a violent crime. When it is statutory rape that is being discussed, using the word "rape" without the qualifier "statutory" is loaded language that stirs up people's emotions while obscuring the facts of the case. When people who have been misled by such rhetoric discover the truth, a good many of them inevitably become skeptical toward all claims of rape. Thus, this linguistic sleight of hand has real consequences, robbing the word "rape" of its power, and ultimately doing a grave disservice to all victims of the forcibly coercive type of rape we all rightly abhor.

For the sake of those victims, then, we should all be careful to avoid conflating these two vastly different phenomena.

David Urman
via email

## Sick of prison talk

Re "Slaves to the system" by Raheem F. Hosseini (SN&R Essay, September 5):

I am so tired of hearing how inmates in the California prison system are so mistreated and how we should be investing more in rehabilitation. The reason why California has such a huge population of inmates is because we have created a society that relies on government funding to survive. Then, when the government-funded income doesn't cover the things that people want or need, they take it. Or they turn to other illegal activity to fund their wants and needs, or to numb the depression they feel from their "lot in life."

How about investing money in the education system to teach kids from a young age that it isn't someone else's responsibility to take care of them; that if they choose the entitled path where they feel they can do whatever they want, and that not only is it someone else's fault but that they should be taken care of afterward, that they will come to the realization that life will be significantly harder and uncomfortable for them?

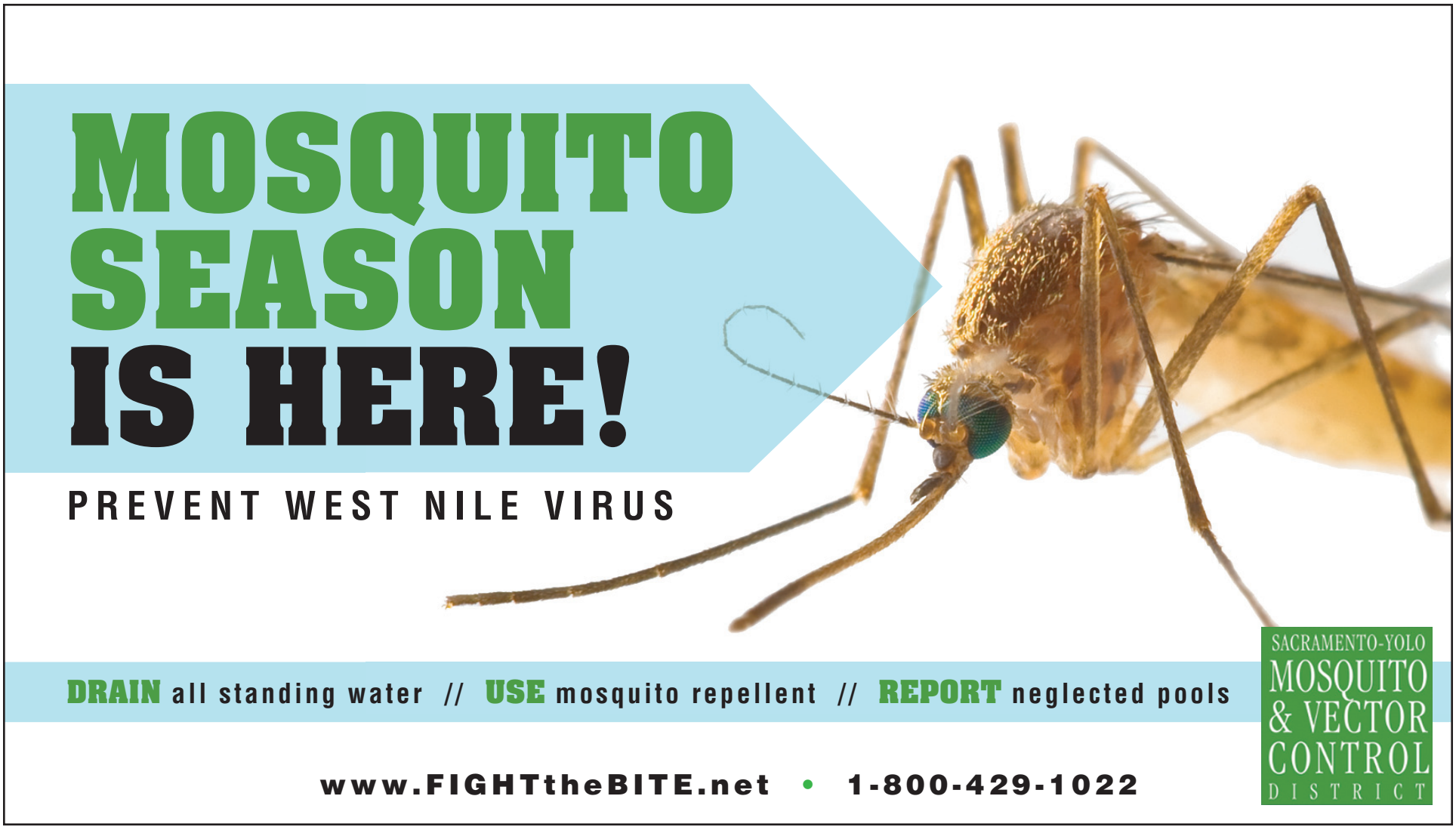
I have been a recipient of welfare and had many loved ones in the system, and I have heard my whole life how hard it is for them. How about how hard it is for the ones left to clean up the messes? How about how hard it is for a single mom who works two jobs while trying to take care of her kids so that she can give them more than welfare provides? We make choices. All of us do. It isn't someone else's job to feed the children I chose to bring in this world, and it isn't someone else's job to provide cable to my loved ones who made bad choices because they didn't like how hard life is when you have to work for what you want. I say it isn't hard enough for them, and that if they could expect having less rights when getting in the system, maybe they might think twice before doing whatever it was that got them there in the first place.

Danielle Ratkowski
Fair Oaks

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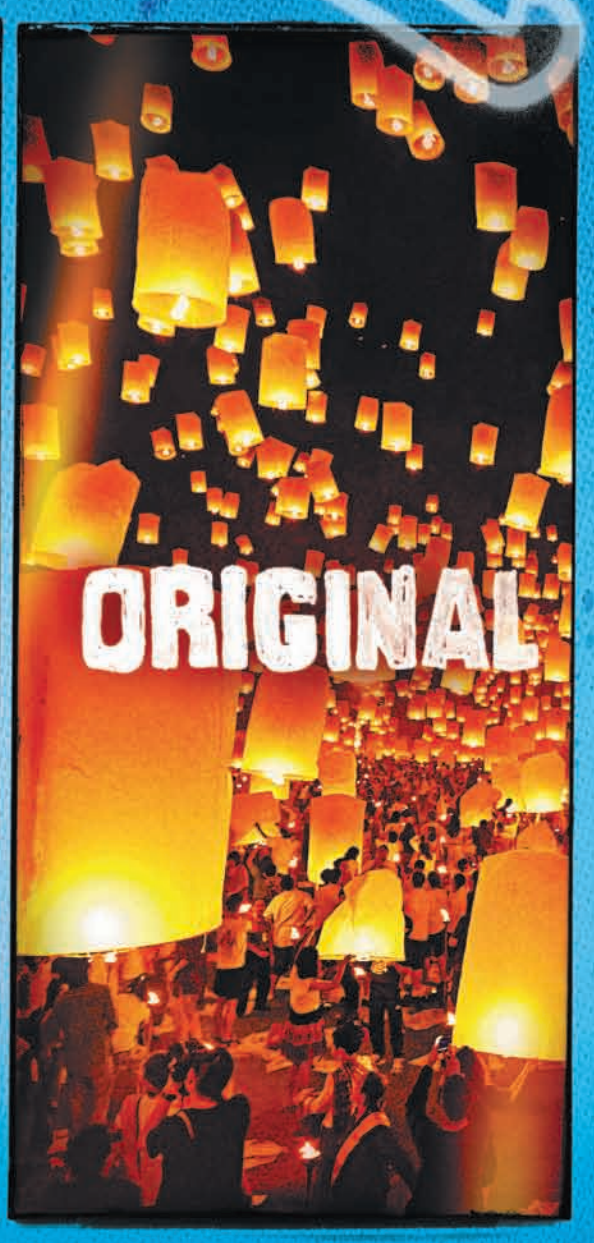
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# Meme streets

## Sacramento law enforcement looks to YouTube during gang investigations

by
Raheem F. Hosseini
raheemh@newsreview.com

**Al Henry Allen Sr. can thank Sacramento's** gangster-rap scene for putting him behind bars.

Well before a judge's gavel condemned the 22-year-old Allen to 25 years to life in state prison earlier this summer, he and his friends mugged and swaggered their way through the music video for Lavish D's "Project Nigga."

The video was shot on location in Sacramento on June 5, 2010. A few hours later, Allen and his friends encountered rival gang members at a hotel party in Elk Grove. Words were exchanged, Allen drew a pistol and a young man died from a bullet to the back.

Through Lavish D's video, which was uploaded to YouTube a week after the killing, police identified several of the suspects.

"It was kind of central to our investigation," said Elk Grove Police Department Detective Kevin Papineau, the primary in the case.

It's also the most prominent example yet of how Sacramento's entrenched gang culture continues to evolve.

Authorities worry that homegrown rap videos disseminated through social media will escalate disputes between bitter rivals. In some cases, the viral taunts have already spilled blood on the streets.

**At a gang seminar at the Sacramento** Police Department in June, moderators played clips from a rap video they said prompted a violent reaction. A day after it hit YouTube, one of the men featured was shot dead in south Sacramento by those who took umbrage to the song's message, they said.

Linking gangster rap to gangster crimes isn't exactly new. Both 2 Live Crew and Snoop Dogg had to defend their lyrics during obscenity and murder trials in the 1990s, while the unsolved murders of the Notorious B.I.G. and Tupac Shakur are widely speculated to be the results of a bitter East Coast-West Coast rap feud. But that all happened in a mostly predigital era.

"The explosion of [online] gang videos is a direct result of our society and our technology," observed Sgt. Jamin Martinez, a member of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department's gang unit.

The advent of social media and cheap recording technology has handed the mic off to a whole new generation of gangbangers and their set-repping rivals.

Online videos are even edging out traditional forms of antagonism, like flying colors and promoting one's set through graffiti. It's an entirely different kind of turf war—waged in a virtual world for hearts, minds and page clicks.



SCREEN SHOT COURTESY OF YOUTUBE

Police used the YouTube video for Lavish D's "Project Nigga" to convict a man for an Elk Grove gang shooting. Several suspects appeared in the video, according to law enforcement.

Lavish D's "Project Nigga" is approaching 208,000 views. T-Nutty & Lil Face's "City of the Colors" has racked up more than 56,000 views since hitting YouTube in October 2010. Alphie Blood, who released the Bloods anthem "I'm a Ridge Nigga" on YouTube in November 2012, has collected almost 22,000 views. Its thematic rival, the locally produced "Crippin," by Lil Face and Gunplay, notched almost 68,000 views over the same time frame.

**Authorities worry that homegrown rap videos disseminated through social media will escalate disputes between bitter rivals.**

Authorities told SN&R these videos play direct roles in Sacramento's gang culture.

"I can't say if there's an uptick in gang-related shootings that's attributable to that," said Supervising Deputy District Attorney Andrew Solomon, who heads up his office's gang unit. "But it's certainly a possibility, because these challenges and those disrespects are going out to a wider audience to be seen."

The artists behind some of these local videos wouldn't return interview requests or speak on the record. But authorities say the desire to get famous or die trying remains strong.

"A lot of my guys start out aspiring rap artists," Sacramento police Detective Bob Quinn, who specializes in black street gangs, said at the seminar.

Martinez said that dream especially resonates with at-risk youth.

"A lot of the kids we deal with, especially the younger ones, their dreams are a little bit unrealistic," he said. "You see one or two guys get out of your city or 'hood [by rapping], and you get 40 new kids who latch onto that."

But not every artist who gets out stays out.

Bay Area rapper Mac Dre, née Andre Louis Hicks, had already done time in prison before he relocated to Sacramento in 2001 and rechristened his rap label Thizz Entertainment. But this new start lasted only three years. In November 2004, Hicks was shot while a passenger in a car on a Kansas City, Missouri, freeway. He died from his injuries at the age of 34.

The late rapper's homicide remains unsolved, and his former label is now at the center of a federal Ecstasy-trafficking probe.

**During a 2010 shooting at a Holiday Inn** Express on W. Stockton Boulevard in Elk Grove, it was an innocent bystander who got caught between quarreling gangs.

D'Andre Blackwell was reportedly at the hotel that Saturday night for a high-school-graduation party.

Blackwell, who was not in a gang, was on the first floor of the hotel with two friends who were affiliated with Gunz Up. The trio ran into several members of a rival crew called Gutta Boyz/Starz Up. Police say an argument ensued, leading Allen to pull a pistol and fire at Blackwell's friends. "They were the primary targets," Papineau said.

All three were running for the stairwell when the bullet struck Blackwell in the back. The mortally wounded 18-year-old managed to reach the third floor, where his graduation party was held, before collapsing in the hallway. The Valley High School grad died before medical personnel could arrive. "Wrong place at the wrong time," Papineau said.

Hours earlier, several of the suspects recorded appearances in Lavish D's "Project Nigga" music video. The track is fairly typical by Sactown's gritty hip-hop standards. Over a frantic keyboard sample, the drawling rapper describes all the things he has and his enemies lack: women, cash and loads of street cred. But then, Lavish gets specific: "Don't ever try to play me, dog. It is how I sound. Eleven hundred guns. Starz up, Gunz down."

Authorities say those lyrics pinpoint the animosity between the two named cliques. "That really solidifies the motive for the shooting," Papineau said.

On June 5, a jury convicted Allen of four felony counts, including second-degree murder and attempted murder.

The video also led to convictions of Jahmal Vance Dawson and Brandon Marcel "Shadow" Washington, for two counts each of assault with a firearm, resulting in eight-year prison sentences. A jury acquitted Marquess Travon "Whiteboy-Roach" Wilson of murder and attempted murder charges.

Three others associated with "Project Nigga" pled no contest to lesser felonies late last year. Isaevion Brian "Young-Zave" Anderson, who admitted belonging to a criminal street gang, is scheduled for sentencing on September 20.

Lavish went on to make more YouTube videos, including one he uploaded seven months after the shooting, called "King of the City." Outtakes capture actual police detaining the rapper and members of his crew outside a Sacramento apartment complex.

In the video, a local officer razzes the artist, who also goes by the moniker Cash Money, quoting one of his lyrics back to him.

Walking to his car to get a promotional magazine for one of the cops, Lavish addresses the camera: "See, they fans. They really fans. They want to be a part of this." □

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October 11, 12, 13

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# OPINION

## THE SCORE KEEPER

by SN&R staff

Sacramento's winners and losers—with arbitrary points

### Cohn does Twitter

Long-standing East Sacramento **Councilman Steve Cohn** is running for Roger Dickinson's Assembly seat. And, like any good campaign, he's recently launched a new Twitter account for it. But Scorekeeper questions the judgment behind his first post: "Cohn campaign learned today it was mistaken in believing it had the endorsement of Mayor Kevin Johnson." OK, so that's your campaign's introduction to the Twittersphere? Or, as local political consultant Andrew Acosta chimed in: "Did the campaign ask for the endorsement from KJ and not get it OR did you get it and not want it?" No tweets since then for @cohnforassembly.

- 7

### Stab city

Is violence becoming more brazen in Midtown, or should we just chalk this one up to the date? Midafternoon on Friday the 13th, a man in his 40s was stabbed numerous times outside of the **Safeway** on 19th and S streets. Still no info on the attacker.

- 13

### Drive-through bandit

An unidentified fast-food customer simply had to have it his way. On September 11, Sacramento Police Department logs say the individual reached his hand through the drive-through window of a restaurant on the 2700 block of Broadway. There's a Taqueria Maya's, Subway and Carl's Jr. all within that vicinity. Officers stopped their suspect nearby, and say he had the tip jar from another restaurant in his possession. While police didn't name the suspected thief, Scorekeeper suspects it's the **Hamburglar**.




- 99 cents

### Seattle sigs

**Sacramento Taxpayers Opposed to Pork** announced on Tuesday that the 18,000 or so signatures collected in June and July—with funds provided by Seattle Supersonics No. 1 fan Chris Hansen—have been delivered. "[A]ssuring that the measure will make the ballot," according to @voteonthearena on Twitter. Hansen had said he would try to block the signatures.

+ 18,000

### Flights of fancy dining

Mobile-food-concession operators are getting a chance to set up their trucks in the Sacramento International Airport's cellphone lot, a free waiting area for those picking up passengers. The Sacramento County Airport System last week requested bids from interested grub-makers and says, if all goes well, **food trucks** could segue into the rental-car facility. If all goes well. Does that mean no artery-clogging "five-speeds"? Hope not. Applications are due October 3.

+ 100

### Fare game

Scorekeeper embraces mass transit and Sacramento's light rail. But it's 2013, which means it's time for **Regional Transit** to accept debit or credit-card payments for light-rail fare. Because, you know, sometimes a few bucks of change is hard to scrounge up.

- 2.50

# Midtown goes national

## Popular chain retailers such as Whole Foods Market and BevMo! look to Sacramento's grid

**It comes down to leakage.**

by
**Nick Miller**
nickam@
newsreview.com

Or at least that's how new Midtown Business Association executive director Emily Baime Michaels explained what national big-brand chains such as BevMo! take into account when considering a new store in Sacramento's central city.

"What they're looking for is whether people are leaving an area to find a certain item," she explained.

"If you had a Beat building like that up and down J Street, [the block] would be 75 percent chains," he said.

He used the Goodwill store on 16th and L streets as an example of the "identity, branding and convenience" that national chains look for in urban areas.

For years, Midtown has been devoid of big-name corporate retail stores, sans a few Starbucks coffeehouses or the occasional California Pizza Kitchen.



Neighbors worry that chain stores might run established local shops out of Midtown. BevMo!, meanwhile, hopes to move into the building formerly occupied by The Beat, complete with preserving this famous kiosk and adding murals and artisan bike racks.

In the case of BevMo!, the company hopes to move into the large building on the corner of J and 17th streets—former home of record store The Beat—next year. It says enough Midtowners are leaving, or "leaking," from their homes and apartments to purchase wine, beer and spirits at the company's other locations in suburbia.

"We continually see our customers in the central Midtown area traveling out to [our other] stores to shop," said Greg Endom with BevMo!

His company isn't alone. More and more big-name chain stores, including Whole Foods Market, are eyeing Midtown.

"National chains are looking for very convenient locations," explained David Herrera, vice president with commercial real-estate firm Colliers International. His company represents the owner of the building that BevMo! hopes to call home.

"The reason that they like this location is the high amount of traffic, the visibility and the on-site parking," which includes 48 stalls, Herrera explained.

"Less leakage."

Herrera said of Whole Foods, adding that it wants a 20,000 to 30,000-square-foot location—almost the size of an entire city block—with parking. A site under consideration is near The Sacramento Bee headquarters at 21st and Q streets.

One source said it was a "50-50 chance" that Whole Foods would end up in the central city. A spokesperson for Whole Foods said the company has yet to announce anything for a Sacramento store, and that it reveals such news during its quarterly earnings calls.

Like a new Sacramento Kings arena on K Street, a Whole Foods Market has the buying power and anchor-tenant capacity to tip the scales toward more big-name stores converging on the grid.

So, will Midtowners, who are accustomed to locally owned businesses, accept these big chain stores? And can BevMo! or Whole Foods co-exist with old-school corner liquor stores or the Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op?

"It's great that these retailers feel that the central city has buying power. But I do have concerns about how these larger chains are going to impact existing businesses," said Julie Murphy, president of the Marshall School/New Era Park Neighborhood Association.

Baime Michaels thinks there's room for everyone, and that residents will embrace the chains, because they tend to open smaller "neighborhood concepts" that fit in with the existing urban fabric.

> **"If you had a Beat building like that up and down J Street, it would be 75 percent chains."**
>
> **David Herrera**
> Colliers International

Endom with BevMo!, for instance, says his company is already reaching out to local muralists and even a bike-rack architect so that its Midtown store can vibe with the grid milieu. They also intend to preserve the original Beat building, including the kiosk at its J Street entrance.

BevMo! submitted an application to operate with the city a couple weeks ago, according to Endom. "It's going to be well into next year before we open a store," he said.

Is this the beginning of The Big Chain Takeover?

"I don't think it will ever be taken over by chains, but having a couple chains here and there could be good," Herrera said. "Midtown, I like it for being Midtown. It's fun." □

BEATS

## Country venue code woes

Stoney Inn on Del Paso Boulevard is cowboying up for **a showdown with Sacramento code enforcement**, according to a post on the country-music venue's Facebook page.

On Friday, September 13, owner "Twosteppin" Kevin Lutz appealed to patrons of the Stoney Inn for their support in what he characterized as **a two-year battle** with the city's code-compliance division. "They are threatening to take our [Stoney's] away from us," he wrote on the establishment's Facebook page. "If you know someone from the city or government of importance that you could say some good things about our bar/saloon/restaurant."

Lutz did not specify the city's requests for the venue beyond one claim that they needed **11 stalls in the women's restroom**.

Code compliance did not respond to questions by the time of publishing. (Dave Kempa)

## Hammer time

Sacramento police contended with **weird weaponry** while on patrol last Sunday, avoiding subjects' teeth, hammers and hatchets.

Around 2:30 p.m. on the 7500 block of Titian Parkway in the southern district, a woman who was being placed in custody on charges of violating a restraining order **attempted to bite an officer's hand**, according to Sacramento Police Department logs. Linda Blackwell, 55, was booked into jail for the attempted assault, as well as the restraining-order violation and another charge.

Five hours later, police were called to the intersection of Meadowview Road and Henrietta Drive to deal with a man waving a hatchet at passing cars. When officers arrived, the man, identified as 48-year-old Jamie Sandoval, had the weapon tucked in his belt, logs say. While he dropped the cleaver when asked, police say Sandoval first walked away, then **charged an officer**. A conductive energy device—basically, a Taser—dropped Sandoval, and he was taken into custody.

Later that night, a robbery victim at a central-city motel successfully fought off a hammer-wielding suspect before police arrived. Officers were able to detain a man found wandering 53rd Avenue with a flashlight that was initially reported to be a Taser. The subject was hospitalized for evaluation. (Raheem F. Hosseini)

## Sac Press changes

The Sacramento Press appears poised to wholeheartedly embrace its community-contributor journalism model: The popular online local news site **laid off all but one of its paid employees last week**.

Workers for www.sacramentopress.com, which launched five years ago with a mix of staff reporters and editors, as well as unpaid, nonprofessional freelance writers, recently moved out of their downtown office and into Midtown's Hacker Lab co-work space.

"It's unclear what happens next," last-employee-standing and editor Jared Goyette told SN&R. "Good journalism costs money, and local banner ads don't provide enough revenue to pay for it."

Goyette has organized a meeting next Thursday, September 26, at the southern end of the Downtown Plaza near Flywheel, at 5:30 p.m. "for anyone interested in trying to save Sac Press."

Ben Ilfeld wrote on the site last week that Jared Goyette will continue as editor, and that "**strong content**" will be Sac Press' No. 1 priority. (Nick Miller)

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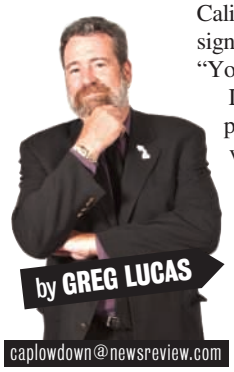
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# End of the line

## Tale of a cardroom and Las Vegas casino reveal your tax dollars at work



by GREG LUCAS
caplowdown@newsreview.com

**What's missing in the polished wood,** Corinthian-columned opulence of the California state Senate chambers is a sign with large block letters that says: "Your Tax Dollars At Work."

Like the ones for highway projects. Such a sign would be valuable—and instructive—for both observers and participants in the "legislative process."

It's quiet now in the Senate and the Assembly chambers. **The "process"** has worked all its magic for the year, and the Legislature has adjourned. But not before passing hundreds and hundreds of bills, most of which will be signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown between now and his mid-October deadline to act.

**Public monies have been pissed away on far more flagrant boondoggles.**

Last week, however, the upper house was a hive of frenetic activity as the state's 40 senators—each representing 931,000 Californians—condemned, defended, amended and OK'd statutory changes from **stalking** to **solar panels for the poor**.

Were California's tax dollars being spent wisely?

Public monies have been pissed away on far more flagrant boondoggles, for sure. But based on what issues revved their engines, senators didn't exactly demonstrate a fixation on the public good.

Perhaps at some other time during the Senate's deliberations the foreclosed, the famished, the disenfranchised, the medically fragile, the aged and the disabled were the focus. But during one 90-minute, late-afternoon period toward the session's close, the topic generating the most excitement was preventing a privately owned company from being forced into a **"fire sale"** of one of $2 billion profit-making ventures—one here and one in Nevada.

The Silver State property owned by this company is the acreage upon which the **Sahara Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas** is being rebuilt for $415 million. Here in the Golden State, the company owns the 240-acre **Hollywood Park racetrack**, which it bought seven years ago for $260 million.

Horses stop running this year at the venerable track, and next year, mixed-use development begins of what's probably the largest contiguous chunk of land in metropolitan Los Angeles.

*Cha-ching.*

The company is San Francisco-based **Stonebridge Capital Group**. Real estate is its game. Of the client money Stonebridge invests, $2.6 billion comes from public-pension funds. Stonebridge's 30 employee-owners profit when the assets managed by the firm, $6.4 billion currently, increase in value.

What Stonebridge wanted—and eventually got—is an exemption that allows it to continue to operate a card club, also located at Hollywood Park. In return, Stonebridge agrees that within three years after the new Sahara Hotel opens, it will divest itself of one of the two properties.

Completion of the hotel is supposed to be in the fall of 2014. So, Stonebridge can sit pat until late 2017. Plenty of time for the value of **Hollywood Park** to increase as development begins. And plenty of time for the value of the Sahara to climb as credit-card carrying guests flock to its casino, four nightclubs and 1,600 rooms.

This, says Stonebridge, is a modest measure. In contrast to its failed attempt last year to secure an in-perpetuity exemption without shedding any of its assets. Now it's willing to sell one of its cash cows after **feverishly yanking its swollen udders** for three years.

Very sporting.

But, hey, Stonebridge and its lobbyists are just trying to secure the best win they can. It's the job of the state Senate—and the Assembly—to scrutinize what Stonebridge wants and decide whether it's good for California.

Opponents and supporters claimed it's about jobs. Other card clubs in the vicinity said they would shed jobs if Hollywood Park received the exemption. Supporters said without the exemption, Hollywood Park's card club would close, erasing 20 percent of the **city of Inglewood**'s budget.

After 30 minutes of jawing, the Senate decided the bill benefits 38 million Californians and sent it to Gov. Brown. If he signs it, California bestows a handsome profit on Stonebridge and its clients, 80 percent of which are pension funds in this case.

Your tax dollars at work. □

**Greg Lucas'** state-politics column Capitol Lowdown appears every-other week in SN&R. He also blogs at www.californiascapitol.com.

# Hardcourt hardball

## Steinberg's arena bill may limit community benefits from a new Sacramento Kings home



by COSMO GARVIN
cosmog@newsreview.com

**All the phony drama about Chris Hansen and signature** gatherers aside, the reality is that public subsidies for a new NBA basketball facility in Sacramento will likely ultimately move forward.

Clearly, it doesn't much matter whether the arena plan is a good economic investment for Sacramento taxpayers. But if the public must foot the bill for a new arena, the deal can at least be **made less bad**.

Start with good design and real public input, of course. And Bites suggests getting a **written guarantee on that $500 million** in surrounding development promised by the whales. And finally, insistence on a strong "community benefits agreement" may help as well.

In big cities like Los Angles and San Diego, Pittsburgh, New York City and Atlanta, CBAs are an increasingly common element in arena and stadium projects. The agreements help mitigate impacts—like the **displacement of poor people**, or increased traffic, parking and noise in local neighborhoods. And they help spread some public benefits around to a community that is racking up considerable public costs.

For example, the CBA governing development around L.A.'s Staples Center included money to fund local parks and rec programs, "**living wages**" for jobs generated by the project, new affordable-housing money, and even community input on what businesses would be allowed to move into the new development around the arena.

**This is, after all, the brought-to-you-by-Wal-Mart, "billionaires think we are worthy" Sacramento City Council we are talking about here.**

"It has to be a benefit for our neighborhoods. It can't just be a benefit for **rich people who live in the suburbs**," says Bill Camp, executive secretary of the Sacramento Central Labor Council, the political arm of Sacramento's local unions. Labor's support for the arena has helped move it forward—but it comes with conditions.

The labor council wants new arena jobs to be given to residents from the city's **high-unemployment neighborhoods**, subsidized public transportation for workers at the arena and "associated facilities," and on-site child care for workers. The CLC also wants "labor peace" agreements covering workers at hotels and restaurants that are part of the project, allowing them to unionize without interference.

This list is not to be confused with the labor pact now being finalized between the arena developers and the Sacramento-Sierra Building and Construction Trades Council. The actual deal hasn't been made public yet, but it reportedly requires at least 60 percent of the construction jobs to go to workers from the Sacramento area. (It's not entirely clear to Bites why "Sacramento area" residents should get the jobs, when city residents are footing the bill.)

Labor is not the only group pushing for a CBA. Bill Kennedy, with the nonprofit **Legal Services of Northern California**, has been talking strategy with housing advocates and social-justice groups. There again, jobs for low-income residents, affordable housing and transportation would likely be on the agenda.

"If they claim this project is about creating jobs, then who is going to get the benefit of the jobs created at the arena and in the district? Can we create better jobs?" asked Kennedy.

Kennedy also noted that any arena project at the Downtown Plaza will displace low-income residents of local single-room-occupancy housing, like the Marshall Hotel, and push the poor out generally. Some will see that as a benefit by itself. "But just moving people out of town doesn't solve the problem," he added. Homeless and affordable-housing advocates from **Safe Ground** and the **Sacramento Housing Alliance** have shown interest in a CBA, said Kennedy.

But how do you get developers to sit down and negotiate a CBA? Do members of the city council—who so far haven't exactly played hardball with the investor whales—really have the gumption to insist such public benefits be part of an arena deal?

This is, after all, the brought-to-you-by-Wal-Mart, "billionaires think we are worthy" Sacramento City Council we are talking about here.

Historically, the California Environmental Quality Act has helped force developers to mitigate the social and environmental impacts of their projects. On a project this size, any delay can cost millions of dollars. CBAs have happened where developers have had the incentive to sit down with labor or community groups, and make concessions rather than fight off lawsuits.

But earlier this month state **Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg** pushed through special legislation limiting CEQA's effect on the Sacramento arena project, and likely limiting CEQA's usefulness as a tool for community groups.

"It takes probably the **biggest hammer** away," said Kennedy, though he added that the impacts of Steinberg's Senate Bill 743 were not yet entirely clear.

To Camp, the city's $250 million-plus public subsidy gives the council all of the leverage it needs to insist on a strong CBA. "We want this project to succeed," Camp said. "But if you are going to turn around and **stab us in the back**, get the hell out of town." □






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# Fighting the war on poverty

## Community Action Partnership patriots should be recognized



by JEFF VONKAENEL
jeffv@newsreview.com

**People disagree on what causes poverty. But, ultimately, the debate** comes down to one question: Do you believe that poverty is due to character flaws in poor people themselves or due to economic issues?

Perhaps you believe, like Congressman Paul Ryan and his Republican House of Representatives colleagues, that there is little that can be done to address poverty, except make people suffer more so that they will finally improve their character and their desire to work.

But if you believe that increased poverty rates are mainly due to changes in our economic structure—such as a lack of manufacturing jobs, increased housing costs, the declining value of minimum wage and racial discrimination—then there is much that can and should be done.

Recently, I spent three days in Chicago attending the annual convention of the Community Action Partnership. This association consists of more than 1,000 county-based organizations, who, over the last 48 years, have received federal dollars to combat poverty. Each community-action group develops a plan to address the unique needs of their local community. Typical programs include Head Start, job development, emergency services, and housing and utility assistance.

**Perhaps you believe, like Congressman Paul Ryan and his Republican House colleagues, that there is little that can be done to address poverty, except make people suffer more.**

Over the last year, I have been part of a News & Review project helping different Community Action Partnerships across the country to illuminate the impact of poverty and show how their programs are making a difference in people's lives. We have created newspaper inserts in Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Florida, Kentucky, Georgia and California to tell these stories. As part of this project, I have visited Community Action agencies in 22 states.

Seeing the programs up close, seeing the people who are impacted by the programs, and seeing how the programs are accomplishing so much with so few resources has certainly increased my belief that we as a society need to do much more to end poverty.

For people living in poverty, it is hard to make it in America. When we have tough economic conditions, then it is likely that there will be people without food and shelter. This is not a character issue, it is an economic issue. The character of Americans did not suddenly decline with the banking crisis. Cutting food stamps, limiting affordable housing and ending job training will not end poverty. Quite the reverse.

As I spent time with the Community Action patriots, it was a joy to have a real discussion of the best ways to reduce poverty, what programs are actually working and how these programs can be improved. I was thoroughly impressed with the dedication, the thoughtfulness and the compassion of the Community Action staff.

Just as our soldiers overseas should be praised for their sacrifices, so should our soldiers fighting the war on poverty here in America be recognized for their sacrifices and devotion. They've been fighting this war for almost 50 years, and the end is not yet in sight. □

**Jeff vonKaenel** is the president, CEO and majority owner of the News & Review newspapers in Sacramento, Chico and Reno.

# Middle East madness

**It's a crazy world when Vladimir Putin has a better** plan for Syria than Barack Obama. But, as of this writing, the Russian president's proposal to have Syrian leader Bashar Assad turn his stockpile of chemical weapons over to the United Nations is the best hope for avoiding the madness of American involvement in yet another Middle Eastern war.

President Obama unwisely backed himself into a diplomatic corner last year by stating the use of chemical weapons represented a "red line" that, once crossed, would bring American intervention in the Syrian civil war, a complicated and bloody fight between forces loyal to Assad and various rebel groups, some of them extremists. When evidence emerged that Assad used nerve gas last month, Obama was compelled to make the case for military action.

Not surprisingly, he found little support at home or abroad. It's difficult to see what could be accomplished by the limited air strikes Obama wanted and too easy to imagine how the situation could escalate if the Assad regime remained defiant. Yet Obama pressed forward, seeking congressional support for an attack, until the Russian proposal brought a welcome alternative.

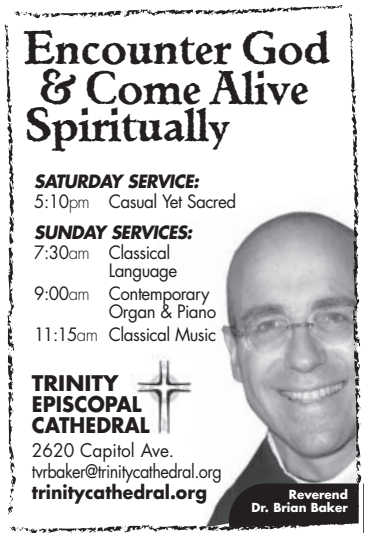
There are plenty of reasons to be skeptical about Putin, whose country has made money selling arms to Syria while blocking U.N. resolutions condemning Assad. But there are even better reasons to move forward with his plan. Obama should make every effort to negotiate removal of the weapons stockpile and avoid military involvement in Syria. □

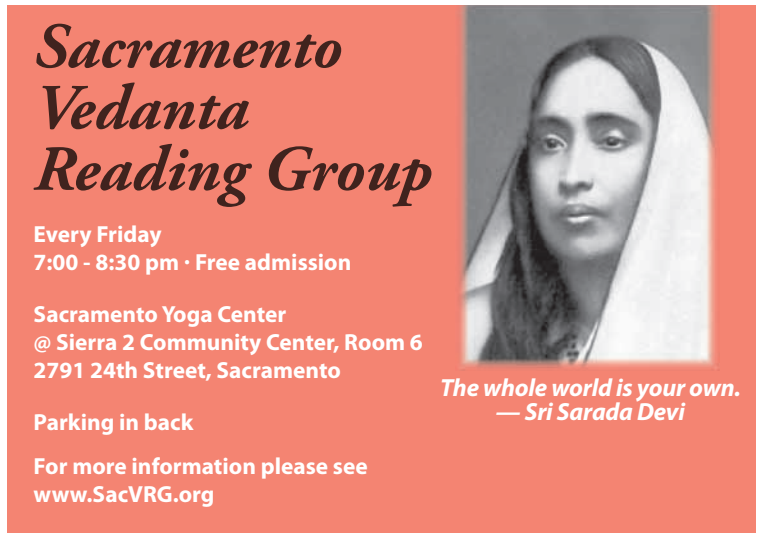
# What Wal-Mart should do

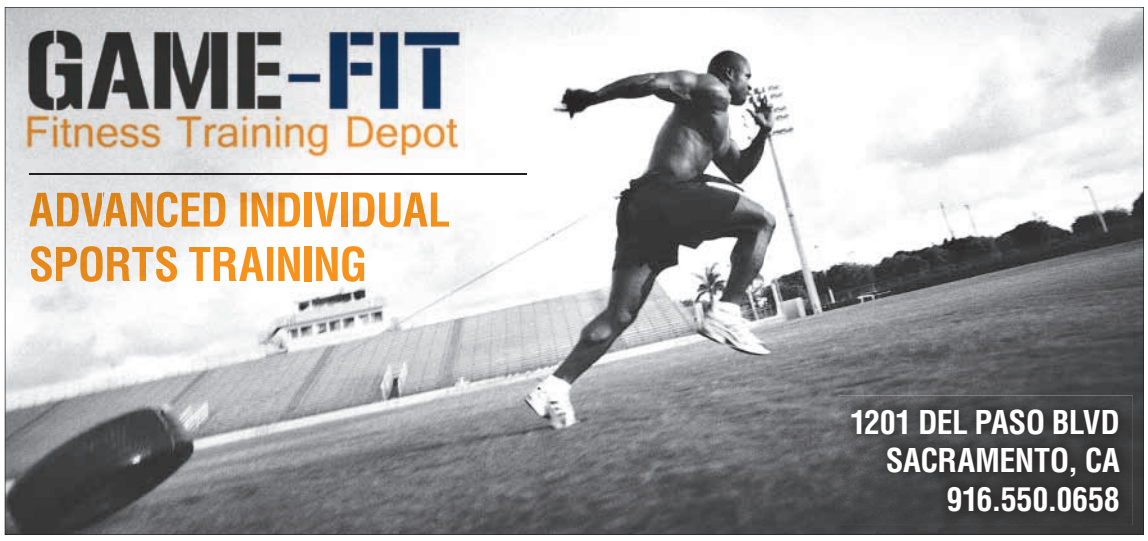
**Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, recently** launched a slick, multimillion-dollar ad campaign aimed in part at convincing the public that the company is not the exploitative, anti-labor behemoth critics claim it to be. It would be more impressive if Wal-Mart used the money to provide better wages and benefits for its 1.4 million American employees.

Recently, Wal-Mart workers in Sacramento and across the nation staged a series of protests, claiming the company doesn't pay a living wage, restricts hours to avoid paying benefits and retaliates against those who seek change. The facts are that Wal-Mart, which profited $15.7 billion in 2012, starts new "associates" at or near minimum wage, and pays its U.S. employees an average of $12.67 per hour. Many must rely on food stamps and other government aid: One study showed that every Wal-Mart in Wisconsin cost taxpayers there between $900,000 and $1.75 million annually in Medicaid and other social services provided to employees.

Wal-Mart offers low prices, but the savings come at a cost to taxpayers, small businesses and others. Many reforms are needed, but Wal-Mart should begin by giving its workers what they're asking for: a starting wage of $13 per hour, full-time employment for those who want it, and policies that ensure an end to discrimination and retaliation. □







# Rich dinner, poor dinner

by Alastair Bland
photos by Wes Davis

This week's Farm-to-Fork events celebrate locavorism, but Sacramentans only eat 3 percent of the food grown here. Our writer explores how we can truly become America's homegrown-food capital.



Sturgeon caviar, wine and some of the city's most enthusiastic foodies will convene this Friday evening for a party along the Sacramento River. The mixer is the kickoff event for Farm-to-Fork Restaurant Week, 10 days celebrating the abundance and diversity of edibles grown in the farmlands surrounding Sacramento. It's been almost a year now since Mayor Kevin Johnson applauded Sacramento as the nation's "farm-to-fork capital," prompting what has become a city initiative to make use of the locally grown bounty in homes and restaurants.

But amid white tablecloths and stemware, the hype and the fanfare, there are critics of the farm-to-fork movement, saying that it's largely a lavish celebration of privileges among the city's higher rollers. To participate in these dinners, after all, isn't cheap. The caviar party on September 20, costs $85 a person, and the signature event—another wining-and-dining locavore extravaganza scheduled for September 29—sold out long ago at $175 a head.

And while other events will aim lower on the socioeconomic hierarchy by providing free discussions and information on matters related to food, farming and cooking—including market tours for kids—there remains the question of whether Sacramento, for all the talk, is even a hot spot of locally oriented agriculture at all.

In fact, it isn't. The Sacramento Valley and the Delta are phenomenally productive, producing more than enough food to feed the local population. Thing is, virtually all the food grown here is exported from the region immediately, sold into national markets or overseas.

Meanwhile, the local population's collective food consumption consists of just 3 percent of locally grown goods.




Local farmer Thaddeus Barsotti says that it's actually really cheap to ship food across the country—or the world—one of the reaons why Sacramentans eat so little of its local bounty.

Patrick Mulvaney, chef and owner of Mulvaney's Building & Loan in Midtown, has been involved in Farm-to-Fork activities and planning from the start. He says that while the week is largely a restaurant-oriented program, it will also bring schoolchildren into direct contact with farm-fresh goods, as well as explore enhancement measures for food banks.

"The concept of healthy eating isn't only for a certain level of the socioeconomic scale," Mulvaney says.

But Jessica Bartholow isn't convinced that all strata of society are receiving equal portions of locally grown goods. She works with the Western Center on Law and Poverty in Sacramento, and says local food events and activities, often spearheaded by well-to-do authors and upscale restaurateurs, tend to exclude less fortunate people through a "pay to play" approach often hinged around trendy farmers markets and expensive restaurants.

Other critics of the farm-to-fork movement have mocked it as the "Farm-to-Silver-Spoon" campaign—a phrase coined by a Sacramento Bee writer—and a parallel effort pushed by Yolo County officials is going by the name Farm to Every Fork, plainly recognizing that many people within the fertile Sacramento Valley are not finding access to farm-fresh food.

So, as chefs and sommeliers are carefully planning the best pairings of hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer for the coming week's festivities, a few local activists and economists are thinking about more effective ways to reshape the region's agricultural industries from the ground up. And how to *really* become farm to fork.

They want to make small farms more profitable and make it feasible for all of society to afford local foods—if not, perhaps, caviar, cocktails and sparkling wine.

## Farm to fork ain't easy

Several times each day at a Whole Foods Market, a surprise visitor shows up at the back parking lot. One or two staff members are drawn from their tasks indoors to meet the person, who steps out of an old pickup truck, dust caked under its windshield wipers. The hatchback is drawn open, and several boxes of Capay Valley melons are unloaded. The group makes a quick exchange, pens scribble in spiral notebooks, and they shake hands. The farmer goes on his way to the next grocery store, while the melons are hustled inside to the produce department.

These direct exchanges are how a great deal of locally grown produce reaches any given supermarket, but they aren't a very efficient means of delivery.

In fact, while there are multiple reasons that local foods are relatively uncommon in our community—such as lack of local crop diversity, regional specialization in one or two species, and demand from outside areas for California-grown goods—one of the main factors is that sourcing food locally is not especially easy, even in the rich Sacramento Valley. Here, as almost everywhere else, the existing agricultural economy is geared toward large volumes, big distances and national markets, and for supermarket managers who depend on a steady, high-volume supply system, working with local farmers can be a clumsy and labor-intensive process of person-to-person communications that hampers business as usual.

Randy Ducummon, Whole Foods' regional produce coordinator, concedes that local farms complicate his job. It would be simpler, he says, just to overlook the community of local farmers scattered across the flatlands surrounding Sacramento and utilize outside-producing regions, receiving bulk deliveries via the chain's Bay Area distribution center in Richmond instead.

"These backdoor deliveries are not an easy process," says Ducummon, who oversees produce sales at the Northern California and Reno-area Whole Foods stores. "At every location, we have seven or eight farmers who show up every day, and around the region I have 126 farmers that deliver directly, without using our distribution center. A lot of them are selling the same item at the same time. If you buy 10 cases of celery from one guy, you can't do the same with another."

> "I want to see the [Sacramento] Farm-to-Fork activities truly focus on every person's fork."
>
> **Don Saylor**
> supervisor, Yolo County

The conveyor-beltlike efficiency of a supermarket, he says, is broken when local farmers, sometimes fresh out of the fields with mud still caked on their boots, come calling.

"Every truck that pulls up, you've got to go outside and see what they've got, and whether you need more of it and process the invoices," he says.

At Raley's, the supermarket chain based out of West Sacramento, store managers face the same issue. Greg Corrigan, director of produce for the chain, says that working with local farmers one at a time is not particularly effective business.

"Some people think it's more efficient to go out and work with one little farmer here and another there, but it's not," Corrigan says. "It definitely interrupts the efficiency of things."

Though it seems to defy logic, bananas from South America, harvested in bulk and transported via ship and rail, may arrive at a local supermarket more fluidly than a flat of fresh figs grown near Winters or a crate of Asian pears near Rio Vista. This is the paradox that food retailers face everywhere, and most of them answer to economic logic: They stock their shelves as simply and as cheaply as they can. That's why we see food products from around the globe on store shelves, most of them at competitive prices. Such goods, cheap and plentiful, undermine local farming movements.

How can foods from half the world away be so cheap?

The truth, it seems, is that a product's place of origin has relatively little influence on its cost. That's what farmer Thaddeus Barsotti says. Barsotti is a co-owner of Capay Organic in Capay Valley, which he operates with his two brothers. He says there is a simple reality that many people immersed in progressive food discussions overlook: To ship food thousands of miles is cheap.

"Rich dinner, poor dinner"
continued on page 18

## "Rich dinner, poor dinner"

continued from page 17

"Most of the money and energy invested in food is spent on the production end," he says. "It's actually not very expensive to send food across the country. That cost compared to the cost of the energy that goes into the field is minimal."

Cost efficiency is gained, then, not by minimizing travel distances, but by streamlining an industry's production end. Bigger farms are more effective, since overhead operation costs can be spread thin across vast quantities of produce, be it almonds, tomatoes or grains.

Consider a truck filled to capacity with crates of squash. It can travel great distances, and fuel costs will be absorbed by the quantity of product sold. What's more, it must travel long distances, since it may be carrying too much squash for the local population to consume. This is why large farms must look across land and sea for buyers. They are, from the ground up, geared for the international food system.

Food from these large farms is sent to centralized depots, where semitrucks and railcars are packed to capacity, then driven across the continent. The system works well, providing people everywhere with food from everywhere, regardless of season. Minnesotans can enjoy almonds thanks to this system, New Yorkers rice, Hawaiians beer and Sacramentans pineapples. It's a system that brings us coffee, tea and chocolate, and which has made the tropical banana the world's most ubiquitous fruit. It is a system that seems to work miracles.

Food still travels from farm to fork. It's just that half the world may lie in between.

## Why Sacramentans don't eat local

Clearly, this food-supply-and-distribution scheme, which feeds the 7 billion people on the planet, is anything but broken. Yet local-minded activists want to fix it.

For them, there are obvious reasons to enhance locally oriented agriculture. Barsotti at Capay Organic points out that, firstly, a region's self-sufficiency and food security is boosted if it can provide reliably for itself. Secondly, he says, if all buying and selling, producing and eating occurs within a given radius, then all or most economic gains are enjoyed by that region. It also behooves a community, he says, to involve more people in agriculture and food production.

But the tendency for farms to grow larger, thereby improving efficiency while requiring saturation of markets nationwide, undermines all of this. Small family farms often cannot compete. Even though they may be just miles away from a hungry population, foreign products get to these people first, and at a lower cost.

Local foods become expensive—which is perhaps their greatest weakness.

Upending and rewiring this system, then, has become the goal for some analysts. David Shabazian is a researcher with the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, or SACOG, a local organizing and planning committee. He is interested in seeing local agriculture strengthened where it is currently flawed to allow small farms to efficiently access area markets. Shabazian knows this isn't currently happening, because he has gathered and processed a multitude of data on local-food production and consumption patterns.

He says that the Sacramento six-county region produces 3.4 million tons of food each year. Potentially, Shabazian calculates, Sacramentans could eat about two-thirds of this—but they don't by a long shot.

About 98 percent of the food produced in the six-county area surrounding the capital is relayed to faraway markets, Shabazian says. Sacramentans, meanwhile, consume about 2.2 million tons of food per year, of which just 3 percent—about 68,000 tons—is produced on area farms.

> "The concept of healthy eating isn't only for a certain level of the socioeconomic scale."
>
> **Patrick Mulvaney**
> chef and restaurateur

Shabazian wonders if the same mechanics that make the conventional food system so successful can be shifted to the local level.

"We want to understand, how do you mimic the conventional food system, but do it with local sources?" Shabazian says. "How do we scale up? And if the food must cost more to make a local system feasible, will the market absorb that?"

Farmers markets have been an obvious way to provide a pathway from farm to fork, connecting a community with food grown nearby—but they aren't always very effective, Shabazian says. While they allow farmers to skip middlemen and make more money per pound of produce sold directly to consumers, relatively few people shop at these venues. Moreover, a farmer may need to spend a full day onsite, handing over food and receiving cash. Farmers markets become unpopular during the rainy season, too, and they are often pricey.

"Supermarkets," Shabazian says, "deal in high volumes, and that can lower their prices."

The trick, then, becomes supplying supermarkets with large and dependable quantities of locally grown goods. This, Shabazian says, would require centralized drop-off points—"food hubs," as he calls them, where trucks from numerous scattered farms would go to unload their goods. Some of these foods would need to be processed to some degree—milled, dried, frozen, canned or otherwise packaged. Then, on the final leg of their journey to the consumer, they would be driven only a few hundred miles or less. The local farm-to-fork system would be complete. The Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op and the Davis Food Co-op, stocked largely with area produce, have worked under this model for years.

A mainstream shift to local foods would generate social benefits in a variety of ways, especially quality of life, with improved health and preservation of ethnic culinary traditions, so believes Tom Tomich, a UC Davis professor and the director of a student-run campus farm. Grade-school children have, for years, made field trips to the farm, Tomich says, and he notes that there is tremendous value to be gained in having farms situated near residential areas so that urban people—especially kids—can visit and learn where and how their food is produced.

"A lot of people who eat processed foods have become completely divorced from the role agriculture plays in their food," Tomich says.

The economy might also see benefits. "Enhanced regional agriculture can have what economists call 'multiplier effects,'" Tomich says. "There are more jobs in processing, distribution and cooking, and more jobs in construction and related industries."

A population's food security is also bolstered by locally oriented agriculture. As things operate now, if transportation systems broke down, whole regions could be left without food. Places like Las Vegas would starve entirely. Others, like Nebraska, would have little else but corn. The Canadian plains provinces would have lots of wheat and barley.

In Sacramento, in spite of what seems like a bounty, we would also face a form of scarcity.

"We rely on outside food regions, because we can't live on almonds, rice and alfalfa," says Barsotti, naming three of the region's primary crops. Increasing crop diversity, then, becomes essential in a serious farm-to-fork movement.

But complete dependence on local farms could cause a backfire effect, warns Tomich.

"We wouldn't really want to be 100 percent reliant on local food sources," he says. "That could leave us vulnerable to unpredictable weather events that destroy entire crops. But full reliance on outside exchanges also leaves us vulnerable." We must, he says, identify "the sweet spot."

Chef Mulvaney concedes that, from his perspective, the Sacramento area provides all the abundance and diversity he could ever want or need.

"But I'm in a pretty unique little sandbox," he says. "My wife and I are lucky enough to have a restaurant, so we're in the center of all this [locally grown food]."

For the majority of people, upscale restaurants provide little to no nutritional or lifestyle value. Mulvaney recognizes this and points out that the Farm-to-Fork campaign will be conducting programs aimed at lower tiers on the socioeconomic ladder.

He has, for instance, taken kids from Oak Ridge Elementary School in south Sacramento shopping at farmers markets, then helped them cook a meal. He has watched kids who initially craved pizza, barbecue and fried chicken graduate to preferences for asparagus, beets, blue cheese and walnuts. In turn, these influences creep into their households.

"The kids then teach their parents," Mulvaney says.



Chef Patrick Mulvaney reminds that Farm-to-Fork week isn't just about fancy dinners. He's taken kids from south Sacramento to farmers markets, for instance, and gotten them hooked on beets and asparagus.

## Hunger amid abundance

Bartholow at the Western Center on Law and Poverty says poorer people have been consistently excluded from the locavore revolution. She says that anti-hunger campaigners and local-food activists "are seated at the same table."

"However, an elite food culture often dominates the discussion of local foods," says Bartholow, who recently lectured about the politics of hunger and poverty at an event hosted by the Yolo Farm to Every Fork campaign, the spin-off initiative aimed at bridging the gap left by Mayor Johnson's vision. "We've created a local-food movement that disenfranchises poorer people."



Researcher David Shabazian with the Sacramento Area Council of Governments says that Sacramentans could eat two-thirds of the 3.4 million tons of food they produce each year—but they don't by a long shot.

Yolo County Supervisor Don Saylor wants to see locally grown products become accessible to everyone. Saylor has helped brainstorm the Yolo Farm to Every Fork mission, the name of which flatly indicates shortcomings of Sacramento's vision. The program, designed in partnership with Yolo Food Connect and other groups, will occur during the Farm-to-Fork events and will feature the production side of the food industry more than the white-tablecloth side.

There will be tours of local rice farms, tomato fields and vineyards, plus a honey farm and several farmers markets. This past Saturday, program volunteers harvested several tons of food from Sloughside Farm in Winters that was donated to an area food bank. The idea is to include people who may have been, until now, largely excluded from the local-food revolution.

"I agree with the principles of the Farm-to-Fork program," Saylor says. "We produce an amazing bounty in the Central Valley, but a truly sustainable agricultural economy has to feed the people who live here. I want to see the Farm-to-Fork activities truly focus on every person's fork. We're blessed with a great climate, fertile land, sun. There's no reason anyone should be hungry in and around Sacramento County."

Currently, locally grown goods often cost too much to make the farm-to-fork movement relevant to much of the population. Regional, family-run farms exist largely because well-to-do people with expendable income are able and willing to subsidize them. Farmers markets, too, tend to be unaffordable for many people.

But anti-poverty programs are, in fact, getting involved with the area's farmers. Capay Organic donated about 50 tons of food to the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services last year and regularly gives the organization bargain rates on fresh produce. The farm has also donated food to the Yolo Food Bank, according to Barbara Archer, who conducts outreach efforts for the farm. The Sacramento Food Bank has also expanded its efforts to deliver food to poorer people. It now has 12 distribution points around the city and also offers gardening classes. Soil Born Farms, too, has long hosted groups of schoolchildren visiting its Rancho Cordova property. Many farmers markets in the area are now accepting food stamps.

> "We've created a local-food movement that disenfranchises poorer people."
>
> **Jessica Bartholow**
> Western Center on Law and Poverty

At UC Davis, Tomich believes the most valuable aspect of regionally focused agriculture may be among the simplest: Food—especially perishables—tastes better when travel time and distance between farm and fork is minimized.

Last week, he says, he visited Manhattan. On Broadway, he entered three produce markets before settling on a single California peach. It cost him more than $2, and it was awful—with pithy, brown, inedible flesh.

"It's seems to me that having local sourcing is an especially important part of flavor and the experience of eating," Tomich says.

But Tomich knows that many people have nothing to eat, period. For them, the banquets and tasting parties of Farm-to-Fork Restaurant Week will not provide direct relief.

"The biggest issue we're really dealing with here is hunger amid abundance," he says. "It's a paradox. We have extremely productive agriculture, but also a lot of people who aren't sure where their next meal is coming from."

And while there are farms that are donating food to the poor, he says he isn't sure that it's their responsibility to do so—and critics of Sacramento's Farm-to-Fork campaign must be careful not hold local farmers, who are now in the peak of their harvesting times, accountable for society's ills.

"I think we need to decouple local food from local poverty," he says. "It's putting too much burden on the area's small farmers. Why should they have to take on these broad social problems?" □


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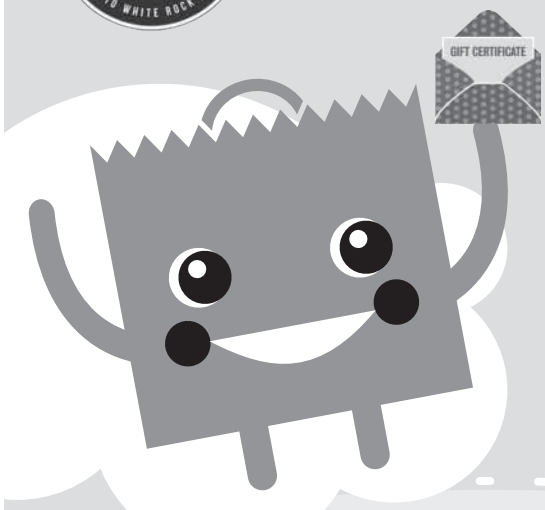
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# THEATER OF THE POLITICAL

by KEL MUNGER

PHOTOS BY ANNE STOKES



Teatro Espejo artistic director Manuel J. Pickett brings a new rendition of *Zoot Suit* to the stage. The musical tells the story of the 1943 Zoot Suit Riots and the resulting legal and political aftermath.

**MANUEL J. PICKETT DIRECTS A NEW PRODUCTION OF THE GROUNDBREAKING CHICANO MUSICAL *ZOOT SUIT*—45 YEARS AFTER ITS AUTHOR PUSHED HIM INTO A LIFE OF STAGE**

For Manuel J. Pickett, a retired Sacramento State University professor of Chicano Theatre and artistic director of Sacramento's Teatro Espejo company, a long career in Chicano theater started with a favor for a guy he didn't know very well.

Pickett was an 18-year-old Fresno musician in 1968—and a budding political activist for Chicano rights—when a man he'd only recently met asked if the teen's band would play for his wedding.

"I went back to the band and said, 'Hey, this guy is very well-known, he's politically involved, and he doesn't have any money,'" Pickett said.

Pickett agreed to work free for his band every weekend for a month if they'd agree to help the man.

The broke bridegroom was Luis Valdez, the founder of El Teatro Campesino, a man who has been called "the father of Chicano Theater." Valdez is probably best known outside the Chicano-Latino community as the director of the 1987 Ritchie Valens biopic *La Bamba*. He's also the author of *Zoot Suit,* the production currently being staged by Sacramento's Teatro Espejo at The Colonial Theatre.

Pickett's working relationship with the play's author—and his own future in theater—started the day after Valdez's wedding, when Pickett went back to pick up some equipment.

"Luis was sitting on the steps of this abandoned church where they'd been performing, and he said, 'Listen, I want you to join our theater company,'" Pickett remembered.

Up to that point, Pickett had no intention of getting involved in theater. Rather, he was looking for a way to combine his music with his political activities—organizing with the United Farm Workers and activism with the Brown Berets. But thanks to his decision to take up Valdez on his offer, four-and-a-half decades later, Pickett is now the unofficial dean of Chicano-Latino theater in the Sacramento area, and he's directing *Zoot Suit.*

The musical *Zoot Suit* chronicles the murder trial and wrongful conviction of 17 young

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See EIGHT GIGS

Mexican-American zoot-suit-wearing men in the Sleepy Lagoon murder of José Gallardo Díaz.

Díaz, whose unconscious body was found near a local swimming hole in August 1942 with a fracture to the base of his skull, later died from his injuries.

Nine of the arrested youth were convicted of second-degree murder; the remaining eight were found guilty on lesser charges. The convictions were reversed in 1944, but the case led to the Zoot Suit Riots of 1943.

The riots, which took place in Los Angeles, were the result of fights between white U.S. Navy and Marine soldiers and Latino youth, the latter of whom wore flashy suits and dresses to dance to swing music. Related riots also took place in New York City, Chicago, Detroit and Harlem.

"It was one of the biggest racially charged trials of that time," Pickett said.

And, according to Pickett, the riots were fueled by the media—specifically the Los Angeles Herald. World War II wasn't going very well at the time, he said, and the media wanted to deflect attention to the home front. Japanese-Americans were interned, but Mexican-American youths were close at hand—and they had an identifiable subculture.

Then, zoot-suit-wearing youths were accused of being "communists imported from Mexico," said Pickett. "They put such a scare into the public—especially in Los Angeles, since they're so close to Mexico—that it caused these Zoot Suit Riots."

The riots and the trial became the source material for Valdez's play.

*Zoot Suit*, first produced in 1979, was also the first Chicano play produced on Broadway; Edward James Olmos played the main role. The production uses actual transcripts from the murder trial, as well as both songs from the period and incidental music.

It is, in short, exactly the sort of play Pickett would produce—political, historical and filled with the sounds, movement and ideas of Chicano and Latino culture. And that would be true even if the play's author wasn't the guy who got him to act the first time.

"I told Luis at the beginning, I'd do music, I'll do sound," Pickett said. "I'd been playing in bands, but I'd always had something—a horn, a guitar—between me and the audience."

That changed one day in Mexico City, when El Teatro Campesino had an audience waiting in Chapultepec Park, and one of the actors had laryngitis.

"I said, 'I'm not an actor,' and Luis said, "'You are now.'"

And so he was, traveling the country with the group—"12 people in a Dodge van, and we had the stage in there, too," Pickett said.

For his peers, that authentic street-theater experience adds credibility to Pickett's work.

"He began on the street with Teatro Campesino and then was an actor, and then ... became an educator," said Ray Tatar, artistic director at California Stage Company and a frequent artistic collaborator with Pickett. "Now that he's retired, he's bringing all that expertise back to the community."




**Pickett's connection to *Zoot Suit* runs deep: He first met and worked with its playwright in 1968.**

**Manuel J. Pickett**
artistic director, Teatro Espejo

Tatar and Pickett have shared their expertise in a number of joint productions, including an acclaimed staging of *Women of Juarez* in 2010.

Andrea "Ya-Ya" Porras, who went from student to collaborator with Pickett, agrees. She first met him when she was a teenager attending a Chicano theater camp at Sacramento State. Within a few years, she was one of his students at the university, presenting for other teens at the same camp.

"We've made more than 20 works together," said Porras, who has since graduated and is now a local artist, actress, poet and choreographer. This summer, she directed a play in Teatro Espejo's festival of Chicano one-act plays.

"He invited a number of his former students to take their places as directors of their own work," Porras said. "He taught us to take it on the road, take it to the Capitol: 'Let's get the work out there.'"

That's still Pickett's agenda—not to mention the mission of Teatro Espejo. The main point, of course, is to provide quality theatrical productions that reflect Chicano-Latino theatrical tradition. This production of *Zoot Suit* is intended to raise money for the group to continue its cultural education mission, training actors, technicians and directors to advance Latino culture locally.

"Eventually, we'd like to create a performing-arts center, so we can have a home base, a training center, for the programs that we do," said Pickett.

Teatro Espejo is currently collaborating with two other area Latino arts groups—La Raza Galeria Posada, the well-known resource for visual artists and poets, and Calidanza Dance Company, a new dance troupe—to form an alliance for Chicano-Latino arts.

"It's a tough time for arts groups," said Pickett. "We've learned there's strength in unity, and we're forming this alliance, because we feel that as united artists we have a better chance of surviving."

If Pickett's history—with Teatro Espejo, Sac State's Latino-theater program and with El Teatro Campesino—proves anything, it's that the arts have staying power, especially when backed by the commitment of political beliefs.

Back in the day, Pickett said, "[y]ou had to be committed to political theater. Otherwise, why in the world would you do that to yourself? But the political involvement was something I've really committed myself to. It's what drives me and what drives my art. This is a lifetime endeavor."

And it all started because he did a favor for a guy he barely knew.

"I had to go back for a guitar cord, and Luis said, 'Hey, c'mere!'" Pickett said. "Isn't that crazy? And here I am." □

Catch *Zoot Suit* by Teatro Espejo on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., or Sunday at 2 p.m. through Sunday, September 29, at The Colonial Theatre (3522 Stockton Boulevard). Tickets are $20; call (916) 456-7099 or visit http://zootsuit.bpt.me for more information.

SCENE& HEARD

## All thumbs, no body-parts stew

I'm not your average hitchhiker thumbing his way through town, but I ought to be.

For decades now, the baby boomers have warned us that this **bohemian mode of transport** is finished. We live in a different time, they say. In the '60s, folks didn't have to worry when you hitchhiked. Things were safer. Better.

Back then, you could hop off the side of the freeway into a stranger's VW Vanagon and not end up **dead, skinned, simmering in a stew** on some backwoods stove top. It's different today, they insist. And it is.

But not in the way they think.

Violent-crime rates in the United States are much lower than they were in the early '70s, according to FBI reports. Add in ballooning gas prices and an increased awareness about carbon-footprint impact, and maybe the next time you leave town, you'll join me out there on the edge of Highway 80, **grinning in a white T-shirt**, thumb out, with a dusty sheet of cardboard that reads "Salt Lake City" in black marker.

As such, my hitchhiking journey to Wyoming is about as safe as it is boring. After about eight hours of waiting, waving and walking, I finally catch my first ride out of Rocklin.

My travel partner is a chatty veteran named Bob on his way to Reno, Nevada, to pick up his broke-down Harley. Before leaving me on the east end of town, Bob spends our miles together speaking on **sobriety, speeding tickets** and **Vietnam** ("I keep saying it, historians got the Gulf of Tonkin all wrong!").

**As with all hitchhiking experiences, lending an ear is part of the deal when you're not paying for gas.**

Back on the road in Reno, my spirits are high. I amble backward along the freeway's edge, **chest swelled, thumb out, flashing my teeth** and waving at the eastbound traffic.

Early afternoon arrives, and I am at rest on the highway on ramp outside of Sparks, Nevada. A sky-blue semi with a load of spiraled black tubing grumbles to a stop at my side, and I crawl into the cab to meet a fresh-faced Moldovan immigrant named Andren on his way to drop a load off in Ohio. He promises, in his Russian-esque accent, to get me to Salt Lake City that evening.

Andren is 26, young for a rig owner. He's ecstatic to have company today, eager to practice his English. **He feeds me Russian food**, explains why I should believe in God and regales me with a surreal story of the time in Moldova in which he and a friend drove their Mercedes under a horse. Conversation with Andren requires focus, due to his accent. But he is a gracious driver, and, as with all hitchhiking experiences, lending an ear is part of the deal when you're not paying for gas.

The next afternoon, we arrive at my destination: Rock Springs, Wyoming. I leave Andren at the truck stop with a handshake and a nod and walk into town. **I still have all my fingers and toes**, which means I'll be putting these thumbs to use again sometime down the road.

**—Dave Kempa**
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# FARM TO FORK EVENTS

Sacramento's gearing up for Farm-to-Fork week, happening on Friday, September 20, through Sunday, September 29 (see "Rich dinner, poor dinner" by Alastair Bland, SN&R Feature Story, page 16). It's the first one, so there's no way of knowing what, exactly, we're in for. But one thing's for sure: There will be many related events, a bunch of restaurants will offer specials and bottles of all sorts will be popped. Check out SN&R's guide to the Farm-to-Fork happenings below. Afterward, if you've still got the appetite, check out five more food-related events over to the right side of this page representing a different aspect of Sacramento's food culture.

**THE EVENTS:** Farm-to-Fork week's headlining event, aside from a sold-out dinner on Tower Bridge, is the Farm-to-Fork Festival. It takes place on Saturday, September 28, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. between Third and Seventh streets on Capitol Mall. The free festival will offer food demos, educational displays, live music, live animals, beer, wine and food trucks. Other associated events include farming demonstrations, special feasts, train rides, block parties, a cattle drive and culinary tours. There's not enough room here to list them all, so head to www.farmtoforkcapital.com for the whole lineup.

- **THE SPECIALS:** In addition to numerous Sacramento eateries (including Frank Fat's, River City Brewing Company and The Firehouse Restaurant) offering prix fixe meals, restaurants in a bunch of surrounding cities will be offering dining specials. Head to Elk Grove, Roseville, Folsom, Carmichael and Fair Oaks to taste what's on their menus.
- **THE DRINKS:** Gorging on delicious food is always better with a bottle of wine or beer. And this week, there's the 19th annual California Brewers Festival at Discovery Park on Saturday, September 21 (1600 Garden Highway); the Harvest Party at Revolution Wines, also on September 21 (2831 S Street); the Grape to Glass tour at the Old Sugar Mill on Sunday, September 22 (35265 Willow Avenue in Clarksburg); and Ruhstaller beer's 132nd anniversary party on Tuesday, September 24 (at the corner of Kilwell Road and Olmo Lane in Davis.)

To make the week as bacchic as possible, visit the Farm-to-Fork website for a complete list of drink-related events.

**—Jonathan Mendick**

WEEKLY PICKS

## Food Truck Expo

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

The Food Truck Expo, a recurring SactoMoFo food-truck gathering that happens every third Thursday of the month, presents food trucks (Krush Burger, Drewski's Hot Rod Kitchen, Green Papaya Food Truck), a beer garden hosted by Swabbies Restaurant & Bar, and live music. *Free, 5 to 9 p.m. at Garcia Bend Park, 7654 Sacramento Road; http://sactomofo.com.*

FOOD

**—Jonathan Mendick**

## Festival de la Comida Peruana

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

At the ninth annual Festival de la Comida Peruana—a Peruvian food festival—expect to taste the region's cuisine and see folk dancing, merengue and salsa performances. It's hosted by the Club Perú de Sacramento and Roseville's La Huaca restaurant, and the food is made by local families. *$5, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Ben Ali Shrine Center, 3262 Marysville Boulevard; (888) 916-9303; www.clubperudesacramento.com.*

FOOD

**—Cody Drabble**

## Placerville Oktoberfest

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

You know it's legit because they spelled it with a "K." The Placerville Downtown Association's third annual Oktoberfest should appeal to even the goofiest German stereotype (we're looking at you, Augustus Gloop). For five hours, expect a blur of racing wiener dogs, chicken dances, and contests to see who can chow the most bratwursts and chug the most beer. *Free, 3 to 8 p.m. on Main Street in Placerville, www.placervilleoktoberfest.com.*

BEER

**—Raheem F. Hosseini**

## Mediterranean Food & Music Festival

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, THROUGH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Get stuffed with shawarma and falafel in a celebration of Greek and Middle Eastern food and culture. Jodette's Belly Dancing Academy will entertain the crowd with performances. *$3, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, noon to 7 p.m. on Sunday at Holy Virgin Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, 3060 Jefferson Boulevard in West Sacramento; (916) 955-4736; www.virginmarychurchwestsac.org.*

FOOD/MUSIC

**—Cody Drabble**

## Jewish Food Faire

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Eighteen is a lucky number in Judaism, because the Hebrew word *chai*, meaning "life," contains letters that add up to 18 (Hebrew letters correspond to numbers). Confusing, yes, but anyway, the 36th annual Jewish Food Faire is probably going to be double lucky using that kind of superstitious math. It'll feature baked goods, corned beef, stuffed cabbage and matzo-ball soup. *Free, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom, 4746 El Camino Avenue in Carmichael; (916) 485-4478; www.cbshalom.org.*

FOOD

**—Jonathan Mendick**

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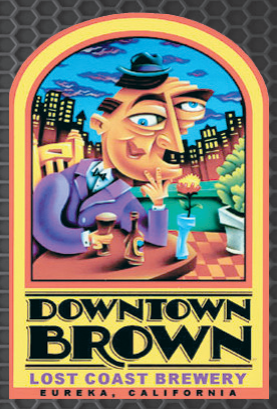
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# EVENTS CALENDAR

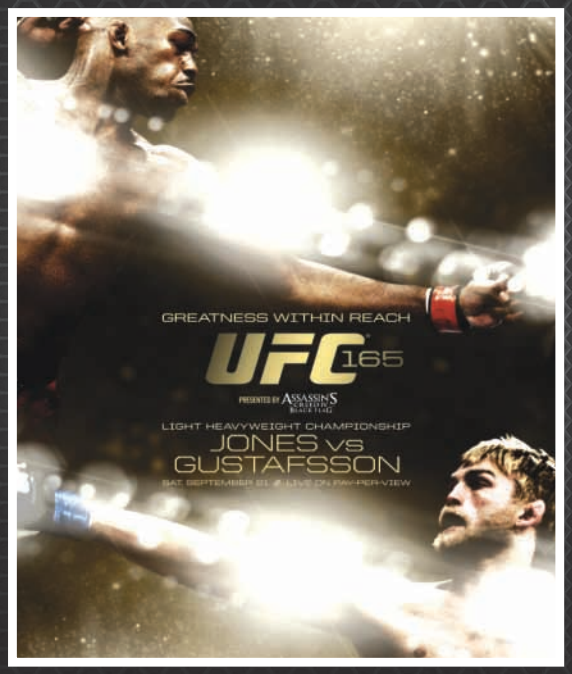



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# Good dogs

## The Hotdogger

129 E Street, Suite A-1 in Davis; (530) 753-6291; www.thehotdogger.com

by **Garrett McCord**

**Rating:**
★★★★

**Dinner for one:**
**$5 – $8**

★ FLAWED

★★ HAS MOMENTS

★★★ APPEALING

★★★★ AUTHORITATIVE

★★★★★ EPIC

**So up front, right off the bat, full disclosure: I love The** Hotdogger. It was the place of many seminal college moments packed with crude penis jokes and Nalgene bottles of vodka.

If you've never been, The Hotdogger is the tiny restaurant packed into what probably used to be the broom closet for the neighboring Sophia's Thai Kitchen. It opened up in 1982 and was purchased by new owners, Cheryl and Ivan Franks, in 1994 (and, yes, their last name really is Franks).

The humble hut can seat three inside, though there are two tables set up outside as well. Customers are expected to bus their own trays. Filthy humor and bad puns are mandatory.

Look closer, past the slightly dingy floor and canine memorabilia, and you'll find that this is not your typical schlong shack. All the hot dogs are sourced from Fairfield's Schwarz Fine Sausage and use American beef. The rolls are baked daily from Davis' Village Bakery, one of the best bakeries in all of Northern California. Produce is sourced from local farmers markets whenever possible, so gone are the tasteless tomatoes that fast-food joints normally use, replaced with burgundy-skinned beauties.

There are more mustard choices here than there are houses on Davis' Frat Row; no matter what mood you're in, there's a mustard to match it. Feeling jaunty? The garlic-and-onion mustard is for you! Your twee personality beginning to annoy even you? A savage Düsseldorf mustard with a horseradish kick will take things down a notch. Pissed at an ex because he's dating someone else already? Burn the world away with the intestine-scalding jalapeño mustard.

While customers can customize their dogs, there are also a few premade options and a variety of wieners available. The Louisiana Hot Link is fire-engine red and sure to send lava coursing through your tender insides. Be sure not to pair it with a spicy mustard or top with jalapeños, as it's a sure way to meet a fiery end.

The beef hot dogs are simmered as opposed to grilled, but they have an old-fashioned flavor, and the casing snaps sharply with each bite, making for a visceral eating experience.

The Kraut Dog is a bit sad, with a gaping bun-to-wiener ratio (insert obvious crude joke here), as the sausage used is just too slim and gets engulfed in the bread. In addition, the kraut is as sour as a child having every birthday wish fulfilled.

The Gut Bomb! is an accurate name for a hot link buried in spicy salsa and peppers, house-made chili, cheese, diced onions, and tomatoes. If you're over the age of 30, you should expect to crack open both the antacid and a window.

For the vegetarian who gets dragged to a meat joint, there is also a tofu dog. Served on a spouted-wheat roll, the "sausage" is juicy, with plenty of meaty flavor that takes well to pickles and pineapple mustard. So popular is the tofu dog that one meat eater in the joint ordered it with a topping of chopped bacon (a shockingly common order here).

The potato salad is reminiscent of the nondescript neighborhood-potluck kind—both filling and fine. The potato-wedge fries are, sadly, nothing to be too amazed by but make for a fantastic method of shoveling more chili into your maw.

**The Gut Bomb! is an accurate name for a hot link buried in spicy salsa and peppers, house-made chili, cheese, diced onions, and tomatoes.**

The staff members manning the stand are fun, knowledgeable and can crack jokes about anything with anyone. Hiring is obviously done with personality in mind, and it's part of the reason The Hotdogger has such a dedicated following.

There is one challenge, and that's figuring out the place's odd hours. They are beyond random: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. on some days, but only 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on another? In a college town? Really?

Nonetheless, for a hot-dog joint operating in 163 square feet, what the Franks do here is pretty damn impressive: fantastic, responsible, affordable food that fills you up and preps you for a night of beer and buddies. □

**Still hungry?** Search SN&R's "Dining Directory" to find local restaurants by name or by type of food. Sushi, Mexican, Indian, Italian—discover it all in the "Dining" section at **www.newsreview.com.**

## THE V WORD

### Supplemental knowledge

It's hard giving up foods that we little humans love to eat, so to those readers out there who've decided to **eschew** and not chew **calf food** for September's National Dairy-free Month, that shows commendable will power and determination. But to those who aren't ready for the challenge, like that one guy who posted on SN&R's Facebook page, "nawwwww, Ill take vitD milk," did you know that **vitamin D** is found in very few foods naturally, and it's in milk because it's **fortified** with the vitamin, meaning it's added? So taking a supplement instead can fulfill your recommended daily intake, or, of course, there's the old-fashioned way—exposing unprotected skin in the sun. Before anyone cries, "**Skin-cancer promoter!**" look up exposure guidelines at www.vitamindcouncil.org.

**—Shoka**

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sac pride News
September 19, 2013 · SPECIAL ISSUE

# NEWS SHORTS

*Read the full-length version of these stories and more at sacpridenews.com.*

## Legal Name Change Bill Passed

By a vote of 56-18, the California State Legislature has passed Assembly Bill 1121. The bill will provide an easier and less expensive process for those that seek to change their name, as well as, to protect their privacy. Currently, a court order must be obtained and the change must be published in the news. Lack of privacy for those that seek the name change puts many transgender individuals at risk for harassment.

## Gay Inmates May Now Get Married In California

The U.S. Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation announced that the dismantling of Prop. 8, which makes same-sex marriages legal within California will also be applied to prisoners in same-sex relationships. Inmates will be allowed to marry their non-incarcerated, same-sex partners during prison ceremonies.

## Senate Urges CalPERS To Divest

With a bipartisan vote of 29-1, the California Senate passed a resolution to urge CalPERS and CalSTRS to divest from Russia over anti-LGBTQ "propaganda" laws,. On June 30, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed into law a bill banning the propaganda of nontraditional sexual relations to minors.

## Hamburger Patties Closes

Hamburger Patties, the sandwich and burger restaurant-bar located at 1630 J St. in downtown Sacramento, closed its doors on Labor Day after nearly 20 years. "Sadly, we are announcing the end of an era," read a post from the restaurant on its Facebook page. "We thank [our patrons] for two decades of seeing your faces, the laughs, the good and bad singing and being able to serve you."

## Gay Bowling?

The Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Bowling League, The River City Bowlers, is currently looking for bowlers to fill their winter league. The league meets every Sunday night at AMF Land Park Lanes at 6 p.m. The 2013 winter season started Sept. 8 and runs through May 2014. The league welcomes all skill levels.

## Gender Health Center Adds New Program

For trans people, one of the most frightening challenges is that of obtaining legal name and gender changes. A new program being developed by Sacramento's Gender Health Center will make the process simpler and more accessible to transgender individuals who need help in understanding and implementing the legal process.

# PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Pride Media is proud to announce that beginning September 2013, SacPride News will be published twice monthly. Look for expanded coverage at sacpridenews.com.

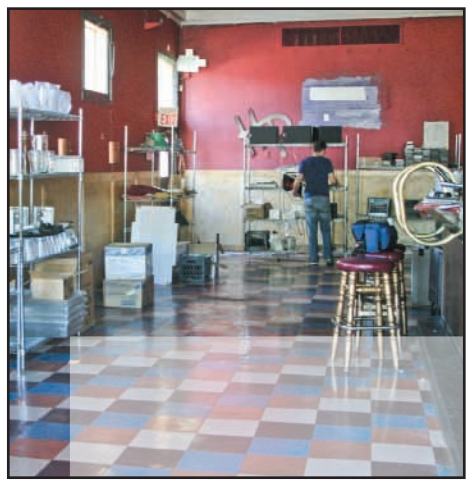
# RCC Announces New 2013-14 Board of Directors

The new Board of Directors and officers were introduced to the membership at *Gay-Sino Royale: A Roaring '20's Adventure* casino night and gala on Tuesday at Vizcaya: Treasurer Jerry Dunlap of Hair Play Salon and Spa; Secretary Leticia Juarez of AAA; and members Griselda Barajas of Griselda's Ventures, Jennifer Kennedy of Perfection Home Systems Heating & Air, and Paul Weubbe of Billy's Farm.

Four continuing board members for this year are: President Michael Sestak of Sestak Lighting and Design, Vice President Joey O'Shea of Sobon Auctionsl; and board members David Andersen of Wells Fargo, and Joe Klegseth of Sacramento Convention & Visitors Bureau. Dr. Darrick Lawson of Healing Touch Chiropractic will continue to serve on the board as Immediate Past President for the 2013-14 term.

"We had an outstanding slate of candidates who stepped up to run for the board this year, and I have every confidence in their competence and leadership abilities," Lawson said. "Each brings unique strengths to the board, and together with the four returning board members and the addition of our first full-time Executive Director, Nikki Whitfield, I fully expect the coming year to be one of the most successful in our Chamber's history."



*The community lost another landmark when Hamburger Patties closed its doors for good on Labor Day after 20 years of business.*

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# EVENT **CALENDAR**

## Sacramento Red Dress Party

Sat., Oct. 5, VIP 8 p.m., General 9:30 p.m., Badlands, sacramentoreddressparty.org

## Drag Queen Bingo

Thurs., Oct. 3, 6 p.m., 1930 K St., Sacramento

## Sacramento International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

22nd annual film festival,Thurs.-Sat., Oct. 10-12, 916-304-FILM, siglff.org

## 23rd Annual Curtis Park Wine Tasting

Sat., Oct. 5, 4 p.m., Sierra 2 Center, 916-452-3005, sierra2.org

## Gay-Sino Royale!

Tues., Sept. 17, 6-9 p.m., Vizcaya, rainbowchamber.com



## COMING **NEXT WEEK**

- Jerry Sloan's victory over the Moral Majority and the impact today







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**Where to eat?**
Here are a few recent reviews and regional recommendations by Becky Grunewald, Ann Martin Rolke, Garrett McCord and Jonathan Mendick, updated regularly. Check out www.newsreview.com for more dining advice.

## Downtown

**Grange Restaurant & Bar** You won't find any "challenging" dishes on this menu—just delicious local and seasonal food such as the Green Curry & Pumpkin Soup, which has a Southeast Asian flair. A spinach salad features ingredients that could be considered boring elsewhere: blue-cheese dressing, bacon, onion. But here, the sharply cheesy buttermilk dressing and the woodsy pine nuts make it a salad to remember. Grange's brunch puts other local offerings to shame. The home fries are like marvelously crispy Spanish patatas bravas. A grilled-ham-and-Gruyere sandwich is just buttery enough, and an egg-white frittata is more than a bone thrown to the cholesterol-challenged; it's a worthy dish in its own right. **American.** 926 J St., (916) 492-4450. Dinner for one: $40-$60. ★★★★ B.G.

## Midtown

**Capital Dime** Sacramento foodies can finally eat chef Noah Zonca's food without having to cough up rent money. The menu is split up into "Dime plates," "rabbit food," sandwiches and "plates." The dime plates and rabbit food both go for $10. This, and the idea that every dish is supposed to be a "perfect 10" is the idea behind the restaurant's name. One simple dish, the clams chorizo, is something you'd stab your mother with a seafood fork over, should she attempt to pluck one of its delightful bivalves from your plate. Here, seared chorizo is drowned in white wine and garlic, creating a silky palomino-colored broth in which the teeniest clams ever are cooked. The kalua-pork slider is also a thing of beauty, with flavorful pulled pork tender as a bruise. The fries are fried in rice oil with their skins on—which always means more flavor. Delicate, crisp and fantastic to munch on. **American.** 1801 L St., Ste. 50; (916) 443-1010. Dinner for one: $15-$25. ★★★1/2 G.M.

**Hook & Ladder Manufacturing Co.** The restaurant, by the same owners as Midtown's The Golden Bear, sports a firefighting theme (a ladder on the ceiling duct work, shiny silver wallpaper with a rat-and-hydrant motif, et al) and a bar setup that encourages patrons to talk to each other. An interesting wine list includes entries from Spain and Israel; there are also draft cocktails and numerous beers on tap. The brunch menu is heavy on the eggs, prepared in lots of ways. One option is the Croque Madame, a ham-and-Gruyere sandwich usually battered with egg. This one had a fried egg and béchamel, with a generous smear of mustard inside. The mountain of potato hash alongside tasted flavorful and not too greasy. Another highlight includes an excellent smoked-eggplant baba ganoush, which is smoky and garlicky and served with warm flatbread wedges and oil-cured olives. **American.** 1630 S St., (916) 442-4885. Dinner for one: $20-$40. ★★★1/2 A.M.R.

**LowBrau** This place specializes in beer and bratwursts. Both are done smashingly. The sausage is wrapped in a tight, snappy skin like a gimp suit, which gets nicely charred by the chefs. Within it lies a beguilingly spicy and juicy piece of meat. Get it with a pretzel roll for a truly exciting experience. There are vegan options, too: The Italian, an eggplant-based brat, has a surprisingly sausagelike texture that no self-respecting carnivore will turn it down for lack of flavor. Toppings include sauerkraut, a "Bier Cheese" sauce and caramelized onions. The idea behind Duck Fat Fries is a glorious one, yet somehow still falls short. You just expect something more when you see the words "duck fat." The beer selection is epic. If you're lost and confused, the staff will help guide you to the right brew via questionings and encouraged tastings. **German.** 1050 20th St., (916) 706-2636. Dinner for one: $10-$15. ★★★★ G.M.

**The Rind** This is a *fromage* fanatic's delight with a menu that changes frequently. A chalkboard by the bar lists the daily suggested trios for cheese boards, but order the Diving Board to choose your own combo. Each arrives with six crisp toasts and two sides, like dried fruit and honey. The rations are small, but reasonable for two people. Buy any of the cheeses by the pound. Ask for the list at the bar. There are also many grilled-cheese sandwich choices and several versions of mac 'n' cheese, including Not Your Mom's Mac with Parmesan, Gruyere and cheddar. It's silky smooth, without any excess oil. A richer version includes blue cheese and prosciutto for over-the-top indulgence. **American.** 1801 L St., Ste. 40; (916) 441-7463. Dinner for one: $10-$15. ★★★★ A.M.R.

## East Sac

**Español Italian Restaurant** This confusingly monikered restaurant is an old-timey Italian joint. Order à la carte or "dinner" style from a list of daily specials (chicken cacciatore, for example) and a short children's menu. There are many pasta sauce options and styles, and also some meaty standards, such as chicken Parmesan, veal cutlets Milanese, and fried chicken "à la Luigi" with garlic. Try the pork-chop plate, which features two large, tender, pan-fried chops served with applesauce and perfectly al dente fresh vegetables. The real revelation here, however, is the marinara sauce. Made on-site, it's a fresh, chunky blend of ripe tomatoes and herbs. Every entree comes with a plate of nicely cooked pasta bathed in this ambrosial sauce. A dish of ravioli is OK on its own, but topped with the house-made marinara, it invites plate licking. **Italian.** 5723 Folsom Blvd., (916) 457-1936. Dinner for one: $15-$20. ★★★ A.M.R.




**Istanbul Bistro** Turkish chef Murat Bozkurt and brother Ekrem co-own this paean to their homeland, with Ekrem usually at the front of the house, infusing the space with cheer. Turkish cuisine features aspects of Greek, Moroccan and Middle Eastern flavors. The appetizer combo plate offers an impressive sampling. Acili ezme is a chopped, slightly spicy mixture of tomatoes, cucumber and walnuts that's delicious paired with accompanying flatbread wedges. For entrees, try the borani, a lamb stew with garbanzos, carrots, potatoes and currants. The meat is very tender, while the veggies arrived nicely al dente. Also good is the chicken shish plate (souvlaki), which features two skewers of marinated grilled chicken that's moist and succulent. There are also quite a few choices for vegetarians, including flatbread topped like pizza, with spinach and feta or mozzarella and egg. **Turkish.** 3260 B J St., (916) 449-8810. Dinner for one: $15-$20. ★★★1/2 A.M.R.

## South Sac

**Blue Moon Cafe and Karaoke** In Sac, most people equate Hong Kong-style cuisine with dim sum, but this restaurant, which also features private karaoke rooms, serves up tasty, familiar food by way of rice plates, sandwiches, noodle bowls, soups and stir-fries. A few random Japanese (ramen, fried udon), French (sweet or savory crepes), Russian (borscht), Korean (beef and kimchi hot pot) and Italian (various pastas) foods add to the feeling that whatever your cultural background, you'll find a comfort dish from your childhood to wrap its arms around you and give you a hug. Cultural diversity aside, one of Blue Moon's best dishes is the braised pig ear with soy sauce and peanuts. **Asian.** 5000 Freeport Blvd., Ste. A; (916) 706-2995. Dinner for one: $10-$20. ★★★ J.M.

## Arden/Carmichael

**Taqueria Garibaldi** One of this restaurant's biggest pulls is its choice of meats. The chorizo is red, crispy and greasy in all the best ways. The lengua (tongue) is soft and dreamily reminiscent of only the most ethereal bits of beef. The fish is fine and flaky and the cabeza and pork are herculean in flavor options worthy of note, too. Tacos are small and served on two tiny tortillas (flour or corn, your call) with a bit of house salsa that has all the kick of a pissed off Girl Scout who's just tall enough to nail you right under the kneecap. Or, feel free to customize, too, courtesy of the fully loaded salsa bar. **Mexican.** 1841 Howe Ave., (916) 924-0108. Dinner for one: $8-$10. ★★★ G.M.

## Land Park/Curtis Park

**Burgess Brothers' Burgers** This burger joint's motto is "Committed to Service," and that's evidenced in its outstanding customer service. The food is also exceptional. There

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are plenty of burgers on the menu—all smoked before they're grilled. The one-third pound Tactical Blue Burger is served with blue cheese, tomato, lettuce and fried onions. With a generous slathering of the "Patrol" sauce, it's full of flavor but not too smoky. Don't miss the barbecue, though. The pulled-pork sandwich is nicely smoked and shredded, piled on a garlic roll. There are also kid-sized sliders and the Code 4 vegetarian burger, made with a portobello mushroom. **Barbecue.** 2114 Sutterville Rd., (916) 209-0277. Dinner for one: $5-$10. ★★★½ A.M.R.

**The Hideaway Bar & Grill** This bar fills a niche Sacramento might not have known it lacked with its vague rockabilly vibe, lots of greased hair on the men, brightly dyed hair in retro styles and cat-eye glasses on the ladies, and an abundance of black clothes and tattoo sleeves for all. The liquor selection is basic (no craft cocktails here). The menu's heavy on fried appetizers, salads, sandwiches and burgers, the latter of which are architectural, towering assemblages. Happily, the fluffy charred buns are sturdy enough to hold up when the tower is squeezed to a more realistic height. A meaty veggie burger gets crunch from fried pickles and sweet heat from barbecue sauce. Overall, the Hideaway offers cheap beer, adequate bar food and a comfortable place to hang with out friends. **American.** 2565 Franklin Blvd., (916) 455-1331. Dinner for one: $10-$15. ★★★½ B.G.

## Fair Oaks

**Mighty Tavern** Part tavern, part restaurant, this spot offers good food highlighting local ingredients. There's both a bar menu and a regular dinner menu. The burger, from the dinner menu, arrives perfectly cooked (a little pink on the inside), but the fries aren't particularly inventive. The best dish here is the scallops, which—sitting atop a bed of pancetta, leeks, corn and tomato beurre blanc—achieves a nice balance of salty, sweet and creamy that makes it worth every penny of the $23 price tag. Want to order from the happy-hour menu? Try the steamed mussels, which arrive piled high with a handful of french fries, lemons and bacon. This is fancier than normal pub food, and the garlic-and-white wine sauce it's cooked in make it perfect for dipping the fries and any spare bread. **American.** 9634 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Fair Oaks, (916) 241-9444. Dinner for one: $10-$25. ★★★★ J.M.

## Roseville

**La Huaca** This Peruvian eatery offers an experience decidedly upscale in every way: décor, art, lighting, presentation, price and—most importantly—taste. Peru's national dish is ceviche, seafood cured in lime, salt and chili, and it's a must-have starter. Try the mixto version, which features fish, shrimp, octopus and calamari, or sample the spicier ceviche de aji amarillo—both are exceptionally piquant and hearty. Entree recommendations include the arroz chaufa, a dish that resulted from the Chinese immigrants' influence on Peruvian cuisine. Here, it's served with shrimp and crispy fried pork. The lomo saltado oozes with an incredibly smoky flavor—apparently, the result of cooking the beef in pisco, a type of brandy popular in Peru. The star of the arroz con pato isn't the duck or the rice, but rather a house-made salsa criolla, consisting of pickled onion and cilantro. Whatever you order, La Huaca's attention to detail makes it the ideal place to be introduced to the complexities found in this regional cuisine. **Peruvian.** 9213 Sierra College Blvd., Ste. 140 in Roseville; (916) 771-2558. Dinner for one: $20-$40. ★★★★½ J.M.

## Folsom

**Back Wine Bar & Bistro** Back has nuzzled itself into a comfortable niche with an eclectic wine selection and—albeit unfocused—menu that draws an upscale crowd. The bruschetta plate arrives with four types of toppings, two of each: goat cheese, avocado, caramelized onion and tomato. They don't suck, but they aren't great. A rib-eye steak with a basil-and-tomato compound butter is served cooked to perfection. But the chocolate soufflé is like having a hot date and then finding out he's a terrible kisser: greatly disappointing. In the end, a little refinery needs to happen to make the food at Back unique enough for the average Sacramento diner to find it worth the trip, but for the Folsom diner who feels Grange Restaurant & Bar is too far, then Back will do right enough. The wine selection is strong, and pairing recommendations are practical. **American.** 25075 Blue Ravine Rd., Ste. 150 in Folsom; (916) 986-9100. Dinner for one: $25-$50. ★★★½ G.M.

**Lotus 8** The menu here is organized with sections such as "Our Most Popular Dishes," "If You're Feeling Adventurous" and the "Chef's Special" tasting list, which offers dishes less familiar to American diners. Worthy options include the fried-milk appetizer, which is made of sweetened milk that's been battered and fried and tastes like pillows of the lightest cheesecake. Pair it with the sweet-and-sour sauce, or top it with powdered sugar for a dessert. The salted egg with pumpkin arrives as lightly battered, fried half-moons topped with hard-boiled egg. With classic sweet and salty complements, the flavor is even better with a drizzle of hot chili sauce. The fried tofu with salt and pepper is exceptional. Cubes of fried, silky tofu taste like custardy goodness. This is the kind of tofu that could almost make one give up meat. **Chinese.** 199 Blue Ravine Rd., Ste. 100 in Folsom; (916) 351-9278. Dinner for one: $10-$15. ★★★★ A.M.R.

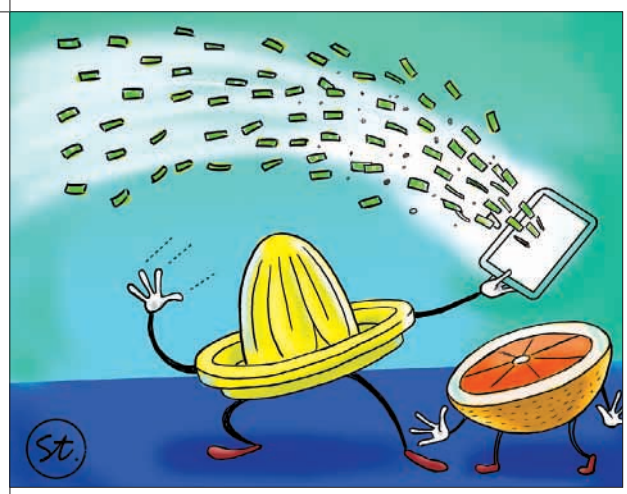


ILLUSTRATION BY MARK STIVERS

## Juice it up

Tatiana Kaiser and Molly Brown are juicers. Not the steriod-fueled-athlete kind, but the raw-fruit-and-vegetable kind. And with their dream business, **The Cold Press Juicery**, they want to create organic smoothies and juices—with produce sourced from local farms—for the rest of Sacramento to enjoy as well. Last year, they were semifinalists in the Downtown Sacramento Partnership's **Calling All Dreamers** competition—in which prospective business owners pitched business plans in hopes of winning free rent for a year, startup capital and business support services—but lost to the eventual winner, Andy's Candy Apothecary. So now, they're turning to crowd-funding site **Kickstarter** to help open their juice business. The pair's campaign, which ends on Sunday, September 22, aims to help provide enough capital for the business partners to purchase an industrial cold-press juicer, kitchen equipment and other supplies to open a store in Midtown. Visit www.thecoldpressjuicery.com to find out more.

**—Jonathan Mendick**


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# COOLHUNTING



FIND OF THE WEEK

## More sugar skulls, please

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Taste the authentic cuisines that represent countries from Mexico to Costa Rica, watch Peruvian traditional dance performances, pay homage to age-old customs, or listen to live music that's rich in Hispanic and Latin cultures. It all happens during National Hispanic Heritage Month, which continues through October 15.

CULTURE

Overwhelmed by the choices? Check out the Latin Food & Music Festival on Saturday, September 29, at Southside Park (2115 Sixth Street). The festival features Grupo Danza del Peru, a Peruvian dance troupe that celebrates culture through movement, and Instituto Mazatlán Bellas Artes Sacramento (pictured above), a Mexican ballet folklorico company. Folks from La Raza Galeria Posada will also be on hand to host sugar-skull and papier-mâché mask-making stations. The festival will also feature various vendors with cuisine that reflect myriad Hispanic and Latin cultures. The event begins at 11:30 a.m., and general admission is $10. See www.latinfoodandmusicfestival.com for more information.

Another option is The California Museum's *Art of Day of the Dead–Día de los Muertos* exhibit—which opens Tueday, September 24, and runs through Sunday, January 5, 2014. It honors *Día de los Muertos*, the holiday that takes place the first two days of November and pays homage to the dead. Works by sugar-skull sculptor Rob-O, and artists John Huerta and David Lozeau will showcase the tradition via *altares de muertos* (altars of the dead), *ofrendas* (offerings), acrylic paintings and, of course, those intricately decorated sugar skulls. Museum admission is $8.50 for adults, $7 for college students and seniors, $6 for kids 6 to 16, and free for those 5 and younger. *www.californiamuseum.org.*

**—Steph Rodriguez**

## Pay it forward

CROCKER ART MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP

Membership packages for the Crocker Art Museum have much to offer, and one of the best values is an annual membership—especially at the Associate level, which covers admission for four adults, children under 18 and entrance to more than 500 museums nationwide, including several in the Bay Area. Members get to enjoy special events like Art Mix, film screenings, panel discussions, and discounts to classes and merchandise. Rather than worrying about paying the annual payment up front, members can opt to break it down into monthly increments, such as $5 a month for an individual membership, or $15 per month for the Associate level. *$65–$600; 216 O Street, (916) 808-7000, http://crockerartmuseum.org.*

MUSEUM

**—Trina L. Drotar**

## Bird by bird

*BIRDS OF THE SIERRA NEVADA*

The hefty *Birds of the Sierra Nevada: Their Natural History, Status, and Distribution* (University of California Press, $75) is a readable reference book for bird enthusiasts of all feathers. Written by Edward C. Beedy and Edward R. Pandolfino, and illustrated by Keith Hansen, the tome describes the region's ecological zones, chronicles conservation efforts and is organized by taxonomic family. A pick for anyone interested in ornithology, natural history or the Sierra Nevada.

BOOK

**—Trina L. Drotar**

## If we build it

TEDXSACRAMENTO: CITY2.0

The latest TEDxSacramento event, City2.0, focuses on stories of "urban ingenuity." This evening lecture, which takes place at the Crest Theatre, explores topics such as education and art, food and housing, technology and transportation—and their connection to modern, everyday life. Landscape architect Jerry van Eyck, renowned for his works and collaborations in cities such as New York City, London and Qingdao, China, headlines with a discussion centered on "creative thinking and the manipulation of public space." In addition, there will be live performances and other speakers, including some streamed in from a parallel New York-based TEDx event. *Friday, September 20; 7 p.m., $35–$150; 1013 K Street, http://tedxsacramento.com.*

LECTURE

**—Rachel Leibrock**

# ASK JOEY

## Bad sexy sex stuff




askjoey@newsreview.com

**Joey** wants you to see *Other Desert Cities* at B Street Theatre.

Find daily meditations on Ask Joey's Facebook page.

**When I was 30, I had a sexy affair with a married man. A year later, I met someone and got married, but continued my affair. Recently, his wife found out about the affair and left him. I thought about divorcing my husband to be with this other man. I was going to tell my lover about this plan when he called to say we needed to talk. We got together, and he broke up with me. I am confused. After seeing each other secretly for so long, why would he drop me now that he is free and available?**

He never loved you, honey, so he has no desire for a committed relationship with you. What he loved was the thrill of a secret and the excitement of feeling desired. Sharing a secret created a bond that you probably labeled as trust. It wasn't. Trust is the godchild of truth, and it can't thrive in a relationship built on lies. You had a connection that drew its energy from clandestine encounters, hot sex and enough slender threads of familiarity with each other's personal lives to believe that you actually cared for each other. You may have even overlaid your connection to this man with romantic beliefs intended to prove (to yourself) how important he is to you and vice versa. Doing so added to the intensity of your fantasy.

**Does your husband know that you have never committed to him or to the marriage?**

Let me pinch you awake with another shot of reality: Your relationship with this man is not a destination; it's a passage. When you exit the mindset that brought you to this affair and kept you in it, transformation is possible. That may be the most important part of your life journey.

I am deeply concerned for your husband and your marriage. Does your husband know that you have never committed to him or to the marriage? You wed knowing that you were unavailable emotionally for a serious commitment. If you love yourself, you will sober up (from the addiction to lying), tell your husband about the affair and make amends to him. If you love your husband, you will see a psychologist and work to heal the wound that compels you to deceive others and yourself. When you do, you will become free and available to truly love yourself. That means you understand that you are capable and worthy of a real relationship with your husband. Self-love is an essential step in becoming a real adult. Begin now. When you do, you will accept that your lover's abandonment is the best gift life could offer you.

**Got a problem?** Write, email or leave a message for Joey at the News & Review. Give your name, telephone number (for verification purposes only) and question—all correspondence will be kept strictly confidential.

Write Joey, 1124 Del Paso Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95815; call (916) 498-1234, ext. 3206; or email askjoey@newsreview.com.

**I married my wife after making sure that she did not want children. Now she's changed and is always dropping annoying hints about getting pregnant. It makes me want to leave her. My siblings have children, and I am committed to being an uncle. My wife has been a good sport when I have invited my nieces and nephews over for the weekend or for summer camping trips. How can I get her to love other people's children instead of adding more people to an already overburdened planet?**

You could both love other people's children by extending your reach and becoming foster parents or adopting. It's a win-win. You get the satisfaction of not adding to an overpopulated planet, and your wife gets to enjoy the experience of parenting. And, while most people sign up for infants or children, you could employ your social-justice attitude and be available to adolescents. Right now, thousands of teenagers are in foster care. Marriage is, among other things, an ongoing compromise.

Why not consider an option that serves you both and the young people of this lovely planet? □

### Meditation of the Week

**"I consider the usual aids to self-definition—sex, age, talent, time and space—as tyrannical limitations upon my freedom of choice," said artist Eleanor Antin. What do you employ to hold yourself back?**


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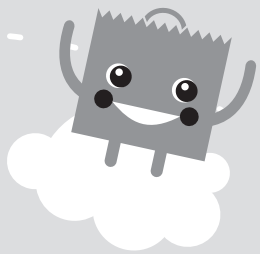
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# STAGE

## The gleaming goat

### *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?*

**Oedipus had his mother, and Martin has his goat.**

by **Patti Roberts**

Edward Albee's *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?* is a postmodern takedown of the classical Greek tragedy, where deep, dark drama lies beneath seemingly everyday dynamics.

Three-time Pulitzer Prize winner Albee, whose most familiar work is *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, again examines and dissects a marriage, though *The Goat* takes us down a much darker and unexpected tunnel. The title and dialogue hints at the reveal that happens during the first half—that a perfectly pleasant middle-aged couple is going to implode when the wife finds out the husband has fallen in love with another udder.



PHOTO BY MARGARET MORNEAU

**"Martin, this is me leaving you, goat edition."**

*The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?*, 8 p.m., Friday, Saturday; $15–$20. Resurrection Theatre at the California Stage, 2509 R Street; (916) 223-9568; www.resurrectiontheatre.com. Through October 5.

Martin (Jes Gonzales) and Stevie (Lee Marie Kelly) are a long-married, seemingly content couple, playfully sparring with familiar banter. Until Stevie learns through Martin's longtime friend Ross (Paul Fearn) that Martin's been having an affair. With a goat.

The reveal begins a theater of the absurd that keeps us amused in the first half. The humor is a bit sardonic, and through both the dialogue and the remarkable performances and chemistry between the two leads (Gonzales and Kelly), Resurrection Theatre makes the improbable plausible.

In the second half, the tone shifts, and it soon becomes apparent that it doesn't matter who the other entity is in a love triangle—there's still the issues of love, longing, loyalty, betrayal, emotional pain, societal acceptance, and who and what determines which lines can or cannot be crossed.

It's gut-wrenching as emotions are laid bare when everyone concerned—husband, wife, son (Alexander Hogy as Billy) and friend—realize that life as they once knew it has shattered and the pieces can't be put back together again. Major warning: This play is not for the faint of heart.

There are times where Albee doesn't really stay true to his vision when he interjects unnecessary jokes or shocking tidbits. But overall, through the strength of the play and the powerful performances by Resurrection Theatre's cohesive and compelling cast, the audience is drawn in and compelled to stay to the shocking end. □

## *Zoot Suit*

***Ese*, you shine like a diamond.**

Flash is about more than a fancy suit or a pretty dress in the pachuco culture; it means finding a way to express identity and community in the midst of a majority culture that despises your difference. It's about seeing one's own beauty despite the message from the powerful that all you are is ugly.

That message is at the heart of Luis Valdez's *Zoot Suit*, currently in production by Teatro Espejo under the direction of Manuel J. Pickett. Based on the 1942 Sleepy Lagoon murder case in Los Angeles, *Zoot Suit* tells the story of Henry Reyna, his family and friends, after more than 20 young men and boys were charged with a murder they didn't commit. Infused with the big-band boogie dance music of the time and draped in colorful dress wear, *Zoot Suit* fuses fashion and dance with the birth of the political Chicano culture in the West. It's also a reminder that if we tap the vein of the Chicano culture, we find ourselves in the ancient Mayan and Aztec cultures.

The focal points of this tale are Henry (Jose Perales) and his alter-ego, El Pachuco (Ruben Oriol-Rivera), the hip, slick and ultracool embodiment of machismo and political awareness. The two exhibit a symbiotic chemistry that propels the story forward, as El Pachuco alternately goads and persuades Henry into action, until Henry finally decides which parts of El Pachuco he wants to retain and which to reject.

With a good supporting cast, exuberantly wild dancing, well-choreographed fight scenes, family drama and political posturing, *Zoot Suit* is a well-done reminder of California history and a reminder of those who sacrificed in the pursuit of justice.

**—Kel Munger**

*Zoot Suit*, 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday; $20. Teatro Espejo at The Colonial Theatre, 3522 Stockton Boulevard; (916) 456-7099; http://zootsuit.bpt.me. Through September 29.

## Now Playing

**Clybourne Park**
Bruce Norris' Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award–winning satire on racism, real estate, fear, loss and words gets a brave and intelligent production by Capital Stage. Michael Stevenson directs an outstanding ensemble cast (each actor plays two or three roles) in a provocative play with its two acts set 50 years apart. You'll never laugh more at something that makes you question your own feelings and motivations. **W 7pm; Th, F, Sa 8pm; Su 2pm. Through 10/6.** $26–$36. Capital Stage, 2215 J St.; (916) 995-5464; www.capstage.org. J.C.

**How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying**
Runaway Stage Productions brings energy to this revival of the 1961 satire of life in the world of big business. David Holmes shines as J. Pierrepont Finch, a window washer working his way from the mailroom to the corner office. It's an energetic production directed and choreographed by Darryl Stroh. **F, Sa 8pm; Su 2pm. Through 9/29.** $18–$25. Runaway Stage Productions at the 24th Street Theatre, 2791 24th St.; (916) 207-1226; www.runawaystage.com. K.M.

**Other Desert Cities**
Self-righteous Brooke Wyeth (Dana Brooke), carts her tell-all memoir to her parents' home in Palm Springs, hoping for a blessing from them, but gets a blasting instead. The play combines conflicting family dynamics with blunt sarcastic humor, which puts some fun in dysfunctional. Talented cast, including Brooke and Joan Grant, who create caustic chemistry as mother and daughter. **Th, F, 8pm; Sa 5 & 9pm; Su 2pm; Tu 6:30pm; W 2 & 6:30pm. Through 9/29.** $25–$35. B Street Theatre, 2711 B Street; (916) 443-5300; www.bstreettheatre.org. P.R.

**Squabbles**
"An argument a day keeps the doctor away," says Abe Dreyfus (Rodger Hoopman). At 73 and in his curmudgeonly prime, Abe is honest to a fault about his love for his daughter Alice (Julie Bock) and his tolerance of her husband Jerry (Walt Thompson), with whom he now lives. When Jerry's mother Mildred (Monique McKisson) loses her home, belongings and pet bird to a house fire, she moves in with the young couple, too. Insanity ensues. **F, Sa 8pm; Su 2pm. Through 9/22.** $17–$19. Chautauqua Playhouse at the La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Rd. in Carmichael; (916) 489-7529; www.cplayhouse.org. J.C.

Short reviews by Jim Carnes, Kel Munger and Patti Roberts.

FOUL
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GOOD
WELL-DONE
SUBLIME–DON'T MISS



PHOTO COURTESY OF VILLAGE OPERA THEATER

The Village Opera Theater's cast of *Orpheus in the Underworld* in 2009.

## Second act

With *September Serenade: A Collection of Scenes, Arias and Songs from Grand Opera, Operetta and Musical Theater*, Village Opera Theater reclaims its place as Sacramento's premier amateur operatic and musical theater company. Jennifer and Steve Estabrook, the company's founders, will direct this season-opening production that'll be its first since a hiatus that began in 2009. Drawing from the greatest, including Verdi's *La Traviata*, the company's first production in 1995, *September Serenade* includes works from more than two centuries, several countries and at least two continents. Where else would "The Country's in the Very Best of Hands" from *Li'l Abner*, based on Al Capp's satirical comic strip be performed in the same show as "My Dear Marquis" from Johann Strauss II's *Die Fledermaus* and "Three Little Maids From School We Are" from the Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera *The Mikado*?

*Saturday, September 21, at 8 p.m.; Sunday, September 22, at 2:30 p.m.; $5–$10. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1500 27th Street; www.facebook.com/villageoperatheater.*

—Trina L. Drotar







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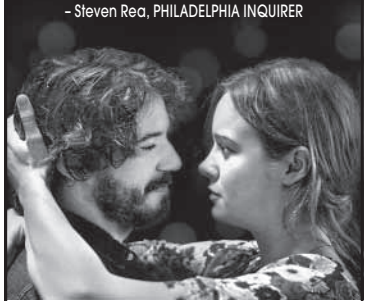

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# FILM

## Relative safety

### *The Family*

**Writer-director Luc Besson is one of the loosest cannons** in movies. You may not always admire one of his films, but it's a safe bet you'll never be bored.

by **Jim Lane**



Besson's latest not-boring movie is *The Family*, which he and co-writer Michael Caleo adapted from a novel by Tonino Benacquista. Robert De Niro and Michelle Pfeiffer play Fred and Maggie Blake, and we first meet them as they arrive with their teenage kids Belle (Dianna Agron) and Warren (John D'Leo) at their new home in the village of Cholong-sur-Avre, in Normandy, France. In the dead of night.



"Ugh, no—I don't want to see your goodfella."

The Blakes move around a lot, and usually in the dead of night, because their name isn't really Blake. It's Manzoni. The similarity to "Manson" is probably no coincidence; this family is a bunch of maniacs, every single one.

That's another reason why they move around so much—they keep blowing their own cover. They've been in the Federal Witness Protection Program ever since Fred (real name Giovanni) ratted out his pals in the mob. In the movie's voice-over narration, he tells us that he's worth $20 million. That's the good news. The bad news is that he's worth that much only to his former associates, and only dead.

Not that the family is without resources; far from it. They have two FBI agents watching their backs round the clock, and a minder, Robert Stansfield (Tommy Lee Jones), to try to keep them out of trouble—which he does with a permanent sigh of weary resignation.

His resignation is understandable. This gang simply doesn't know how to keep a low profile. The first thing Fred does when they get to Cholong is to secretly bury the corpse he brought from Nice in the back of their station wagon (the family all the while griping about the stink and blaming it on the dog). The dead man was a Nice grocer who had the gall to sell Fred frozen lobsters claiming they were fresh; his and Fred's simultaneous disappearance might have raised suspicions if it weren't for the fact that a Mafia assassin (Jon Freda), hot on the Manzoni/Blakes' trail, has obligingly wiped out the rest of the grocer's family.

Meanwhile, during their first week in town, the Blakes haven't been idle. Warren is bullied and robbed of 10 euros by a school bully, but within a day he's gathered allies, found the bully's weak points, and broken half the bones in his body with a golf club, leaving the boy bleeding, sobbing, and happy to pay 100 euros for being allowed to live.

Belle, against her better judgment, accepts a ride home from a classmate. When he drives her to a lake outside town and makes a pass at her, she beats him to a pulp with his own tennis racket, then steals his car to make her way home.

Maggie, overhearing the local grocer badmouthing her and all Americans to a couple of other customers, rigs up an improvised propane bomb in the back room of his store and blows the place to smithereens. And Fred is about to indulge what he calls his "sadistic tendencies" on a snotty local plumber.

With all this, incredibly enough, it's the smallest thing that blows their cover this time: Warren writes an English-language anecdote for the school paper that, through an elaborate chain of long-shot coincidences, finds its way into the Attica State Prison cell of Fred/Giovanni's former boss (Stan Carp), who recognizes a joke he once told at one of the Manzonis' backyard barbecues. (This string of events is fun to watch but hardly necessary—all the don had to do was have his enforcer follow the trail of broken bones, missing persons and blasted shops across France.)

*The Family i*sn't a movie about gangsters, it's a movie about gangster movies, a point made explicit when Fred is invited (in his cover guise as an American writer) to comment for a local film-study group on a classic American movie—which turns out to be *Goodfellas*.

**_The Family_ isn't a movie about gangsters, it's a movie about gangster movies.**

De Niro and Pfeiffer recycle their performances from *Analyze This* and *Married to the Mob*, respectively, but with the air of slipping into a comfy pair of old shoes. It's fun to watch them (and Jones, Agron and D'Leo) go through the deadpan motions of Besson and Caleo's black-comedy script—as long as we don't take it any more seriously than they do. □


POOR


FAIR

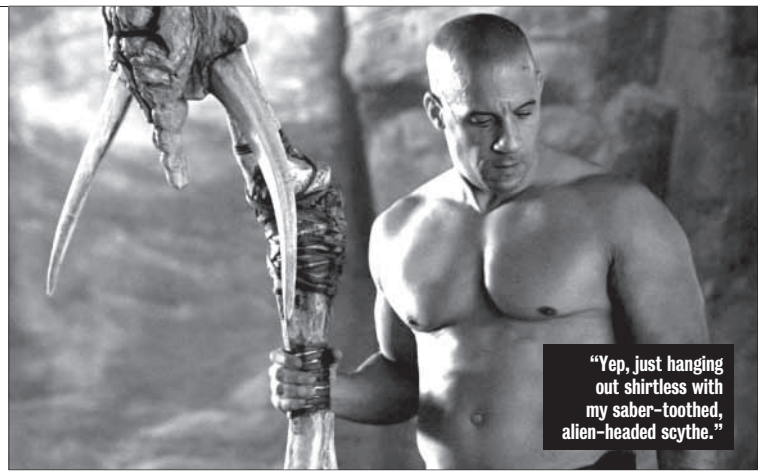

GOOD


VERY GOOD


EXCELLENT

# CLIPS

by **DANIEL BARNES & JIM LANE**




### Austenland

*Austenland* is the movie equivalent of a beach read, a digestible distraction that demands little effort and puts forth even less. It's a film that should only be watched while engaging in a secondary activity, like folding laundry or untangling Christmas lights. An undeniably adorable Keri Russell stars as Jane, a movie-messy bachelorette obsessed with all things Jane Austen, especially the aloof and sensitive Mr. Darcy from *Pride and Prejudice*. After getting dumped by the latest in a series of disinterested boyfriends, Jane cashes in her life savings for a vacation to Austenland, an all-inclusive resort where guests and staff role-play as Austen-esque characters in full costume. The adult theme-park conceit of *Austenland* is a lot like that of *Westworld*, except with corsets instead of cowboy boots, human actors instead of robots, and only brain cells getting brutally murdered. D.B.

### Blue Jasmine

A snooty New York socialite (Cate Blanchett), left penniless when her crooked financier husband (Alec Baldwin) goes to prison, moves in with her working-class sister in San Francisco (Sally Hawkins). Critic Walter Kerr once wrote, "Neil Simon didn't have an idea for a play this year, but he wrote one anyway." Well, Woody Allen didn't have an idea for a movie, so he did a riff on *A Streetcar Named Desire*. But Allen never gets the colored lights going. The role of Stanley Kowalski is drained of sexual energy and divvied up between the sister's ex-husband (Andrew Dice Clay) and present boyfriend (Bobby Cannavale); without that conflict, *Streetcar* lacks a core, and one is missing here. The whole is less than the sum of its parts, though some parts (especially Blanchett's performance) are well worth watching. J.L.

### Closed Circuit

There couldn't be a better time than right now for *Closed Circuit* to capture the public's attention, since the plot is a veritable scrapbook of recent newspaper headlines. Beyond the topical trappings, though, this is an unimaginative post-9/11 "legal thriller" in the John Grisham mold. *Closed Circuit* opens and closes on a mosaic of black-and-white security camera images, but in between, the themes of omnipresent surveillance are only used as hoary plot devices. Stars Rebecca Hall and Eric Bana lack the credibility to play trial lawyers, and even worse, they lack chemistry. Without competent leads, *Closed Circuit* relies on its supporting cast to supply the gravitas, including Jim Broadbent as an attorney general whose buttoned-down politeness conceals a passive-aggressive evil. Unfortunately, after a passable third act, the film goes 10 minutes too far in pursuit of a tidy ending. D.B.

### Getaway

A disgraced race-car diver (Ethan Hawke) is forced to steal a car and do the bidding of an unseen voice (Jon Voight)—including kidnapping the owner of the car (Selena Gomez). Written by Sean Finegan and Gregg Maxwell Parker and directed by Courtney Solomon, here's a movie for people who think *The Fast and the Furious* franchise has gotten too low-key and realistic, its plots too mundane and slice-of-life, with too much dialogue and not enough car chases. In fact, they spare no effort to come up with no plot whatsoever and no more character than it takes to fill the front seat of a car. Certainly, there's not enough to keep Hawke and Gomez busy, and both of them should have known better. Why did they take the gig? It must have been for the free trip to Bulgaria, where the movie was inexplicably filmed. J.L.

### In a World ...

The affable *In a World ...* is the first feature written and directed by actress Lake Bell, who also stars as a voice-over artist struggling to break into an industry dominated by men, including her legendary father. Although In a World ... won Bell a screenwriting award at the Sundance Film Festival, what's more compelling is how well this low-key comedy exhibits her charms as an actress. Heretofore stuck in character roles, Bell proves that she is a viable and appealing lead, salty and sullen, yet utterly likable. This is basically a nice business-card movie that allows Bell to display a range of skills, with a Hollywood-insider hook designed to appeal to influential industry folks. Still, the film's unsteady tone and meandering narrative are telltale signs of a first-time filmmaker's learning curve, and the stakes in the third-act payoff are excessively low. D.B.

### Riddick

Vin Diesel is back as the formidable interplanetary fugitive first seen in *Pitch Black* (2000) and *The Chronicles of Riddick* (2004). This time, he's been left for dead on a sun-blazed world inhabited by predatory monsters; he finds his way to a deserted outpost and broadcasts his presence into space, planning to steal a ship and escape when bounty hunters show up to capture him. Writer-director David Twohy plops us down in the middle of his story and leaves us hanging at the end, waiting for Episode 4. In between, the movie is a harsh, gritty pleasure, straightforward and tautly suspenseful, and showcasing Twohy's knack for portraying truly alien worlds. Jordi Mollà, Matt Nable and Katee Sackhoff play three of the bounty hunters, and there's a cameo by Karl Urban as Riddick's nemesis from *Chronicles*. J.L.

### Insidious: Chapter 2

*Insidious: Chapter 2* reunites director James Wan and screenwriter Leigh Whannell for a sequel to their 2010 horror sleeper about a child possessed by ghosts. It also bears an uncanny resemblance to Wan's superior *The Conjuring*, which was released only two months ago. Both movies are about families tormented by evil spirits in comically creaky houses (a little WD-40 would clear that right up), but the *Insidious* films substitute the docudrama trappings of *The Conjuring* for a couple of bumbling ghost hunters named Tucker and Specs. Patrick Wilson plays a suburban father inhabited by a deceased serial killer, and he's about as malevolent as Joe Montana. There are a few legitimate pop-out-of-your-seat moments here, but they're mostly due to the nauseatingly loud soundtrack spikes, and in total, *Insidious: Chapter 2* inspires fewer shrieks of terror than howls of derision. D.B.

### Instructions Not Included

An Acapulco beach bum (Eugenio Derbez, who also directed and co-wrote the script) has a baby girl dumped on him from one of his flings, so, naturally, he moves to Hollywood and works as a stuntman to raise the kid, while refusing to learn English. When the child is 7 (and now played by Loreto Peralta), her mother (Jessica Lindsey) returns and wants custody. This Spanish-language comedy's original title translates as "*Returns Not Accepted*," so the English subtitles may be no more accurate than that; what comes through is a sloppy melange of unpersuasive melodrama, amateurish mugging, unfunny comedy and mawkish sentimentality, a sort of boneheaded *Kramer vs. Kramer*. Derbez, a major star in Latin America, has all the personal charm and comedic gifts of Italy's Roberto Benigni—i.e., none whatsoever. J.L.

### Laughing to the Bank

It almost seems unfair to assess Brian Hooks' comedy atrocity *Laughing to the Bank* on the same level as other theatrical releases, since it has the narcissism and production values of a home movie. This is ostensibly *The Hangover* on a budget, as director-star Hooks is forced to relive a wild Las Vegas weekend with a couple of dopey thugs, but it's just an excuse to trot a series of desperately unfunny sketches and would-be beloved characters. *Laughing to the Bank*'s release was delayed since 2011, so that partially explains the decade-old *To Catch a Predator* references, but good luck rationalizing the script (sample witticism: "You can be a dick holder ... that's like a cup holder, except instead of holding cups, you hold dicks."). Undaunted by the evidence, Hooks' entourage spends much of the film immortalizing him as an under-recognized comic genius. D.B.

### Lee Daniels' The Butler

*Lee Daniels' The Butler* was "inspired by true events" much like John Hinckley Jr. was "inspired" by *The Catcher in the Rye*. Actually, it's adapted from a Washington Post article about an African-American butler who served at the White House during some of the most turbulent times in recent history. Daniels expands that idea into a Gump's-eye view of the civil-rights era that is Oscar chum at its most pandering. Forest Whitaker, looking like an audio-animatronics figure at Disneyland Presents Great Moments With *Lee Daniels' The Butler*, plays Cecil Gaines, son of a murdered cotton farmer reborn through servitude. Whitaker is strong, as usual, but the U.S. presidents are portrayed in a series of distracting cameos by Robin Williams as Dwight D. Eisenhower and Alan Rickman as Ronald Reagan. D.B.

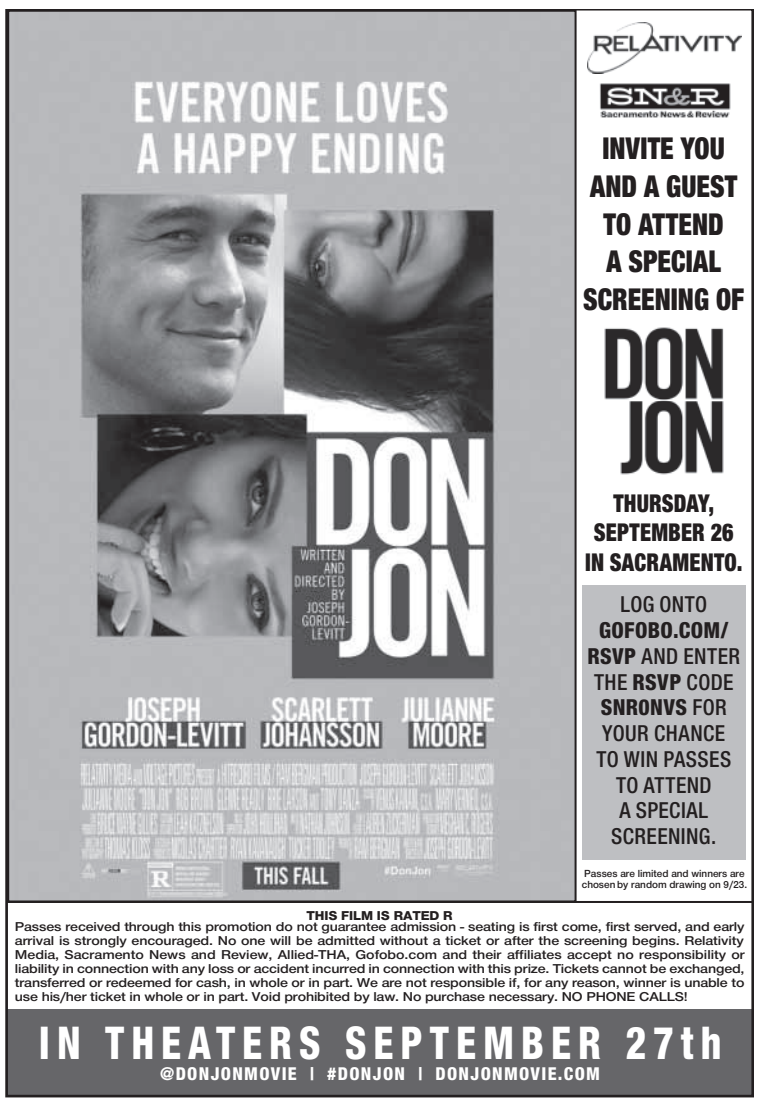
### Planes

A lowly crop-dusting airplane (voice by Dane Cook) cherishes an ambition to participate in an around-the-world air race, and by a combination of pluck and luck, he succeeds. Yes, it's *Turbo* with planes instead of snails, but it's also an unimaginative rehash of every other follow-your-dream movie, with little more than some stunning animation to distinguish it from all the rest. The story trudges through its predictable formula with excruciating precision, hitting every beat right on schedule. With no suspense or surprises, we have to pass the time by trying to identify the celebrity voices (which include Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Stacy Keach, Brad Garrett, Teri Hatcher, John Cleese and Cedric the Entertainer) and contemplating the inevitable Disney theme-park attraction. At least the ride will be over more quickly. J.L.









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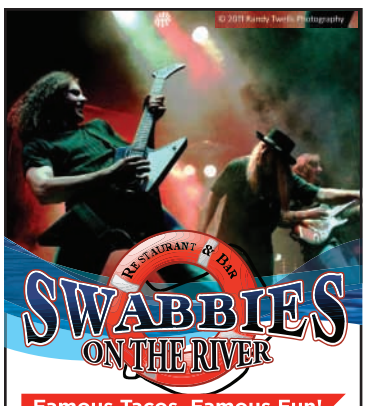
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# Reaching new heights

## On a new album, the members of Doombird transcend rock, leave the past behind

by **Blake Gillespie**

**Earlier this month, the Launch festival's kickoff party at** Ace of Spades was the setting for a reunion for two now-defunct local bands, Mister Metaphor and An Angle. Nostalgia is heartwarming, but the show also served as a reminder—both what the Sacramento music community once was, and also what it's become, with festivals such as Launch reflecting a scene now burgeoning with sophisticated, experimental bands.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DOOMBIRD

This is how you do an arty band shot.

One such band is Doombird, a phoenix born, incidentally, from the ashes of An Angle.

Doombird, which also played at Launch, recently completed a full-length deserving of year-end lists. Recorded with Robert Cheek (the engineer behind Tera Melos' *Patagonian Rats*), *Cygnus* channels the art-rock Americana of Grizzly Bear into sonic transmission fit for life on Mars.

Frontman Kris Anaya and keyboardist Dan Block bridge the old and new as An Angle's transitioning survivors. Still, *Cygnus* bares no trace to its emo indie-rock origins, particularly, accusations of mimicking Bright Eyes.

Anaya attributes the growth to songwriting partner Joseph Davancens.

"I didn't have Joe Davancens in An Angle," Anaya said. "It was just me telling people what to do, and no one ever told me, 'Try to fight back. Try your own way.' I think that's the best part of working with someone on a song. You do something that's close to you, and they realize that and encourage you to try it a little different."

Anaya jokingly calls Davancens, a former member of the Golden Cadillacs, the scapegoat in the demise of An Angle—an ending set in motion after the two began collaborating. The impulse to begin a new project did not weigh entirely on Davancens' input, however. The players in An Angle grew older, influences changed and Anaya's writing drought meant he was on the verge of rewiring his entire style.

As such, the radical shifts proved too much for An Angle to simply evolve into Doombird.

"I felt like with the An Angle name it was hard to change that kind of sound and become something else," Anaya said. "It was a hard transition. We [initially] got the guys from An Angle to come into the new project, but it wasn't enough time. We needed a break."

Doombird's self-titled 2010 debut garnered fair local attention. Here, Anaya and Davancens altered the sound texture from indie Americana to electronica, but Anaya still felt he needed a breakthrough.

Unsatisfied with writing about his life, a boring night spent browsing French composer Claude Debussy's Wikipedia page spawned a new idea for a concept record.

"[Debussy] is very similar to a lot of my friends: likes to drink, likes to do things normal people wouldn't do," Anaya said. "I figured, 'Maybe I can research other composers,' and it turns out a lot of them are like that. So, I felt like I can connect with these people. I wrote first-person narratives pretending it was me, but it was them. That was how I was able to write again."

And, he stresses, each song is born strictly from his own perspective.

"I hope people don't think I'm representing [the composers] in the wrong way," he said. "Whatever people think is untrue is just a personal vision of who I thought these composers were."

*Cygnus* exists in an equilibrium of highbrow conceptualization within the structure of traditional pop.

"What helps rein it in is we always write with basic song form of verse-chorus-verse," Davancens said. "So that puts a limit on what you do in terms of constructing a musical narrative. It's a nice experiment to give yourself those limitations and do more in spite of them."

**_Cygnus_ exists in an equilibrium of highbrow conceptualization within the structure of traditional pop.**

As for the album title, Anaya spent far less time tying it to the composer conceit, but discovered it via Internet browsing, just the same—this time while searching Milky Way constellation images.

"When I looked up *Cygnus*, [I found that] in mythology, it's a swan constellation," Anaya said. "Swan. Bird. Doombird. So, *Cygnus*. That's it." □

Catch Doombird's CD-release show on Sunday, September 22, at 8 p.m. at LowBrau, 1050 20th Street. Cover is $5; visit the band's website for more info: www.doombird.com.

# Weird, tasty nuggets

**Some guys have all the luck**: Over the last few years, **Unknown Mortal Orchestra** has experienced a swift rise to fame. First, the band enjoyed success in 2010 after anonymously releasing the track, "Ffunny Ffrends" via Bandcamp. The song went viral, thanks to various music bloggers, which led to record deals, first with Fat Possum Records, and later with Jagjaguwar. This, in turn, led to a 2012 tour with Grizzly Bear. Now, the group headlines its own world trek, capitalizing on the success of its second album ***II***. The New Zealand-Portland, Ore., **retro-funk trio** will stop at Harlow's Restaurant & Nightclub (2708 J Street) come Wednesday, September 25. Stop in to see why Pitchfork has called UMO's song "a bouncy, distorted, **off-kilter psych-pop nugget**." Tickets are $15-$18 and available via www.harlows.com.

**How you like them apples?**: On Thursday, September 19, Bows & Arrows (1815 19th Street) will team up with **Eat Better** to present its first **Bites + Beats + Beer** event featuring affordable plates made from local, seasonal ingredients. There are plans for the event to be monthly, and this go-around, the **foodie focus** is apples. Eat Better is a Sacramento-based group that hosts pop-up dinners, educational events and more. For this, a crew of gourmand pushers will take over the Bows kitchen to create the bites, available for as little as $4. Meanwhile, **behind the bar**, the folks from the **Track 7 Brewing Co.** will work the taps while local electro artists provide beats. The goodness runs from 6 to 10 p.m., and admission is free. Check out www.bowscollective.com for more information.

**The golden age, redux**: The '40s and '50s were the golden age for Cuban music, an era cut short by the Cuban revolution of 1959, which left the national sounds to linger in locals' memories rather than the grand and decadent dance clubs of the past. Then, some 50 years after one such club's closure, American guitarist **Ry Cooder** arrived in Cuba to record music by some octogenarian musicians who'd been active in those bygone days. The resulting album, 1997's ***Buena Vista Social Club***, went platinum and led to the 1999 Wim Wenders' documentary by the same name. Both album and film put Latin music back in the forefront and made the old-timers, once again, superstars. Today, an ever-evolving 13-member group of Cubans tours under the **Orquesta Buena Vista Social Club** name. See the group perform on Saturday, September 21, at the Mondavi Center (9399 Old Davis Road in Davis). Tickets are $35-$65; see www.mondaviarts.org for more information.

—**Julianna Boggs**

**The Jet Life**: If you can't tell from the title of his 2012 album ***The Stoned Immaculate***, then **Curren$y** will remind you over and over: **He likes to smoke weed**. He also constantly utters the phrase "Jet Life": It's the name of his collective and label imprint with Warner Bros. Records, and the phrase represents the life the rapper claims to be living, one filled with **four houses**, **diamonds and a Scrooge McDuck-ian** mountains of money.

Given that "Jet Life" peaked at No. 62 on the Billboard rap songs chart and Curren$y's stable of artists is largely obscure, it's a dubious claim.

Then again, *The Stoned Immaculate* debuted at No. 2 on Billboard's rap album chart and at No. 8 on Billboard 200—largely to critical acclaim. The album is **woozy stony** and makes for pleasant background music. There are many star-studded collaborations here, including ones featuring 2 Chainz and Wiz Khalifa, and a track with Pharrell Williams produced by the Neptunes.

Two of these collaborations are unusual in that they feature female singer-songwriters **Estelle** and **Marsha Ambrosius**, formerly of the British group Floetry. This makes for **something of a contradiction**: The album's themes cover the requisite **money boasts** and **marijuana** worshipping, yet the record also has a gentle tone, and is only medium-grade sexist—a feat in itself given the current climate of rap. Curren$y performs at Assembly (1000 K Street) on Thursday, September 19. The show starts at 7 p.m., and tickets are $23. Learn more at www.assembly sacramento.com.

—**Becky Grunewald**

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# EIGHT GIGS

## 20 FRI



### Terraplane Sun

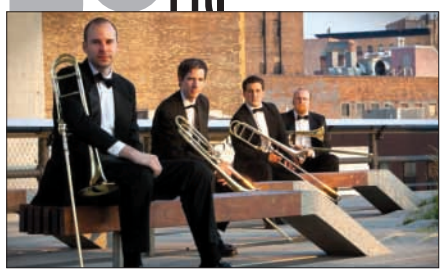
Ace of Spades, 7 p.m., $7

INDIE

While "Get Me Golden" may seem like the typical ubiquitous flavor-of-the-moment alt-pop song, Terraplane Sun has more to offer than the usual radio-ready sound. This Southern California quintet—vocalist and guitarist Ben Rothbard, guitarist Johnny Zambetti, bassist Cecil Campanaro, keyboardist Gabe Feenberg, and drummer Lyle Riddle—pushes genre boundaries, using instrumentation outside typical rock-pop selections (harmonica, mandolin, trombone, lap steel) to add depth and texture. It pays off, with an upbeat folk-pop sound tempered by a solid blues-funk undercurrent. The music is infectious without being annoying, which might be why it's showing up on soundtracks, including the theme for A&E's *Relapse*. *1417 R Street, www.terraplanesun.com.*

**—Kel Munger**

## 20 FRI



### Bravo Bach Festival

St. John's Lutheran Church, 7:30 p.m., $25

CLASSICAL

This weeklong-plus festival honoring the music of Johann Sebastian Bach kicks off Friday night with *Baroque Fanfares & Flourishes*. The concert will feature the Guidonian Hand trombone quartet (pictured) with organist Rhonda Sider Edgington performing works by Bach and his baroque peers Giovanni Gabrieli, Heinrich Schütz and Daniel Speer. In the nine days that follow, six more concerts—including Camerata Capistrano, the Joe Gilman Trio and the Archetti Baroque String Ensemble—will happen at the Harris Center for the Arts in Folsom and St. Mark's United Methodist Church. Entry into each concert costs $25, but multiple concert packages are available for a discount at the Bravo Bach website. *1701 L Street, www.bravobach.com.*

**—Jonathan Mendick**

## 21 SAT



### Heart

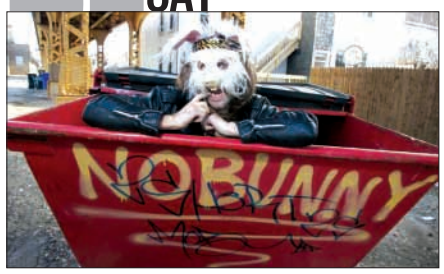
Thunder Valley Casino Resort, 8 p.m., $39.50–$87.50

ROCK

Hear classic rock hits such as "Crazy on You," "Barracuda" and "What About Love" when Heart visits Thunder Valley Casino Resort. The group, led by sisters Ann and Nancy Wilson, rose to fame in the late '60s and '70s with its psychedelic, hard-rock sound. Heart leaned toward mainstream music in the '80s and '90s, performing album-oriented rock and arena-rock ballads before returning to its original sound in the 2000s. Unfortunately, lead singer Ann has had to struggle with decades of fat-shaming from her own record label (she was barely featured in Heart's music videos during that era, for example) and the media, despite being arguably one of the best rock singers of all time. *1200 Athens Avenue in Lincoln, www.heart-music.com.*

**—Jonathan Mendick**

## 21 SAT




### Nobunny

Fusion International Art Center, 8 p.m., $8

ROCK

There's a new music venue in town—the Fusion International Arts Center—and it welcomes rock 'n' roll, punk and lo-fi rock bands this Saturday. Nobunny provides unpredictable stage antics with garage-punk bravado hidden behind vocalist Justin Champlin's disheveled bunny mask. Then there's the gritty neo-surf punks Pookie & the Poodlez, followed by Cumstain's more garage-pop approach to the genre. This show also marks the release of *Brick*, a new album from local psychedelic garage-rock threepiece Drive-Thru Mystics. Records (the store located at 1618 Broadway) will be slingin' wax as DJ Tim Matranga provides plenty of soul from the '50s and '60s in between sets. *2030 Del Paso Boulevard, www.facebook.com/thenobunny.*

**—Steph Rodriguez**


Congratulations to Galt student Sierra MacLeod

Proud winner of a PG&E $30,000 Bright Minds scholarship



Through hard work and perseverance, Sierra overcame a childhood speech impediment and spoke to the assembly from the podium at her 8th grade graduation. It was no surprise to anyone when she became president of the Students with a Purpose Club at her high school.

Sierra has long shown a natural curiosity and fascination with tubes, wires and the inner-workings of all types of gadgets, and her parents are delighted she'll be able to pursue her dream of studying mechanical engineering at UCLA this fall.

Sierra is one of 10 students receiving a renewable Bright Minds scholarship of up to $30,000 a year. The PG&E Bright Minds Scholarship Program helps deserving high school, college and non-traditional students realize their goals.

Together, there's no limit to what we can achieve.

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## 21 SAT



### Saint Solitaire

Blue Lamp, 8 p.m., $8–$10

Those who caught the Radiohead tribute show at the Launch festival after-party a few weeks back may have noted that local experimental-rock group Saint Solitaire was all up in that mix, paying homage to a band it claims as a major influence. Led by frontman Andrew Barnhart on vocals, guitar and keys, the band formed at the beginning of the year and released its debut EP, *Full Artistic Control* in March. Its aspirations toward Thom Yorke–esque vocals and a disarming rhythm section is indeed present in the band's aesthetic; it's also evocative of that

EXPERIMENTAL

perpetually-in-college, modern-rock sound à la Incubus. *1400 Alhambra Boulevard, http://saintsolitaire.com.*

**—Deena Drewis**

## 21 SAT



### Larisa Bryski

Naked Lounge Downtown, 8:30 p.m., $5

There are few singer-songwriters that not only embody the essence of rock 'n' roll, but do so with a strong roots edge, all while their own voice shines above the music.

ROCK

There's Tom Petty, Sheryl Crow and locally, we have Larisa Bryski. She's gotten her fair share of local accolades, including a 2004 Sammies award for Female Vocalist and opening spots for artists such as Bad Company, Berlin, John Waite and King's X. She brings a blend of heavy rock, blues, pop and folk, which is punctuated by her powerful, undeniable voice. Her songs are strong enough that even when she's not backed by her band, they still hit hard. *1111 H Street, www.larisabryski.com.*

**—Aaron Carnes**

## 22 SUN



### Beer Dawgs

Swabbies Restaurant & Bar, 3 p.m., $10

From 1986 to 2006, the Beer Dawgs rocked Sacramento five nights a week with its original bluesy swamp rock, released 10 albums and could regularly be heard performing at Hogshead Brew Pub in Old Sacramento. The Dawgs, founded by Bob Pearce and Steve Wall, earned its entrance into the Sacramento Area Music Awards Hall of Fame in 1996 and released its "final" album, *Voodoo & Tattoo*, in 2006. For the past seven years, the guys, including longtime members Otis Mourning and Dave

BLUES ROCK

Oppedal, have reunited to perform mostly original music like "Snake Bit," "Gator Circus" or "Jose Grand Marnier and the Ju Ju Queen," and a few Dawg-styled covers. *5871 Garden Highway, https://myspace.com/beerdawgs.*

**—Trina L. Drotar**

## 25 WED



PHOTO BY NEIL KRUG

### Unknown Mortal Orchestra

Harlow's Restaurant & Nightclub, 9 p.m., $15–$18

Unknown Mortal Orchestra came out of nowhere a couple years back. Now, it is one of the best known touring acts on the indie-rock circuit. Like a lot of current indie bands, UMO is highly influenced by 1960s psychedelic pop, but the psychedelic part seems

INDIE

almost a second thought to the group's amazingly written songs, kind of like the Zombies, whose *Odessey and Oracle* is one of the best albums from the 1960s. Unlike actual old-school psych bands, UMO's songs are mixed with an infectious groove, a sort of blend between old rock and modern dance. The band's releasing an acoustic EP soon, which will include covers of Beck and Dirty Projectors. *2708 J Street, http://unknownmortalorchestra.com.*

**—Aaron Carnes**


# ACE OF SPADES

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
**IRATION**
THROUGH THE ROOTS - FORTUNATE YOUTH
MICAH BROWN



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
**DANCE GAVIN DANCE**
ABANDON ALL SHIPS - INCREDIBLE ME - STOLAS
I WISH WE WERE ROBOTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
**TERRAPLANE SUN**
TIJUANA TEARS



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
**FRIGHTENED RABBIT**
PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS



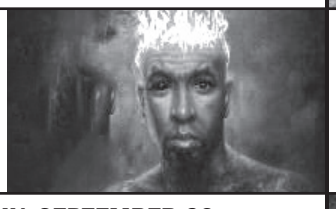


SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
**IAMSU!**
KOOL JOHN - JAY ANT - PLAYAH K

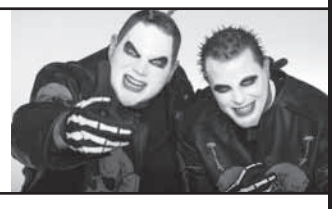


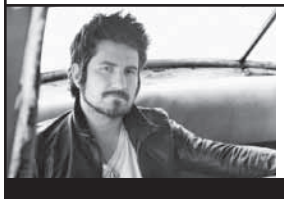
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1
**BETWEEN THE BURIED AND ME!**
THE FACELESS - CONTORTIONIST - SAFETY FIRE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
**TECH N9NE**
KRIZZ KALIKO - !MAYDAY! - STEVE STONE
PROZAK - CESCRU - AMERICAZ MOST HAUNTED

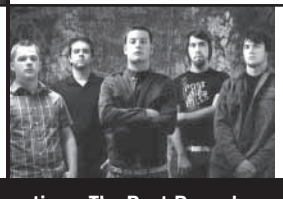


THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3
**TWIZTID**
MADCHILD - BLAZE YA DEAD HOMIE
AQUALEO - BRUTHA SMITH





THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
**MATT NATHANSON**
PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
**SENSES FAIL**
FOR THE FALLEN DREAMS - EXPIRE
BEING AS AN OCEAN

## COMING SOON

| | |
|---|---|
| 10/05 | Joshua Radin |
| 10/11 | Andre Nickatina & Krazie Bone |
| 10/12 | Arden Park Roots |
| 10/16 | The Used |
| 10/17 | Story Of The Year |
| 10/18 | Roach Gigz |
| 10/19 | Gwar |
| 10/20 | Attila |
| 10/22 | Streetlight Manifesto |
| 10/25 | Parmalee |
| 10/26 | Jonny Craig |
| 11/11 | Clutch |
| 11/12 | Mayday Parade |
| 11/14 | Misfits |
| 11/17 | Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue |
| 11/30 | Great White |
| 12/08 | Metalachi |
| 12/11 | Blood on the Dance Floor |

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# NIGHTBEAT

**List your event!**
Post your free online listing (up to 15 months early), and our editors will consider your submission for the printed calendar as well. Print listings are also free, but subject to space limitations. Online, you can include a full description of your event, a photo, and a link to your website. Go to www.newsreview.com/calendar and start posting events. Deadline for print listings is 10 days prior to the issue in which you wish the listing to appear.

**Hey local bands!**
Want to be a hot show? Mail photos to Calendar Editor, SN&R, 1124 Del Paso Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95815 or email it to sactocalendar@newsreview.com. Be sure to include date, time, location and cost of upcoming shows.

newsreview.com

| | THURSDAY 9/19 | FRIDAY 9/20 | SATURDAY 9/21 | SUNDAY 9/22 | MONDAY–WEDNESDAY 9/23-9/25 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ASSEMBLY**<br>1000 K St., (916) 832-4751 | CURREN$Y, 7pm, $23 | | *The Siren Show: Girls On Film!*, 9pm, $10-$20 | DEFEYE, ELEMENT BRASS BAND; 7:30pm, call for cover | |
| **BADLANDS**<br>2003 K St., (916) 448-8790 | Tipsy Thursdays, Top 40 deejay dancing, 9pm, call for cover | Fabulous and Gay Fridays, 9pm, call for cover | Saturday Boom, 9pm, call for cover | Sin Sunday, 8pm, call for cover | Mad Mondays, 9pm M; Latin videos, Wii bowling, 7pm Tu; Trapacana, 10pm W |
| **BAR 101**<br>101 Main St., Roseville; (916) 774-0505 | Karaoke, 7:30pm, no cover | REBEL RADIO, 9:30pm, no cover | HUMBLE WOLF, 9:30pm, no cover | | Trivia, 6:30pm M, no cover; Open-mic, 7:30pm W, no cover |
| **BLUE LAMP**<br>1400 Alhambra, (916) 455-3400 | TASK1NE, TRIBE OF LEVI, ABSTRACT NINJAA, THE ALUMNI, DJ Marvel; 9pm, $7 | | SAINT SOLITAIRE, THE OTHER BRITTANY, AUTUMN SKY, BARRY CRIDER; 8pm | | |
| **THE BOARDWALK**<br>9426 Greenback Ln., Orangevale; (916) 988-9247 | VIBRATORS, THE SHAMS, VERA, GRAVE SHADOW, VAGUE INTENTIONS; 7:45pm | A SKYLIT DRIVE, FOR ALL THOSE SLEEPING, WOLVES AT THE GATE; 6pm, $14-$16 | | | |
| **BOWS & ARROWS**<br>1815 19 St., (916) 822-5668 | Beats by Are You and Aly, 6pm, no cover | DANDELION MASSACRE, JULIE THE BRUCE; 8pm, $5 | | | MOLLY PAUL, JOHN CRAIGIE; 8pm W, call for cover |
| **CENTER FOR THE ARTS**<br>314 W. Main St., Grass Valley; (530) 274-8384 | LEE FIELDS & THE EXPRESSIONS, 8pm, $18-$22 | | | | TOMAS AND THE LIBRARY LADY, 7pm Tu, $8-$12; Music jam, 6:30pm M |
| **THE COZMIC CAFÉ**<br>594 Main St., Placerville; (530) 642-8481 | Open-mic, 7:30pm, no cover | CZ & HIS HIGHBEAMS, 8pm, $10 | | | |
| **DISTRICT 30**<br>1016 K St., (916) 737-5770 | DJs Ben Tension, Annext, Entec, Selli Sel, 9pm, call for cover | 24 Hour Beat The Drums To Help Beat Cancer, 5pm, call for cover | DJ Elements, 9pm, call for cover | | |
| **FACES**<br>2000 K St., (916) 448-7798 | | Hip-hop and Top 40 Deejay dancing, 9pm, $5-$10 | Hip-hop and Top 40 Deejay dancing, 9pm, $5-$10 | Dragalicious, 9pm, $5 | Queer Idol, 9pm M, no cover; Latin night, 9pm Tu, $5; DJ Alazzawi, 9pm W, $3 |
| **FOX & GOOSE**<br>1001 R St., (916) 443-8825 | THE MIKE JUSTIS BAND, 8pm, no cover | CARLY DUHAIN, OLYMPUS MONS, M. LOCKWOOD PORTER; 9pm, $5 | BIG STICKY MESS, BLACK STAR SAFARI, THE STORYTELLERS; 9pm, $5 | | Open-mic, 7:30pm M; Pub Quiz, 7pm Tu; Northern Soul, 8pm W, no cover |
| **G STREET WUNDERBAR**<br>228 G St., Davis; (530) 756-9227 | TOTAL RECALL, 9pm, no cover | | LIFT, ZEN ARCADIA, RACE TO THE BOTTOM; 9pm, no cover | | |
| **HALFTIME BAR & GRILL**<br>5681 Lonetree Blvd., Rocklin; (916) 632-8200 | | BIG GUNNS, 9pm-midnight, no cover | INNER SOUL, 9pm-midnight, no cover | | Trivia night, 7:30-9pm Tu, no cover |
| **HARLOW'S**<br>2708 J St., (916) 441-4693 | OCTOPUS PROJECT, PAPER LIONS, NAKIA; 9pm, $10 | TYRONE WELLS, AUTUMN SKY; 7pm, $18; MASSIVE DELICIOUS, 10pm, $10-$12 | LINDSEY PAVAO, HERO'S LAST MISSION; 7pm, $8-$10 | STELLAR, ALT RECLUSE, FATE UNDER FIRE, BREAKAWAY PATRIOT; 7pm, $5-$7 | UNKNOWN MORTAL ORCHESTRA, JACKSON SCOTT; 8pm W, $15-$18 |
| **LEVEL UP FOOD & LOUNGE**<br>2431 J St., (916) 448-8768 | Karaoke, 9pm, no cover | DJ Rock Bottom and The Mookie DJ, 9pm, no cover | | | Hip-hop and R&B deejay dancing, 9:16pm Tu, no cover |
| **LUNA'S CAFÉ & JUICE BAR**<br>1414 16th St., (916) 441-3931 | Joe Montoya's Poetry Unplugged, 8pm, $2 | JENN ROGAR, GARY MICHAEL WEINBERG, MARTY TATERS; 7pm, $5-$7 | | | Nebraska Mondays, 7:30pm M, $5-$20 ; Comedy night, 8pm W, $6 |
| **MARILYN'S ON K**<br>908 K St., (916) 446-4361 | Karaoke, 9pm, no cover | JUKEBOX JOHNNY, 9pm, $5 | STOUT REBELLION, WHISKEY AND STITCHES, THE PIKEYS; 7pm, $5 | | Karaoke, 8pm M; INCRUSTED DUST, PHAVIAN, ONE LEG CHUCK; 8pm W, $5 |
| **NAKED LOUNGE DOWNTOWN**<br>1111 H St., (916) 443-1927 | NARWAL, TRIKOME, FEED ME JACK; 8:30pm, $5 | ERIK SPENCER, MERRYGOLD; 8pm, $5 | FRANK GUTWEIN, BRIAN BENDER, LARISA BRYSKI; 8:30pm, $5 | | Jazz, 8pm M; CHOPSTICK, COBRA LIGHT, DIRTY BOOTS; 8:30pm W, $5 |


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$10 • 8pm





- September 20 -
TYRONE WELLS
Autumn Sky
$15ADV • 6pm

- September 20 -
ZUHGFEST
TICKET RELEASE PARTY
featuring Massive Delicious, Gigantis, Mac Russ
$10ADV • 10pm



- September 21 -
LINDSEY PAVAO
Hero's Last Mission
$8ADV • 6:30pm

- September 22 -
DOORS STELLAR
A TRIBUTE TO INCUBUS
The Alt/Recluse, Fate Under Fire, Breakaway Patriot (SF)
$12 • 7pm

- September 25 -
UNKOWN MORTAL ORCHESTRA
Jackson Scott • $15ADV • 8pm



- September 26 -
THE LEMONHEADS
$20ADV • 7pm



COMING SOON

| | |
|---|---|
| Sep 27 | EGG |
| Sep 28 | Kill the Precedent |
| Sep 29 | Sac Blues HOF Awards |
| Sep 29 | Indubious |
| Oct 02 | Everton Blender |
| Oct 03 | Iconoclast Robot |
| Oct 04 | Nicki Bluhm & The Gamblers |
| Oct 06 | Lee DeWyze |
| Oct 07 | NOT made in USA Tour |
| Oct 08 | The Winery Dogs |
| Oct 09 | Red Fang |
| Oct 11 | Wonderbread 5 |
| Oct 12 | Steelin' Dan |
| Oct 13 | Nicholas David |
| Oct 15 | Modern English |
| Oct 16 | Kylesa |
| Oct 20 | Karl Denson |

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BOBBY LEE
DJ MERVIN

THURSDAY 9/26 - SATURDAY 9/28
FROM FITZDOG RADIO AND CHELSEA LATELY!
GREG FITZSIMMONS
LARRY "BUBBLES" BROWN, LAURA ROSENBERG





SUNDAY 9/29
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NICO SANTOS

THURSDAY 10/3 - SUNDAY 10/6
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OPEN MIC
7PM // FREE

MON 09/23
KARAOKE
ROCK-N-ROLL // KARAOKE // 8PM // FREE

TUE 09/24
GSET
CLASSIC ROCK & BLUES REVIEW
8PM // FREE

WED 9/25
INCRUSTED DUST
PHAVIAN
ONE LEG CHUCK
ACOUSTIC ROCK // FUNKY REGGAE
SOULFUL BLUES // FOLK // 9PM

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| | THURSDAY 9/19 | FRIDAY 9/20 | SATURDAY 9/21 | SUNDAY 9/22 | MONDAY–WEDNESDAY 9/23-9/25 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OLD IRONSIDES**<br>1901 10th St., (916) 442-3504 | JENN ROGAR, 5pm, no cover | WILLIAM MYLAR, 5pm, no cover; THREAT CON RADIO, 8pm, $12 | Fascination: '80s new-wave dancing, 9:30pm, $5 | | Karaoke w/ Sac City Entertainment, 9pm Tu, no cover; Open-mic, 9pm W, no cover |
| **ON THE Y**<br>670 Fulton Ave., (916) 487-3731 | Karaoke, 9pm, no cover | CHILDREN OF LAMAYA, 9pm, call for cover | Karaoke, 9pm, no cover | Open-mic comedy, 9pm, no cover | Karaoke, 9pm Tu; THE DAWN CHOSE ORION, RAVENTHRONE; 7pm M, $5 |
| **THE PALMS PLAYHOUSE**<br>13 Main St., Winters; (530) 795-1825 | JAMES HARMAN'S BAMBOO PORCH REVIEW, 8pm, $20 | THE BILLS, 8:30pm, $20 | THE IGUANAS, 8:30pm, $20 | | |
| **PINE COVE TAVERN**<br>502 29th St., (916) 446-3624 | Karaoke, 9pm-1:30am, no cover | Karaoke, 9pm-1:30am, no cover | Karaoke, 9pm-1:30am, no cover | CORY NORRIS, 8-10pm, no cover | Open-mic, 10pm-1am Tu, no cover; Trivia, 9-10pm W, no cover |
| **PINS N STRIKES**<br>3443 Laguna Blvd., Elk Grove; (916) 226-2625 | | CASE, 8:30pm, $20-$30 | MIDNIGHT PLAYERS, 9pm, $10 | | |
| **PJ'S ROADHOUSE**<br>5461 Mother Lode, Placerville; (530) 626-0336 | DJ Michael Johnson, 9pm, no cover | GRAVESHADOW, 9pm, $5 | GREAT OGLEE MOGLEE, 9pm, $5 | | |
| **POWERHOUSE PUB**<br>614 Sutter St., Folsom; (916) 355-8586 | ACES UP, 9pm, call for cover | 8 TRACK MASSACRE, 10pm, call for cover | | CHRIS CAIN, 3pm, call for cover | Country Karaoke, 9pm M, call for cover; DJ Alazzawi, DJ Rigatony, 10pm Tu, $3 |
| **THE PRESS CLUB**<br>2030 P St., (916) 444-7914 | PSYCHOSOMATIC, SOLANUM, TRIAL BY COMBAT; 9pm, no cover | Top 40 w/ DJ Rue, 9pm, $5 | Top 40 Night w/ DJ Larry Rodriguez, 9pm, $5 | Sunday Night Soul Party, 9pm, $5 | AVENUE SAINTS, 8pm M, $5; Grimey, Tu; MUSICAL CHARIS, STEEL CRANES; W, $5 |
| **SAMMY'S ROCKIN' ISLAND**<br>238 Vernon St., Roseville; (916) 773-7625 | JOHNNY O AND THE BLUE FO, 8pm, $5 | BOYS OF SUMMER, 10pm, $5 | WILDFLOWERS, 10pm, $5 | | Comedy showcase, 8:30pm W, $5 |
| **SOL COLLECTIVE**<br>2574 21st St., (916) 832-0916 | | | EL INDIO, spoken-word poetry, 2pm, call for cover | | Microphone Mondays, 6pm M, $1-$2 |
| **SOPHIA'S THAI KITCHEN**<br>129 E St., Davis; (530) 758-4333 | BEN LEWIS, CASEY NEILL & THE NORWAY RATS; 9:30pm, $5 | ROSE WINDOWS, JEFERTITTI'S NILE; 9:30pm, $5 | MINER, LAUREN COLE NORTON, WARSHIPS; 9pm, $5 | | |
| **SWABBIES**<br>5871 Garden Hwy, (916) 920-8088 | | URBANFIRE, SIMPLE CREATION; 6-10pm, $5 | SKYNNYN LYNNYRD, 4-8pm, call for cover | BEER DAWGS, 3-7pm, $10 | |
| **TORCH CLUB**<br>904 15th St., (916) 443-2797 | X TRIO, 5pm, no cover; RELIC 45, 9pm, $5 | PAILER AND FRATIS, 5:30-7:30pm, no cover; JOY & MADNESS, 9pm, $10 | CAMPFIRE CROONERS, 5:30pm, no cover; MR. DECEMBER, 9pm, $8 | Blues jam, 4pm, no cover; THE GOLDEN CADILLACS, 8pm, $5 | ISLAND OF BLACK & WHITE, 8pm Tu, $5; KERI CARR BAND, MATT BRADFORD; W |
| **All ages, all the time** | | | | | |
| **ACE OF SPADES**<br>1417 R St., (916) 448-3300 | IRATION, THROUGH THE ROOTS, FORTUNATE YOUTH, MICAH BROWN; 6pm, $18 | TERRAPLANE SUN, TIJUANA TEARS; 7pm, $7 | IAMSU, KOOL JOHN, JAY ANT, PLAYAH K; 7pm, $18 | | TECH N9NE, KRIZZ KALIKO, MAYDAY, STEVE STONE, PROZAK; 6pm W, $39.95 |
| **BEATNIK STUDIOS**<br>2421 17th St., (916) 443-5808 | THE SCOTT BARNHILL QUARTET, 7pm, call for cover | | | | |
| **LUIGI'S SLICE AND FUN GARDEN**<br>1050 20th St., (916) 552-0317 | KEPI GHOULIE, MISS CHAIN & THE BROKEN HEELS, DOG PARTY, PETS; 8pm, $6 | | | | |
| **SHINE**<br>1400 E St., (916) 551-1400 | | JONATHAN JONES, ZACK GREY, STANLEY BARRYMORE, JAKE ABBOTT; 8pm, $5 | LAVA PUPS, THE FUNICELLOS; 8pm, $5 | Indie Craft Fair, 11am-5pm, no cover | Open jazz jam w/ Jason Galbraith, 8pm Tu; Poetry with Bill Gainer, 7pm W |



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**with Hero's Last Mission**
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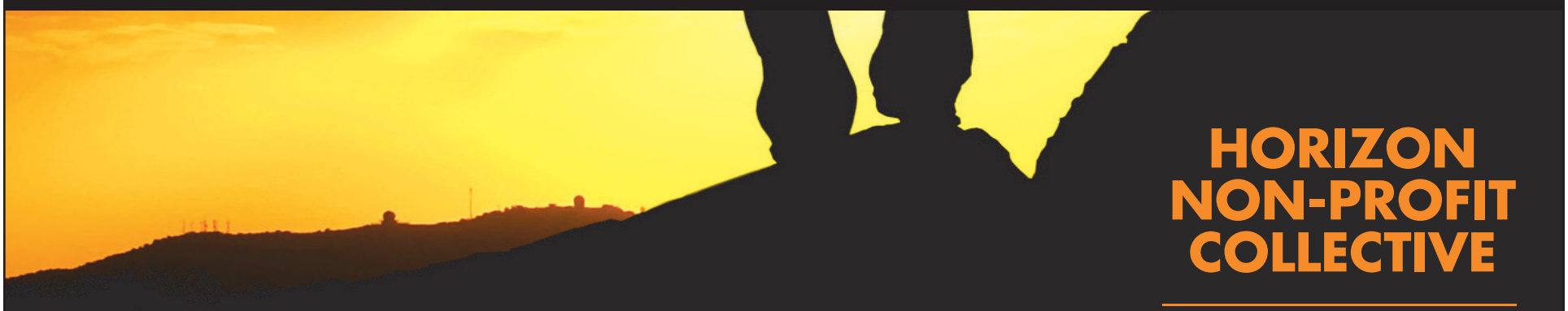
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# Capitol's cannabis fail

**I heard there was a last-minute effort to fix medical marijuana at the Capitol last week?**

**—Medical Matt**



by NGAIO BEALUM

ask420@newsreview.com

Alas, Assembly Bill 604 is dead for now. It's a shame.

The feds have practically given weed the green light, provided that states enact strong regulation. That's why Colorado and Washington are proceeding.

A.B. 604 would have put medical marijuana under the auspices of the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control board, plus a few other things to create a comprehensive, statewide medical-marijuana policy. The Legislature tried to get it passed just before the session ended, but the bill couldn't get to the floor for a vote. Insert "stoners do everything at the last minute" joke here.

The bill faced opposition from the California Narcotics Officers' Association and other law-enforcement organizations.

Let's talk about that for a moment. How do the police get a say in this? When I first started talking to police about cannabis, they would say to me, "If you don't like the law, get it changed." So we did. We have changed the laws, and the police still complain about weed and fight us at every turn. Why?

**When I first started talking to police about cannabis, they would say to me, "If you don't like the law, get it changed." So we did.**

Every study done in the past few years shows that well-run medical-cannabis dispensaries are not targets for crime and actually make neighborhoods safer. So, why are the police trying to keep it illegal?

It has to be about the money. If marijuana is no longer a crime, the cops stand to lose millions of dollars. Like Upton Sinclair said, "It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his job depends on not understanding it." It's a form of willful ignorance. Maybe if we earmarked portions of a marijuana tax to the police, they would stop being so obstinate.

The bill may be reintroduced in January 2014. In the meantime, you should hammer your elected representatives—2014 is coming soon, and many of them will be up for re-election. This is the perfect time to let them know they need to be part of the solution.

**Ngaio Bealum** is a Sacramento comedian, activist and marijuana expert. Email him questions at ask420@newsreview.com.

**I'm super excited about the progress being made toward marijuana decriminalization, and I recently contributed to National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws to help in their efforts for legalization. I'm thinking about making another financial contribution for the cause and was wondering if this is the best place to help, or are there other organizations making headway?**

**—Atlas**

Thank you for helping. NORML is good place to start. I also like Americans for Safe Access (www.safeaccess now.org), Marijuana Policy Project (www.mpp.org) and Drug Policy Alliance (www.drugpolicy.org). All of these groups have proven themselves time and time again to be staunch and successful drug-law reformers. I wish more people would put their money and time into undoing marijuana prohibition. It seems like a small thing to do, but the effects would be wide-ranging and beneficial. □

Bring in any competitor's coupon and we'll beat it by $5

Must present competitor's ad. Some restrictions apply.

VOTED 3RD BEST 420 PHYSICIAN IN SAC!

Best SN&R THIRD PLACE '13



Sacramento 420 Doc

MEDICAL MARIJUANA EVALUATIONS

SUMMER COMPASSION SPECIAL

$34 RENEWALS

Must bring ad. Limit one per patient. Some restrictions apply.

$44 NEW PATIENTS

Must bring ad. Limit one per patient. Some restrictions apply.

916.480.9000

2 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

2100 Watt Ave, Unit 190 | Sacramento, CA 95825 | Mon–Sat 11am–7pm

2633 Telegraph Ave. 109 | Oakland, CA 94612 | 510-832-5000 | Mon–Sat 10am–5pm

RECOMMENDATIONS ARE VALID FOR 1 YEAR FOR QUALIFYING PATIENTS

WALK-INS WELCOME ALL DAY EVERYDAY

YOUR INFORMATION IS 100% PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT ONLINE 24/7 AT

www.Sac420Doc.com

# TOP DOC

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**$25 RENEWALS**
expires 10.03.13

**$35 NEW PATIENT**
expires 10.03.13

TAKECARE215.COM

**GROWERS REC's ...**
Weight and Plant Limit Upgrades Available to Qualifying Patients

****BEST VALUE**
**33P Limit!**
1 LB AUTHORIZED $50

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**99P Limit!**
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916.572.5215




721 N. B St., Sacto, CA 95811

OPEN: Mon-Fri 11am-6pm | Sat 12pm-4pm
WALKINS WELCOME ANYTIME!

****GROWERS RECIEVE A FREE MEDICAL MARIJUANA CARD AND LAMINATED CERTIFICATE; NO ADDITIONAL COST!**



# Cloud 9

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

MEDICAL CANNABIS COLLECTIVE
$35 CAP ON 1/8THS | $5 & $10 GRAMS
WIDE VARIETY OF EDIBLES
5711 FLORIN PERKINS RD | SACRAMENTO, 95828 |
916.387.8605 | OPEN 10AM – 8PM 7 DAYS A WEEK
420101 WeedMaps Leafly



# Get Your Recommendation!

North Of Hwy 50 @ Bradshaw & Folsom Blvd

RENEWALS
**$40**
W/ COUPON EXP. 09/25/13 SNR

NEW PATIENT
**$50**
W/ COUPON EXP. 09/25/13 SNR

Photo ID Available for $15

Thank you for voting for us
Best SN&R SECOND PLACE '13

- Mon-Sat 10am-6pm
  Sun 11am-5pm
- Physician Evaluations
- 24/7 Online Verification
- Walk-Ins / Appts
- Cultivators Welcome




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sweetdeals

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SN&R

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GET 1
FREE!

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- FREE PRE-ROLL FOR NEW PATIENTS w/ min donation
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Sun closed




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- SACRAMENTO NEWS AND REVIEW READERS' POLL -

Best SN&R FIRST PLACE '11 | Best SN&R FIRST PLACE '12 | Best SN&R FIRST PLACE '13

THANK YOU FOR VOTING FOR US!

## 420 MED EVALUATIONS

GROW LETTERS FOR QUALIFIED PATIENTS

NEW PATIENTS with copy of ad. **$55**

RENEWALS with copy of ad. **$45**

**WILL PRICE MATCH ANY LOCAL CLINIC THAT IS CA MEDICAL BOARD STANDARDS COMPLIANT**

GET APPROVED OR NO CHARGE! 24/7 VERIFICATIONS!
HIPAA COMPLIANT
100% DOCTOR/PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY
BE SEEN BY A REAL M.D. THE WAY SB 420 INTENDED. NO SKYPE B.S.!

**DOWNTOWN SACRAMENTO**
2015 Q STREET, 95811 • (916) 476-6142
OPEN MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY 11AM TO 6PM
CLOSED SUNDAY
VALID THROUGH 09/30/13






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**NOW ACCEPTING** NEW PATIENTS | **FREE GIFT** FOR NEW PATIENTS

**OUR MEDICINE IS LAB TESTED**
FOR CANNABINOID LEVELS & CONTAMINANTS LIKE MOLD, MILDEW, & PESTICIDES FOR YOUR SAFETY

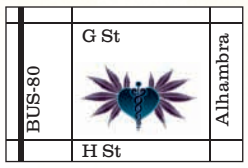
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**Sacramento, CA**
**916.822.4717**




**HOURS:** 12pm–9pm everyday

*Doctor's recommendation & CA I.D. required

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The Sacramento Chapter of ASA
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SEQUOIA ANALYTICAL LAB



SN&R

# sweet deals

www.newsreview.com

# MASSAGE THERAPISTS

All massage advertisers are required to provide News & Review a current valid business license or somatic establishment permit issued by either the city or county in which they are operating in in order to run a printed advertisement.

SN&R Sacramento News & Review

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING WITH US, PLEASE CONTACT CLASSIFIEDS AT 916-498-1234 EXT. 1338.


$10 OFF
SWEDISH · DEEP TISSUE
REFLEXOLOGY · SHOWERS
STEAM ROOM · GIFT CERTIFICATES
WALK-INS WELCOME
OPEN MON–SAT 10-9 · SUN 1-8
8075 GREENBACK LANE
916.726.0451
WWW.MASSAGEALWAYSPERFECT.COM
Always Perfect Massage

ANNA MASSAGE
new staff

This is a model
Thai • Swedish
Showers Available
Walk-ins Welcome
Gift Certificates Available
M-F 9am-9pm
Sat/Sun 11am-9pm
Closed Wednesdays
916.429.7270
1355 Florin Rd, Ste.13
Sacramento, CA 95822

Full body massage · Deep tissue · Swedish · Hot stone · Hot oil · Back walking
9am-10pm 7 days a week
$30/30min $40/60min

These are models
YOU'LL FIND WHAT YOU NEED HERE!
Fashion Massage
11275 Folsom Blvd. #201 · Rancho Cordova
916-851-1118

PROFESSIONAL & ATTENTIVE
MASSAGE FOLSOM
$40 1 HOUR

This is a model
13405 Folsom Blvd #140 | Folsom, CA
916.985.9888 | 9:30am – 10pm Daily

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

These are models
FOOT MASSAGE | BODY MASSAGE
Granite Bay Massage
8715 Auburn Folsom Road | Granite Bay
916.791.1177 | 9:30am–10pm daily

GRAND OPENING
certified + professional massage
$5 OFF with coupon

This is a model
tui na, full body, hot oil, back walking, cupping, deep tissue, swedish, shower available, hot stone
5841 Fair Oaks Blvd Unit B • Carmichael
916-640-8898 • 10am-9pm Daily

THE BEST MASSAGE YOU CAN GET
$5 OFF

· 7 Days a Week 10am–10pm
· Sauna & Shower Available
· Free Chinese therapies
· Reflexology
· Deep Tissue
· Swedish
*this is a model
GOOD DAY SPA
916.395.7712 Sacramento 95823
7271 55th St. #D
All Credit Cards Accepted

BH SPA Massage

$39.99 for 1hr
FREE Table Shower
Chinese Style Massage
7 days a week • 10 am to 9 pm
(916) 726-1166
7530 Auburn Blvd Ste D • Citrus Heights

Certified Massage Practitioner Maggie

3210 FULTON AVE
916.487.8241 / OPEN 9AM-10PM

Massage Therapy

Combination Massage
Open Daily
10am - 10:30pm
Walk-Ins &
Couples Welcome
New Massage Therapist $5 OFF w/ ad
This is a model
Violet Massage
3260 J St #A
Sacramento 95816
(916) 442-1888
Flamingo Massage
2264 Fair Oaks Blvd #102
Sacramento 95825
(916) 646-1888

GRAND OPENING
10% OFF
{with this ad}
free table shower
deep tissue
swedish
gentle massage
reflexology pain treatment
Accepting all Credit Cards

This is a model
HEAVENLY MASSAGE
1730 Santa Clara Dr #3 | Roseville 95661
10am – 10pm Daily | 916.781.2828

Good Massage
Grand Opening

Free Table Shower
$5 OFF w/ad
This is a model
Swedish Deep Tissue • Healing Integrated Herbal Oil for Pain Relief • Feet Reflexology
916.688.9626 • 8876 Vintage Park Dr #103, Sacramento
7 days a week 10am -10pm
Access • Mastercard • Visa • American Express • Discover

New Massage Therapist
$39.99/hr

This is a model
Free Table Shower
Combination Massage
Couples Room Avail.
Chinese Cupping
Rainbow Massage Therapy
3000 Arden Way #3, Sacramento (Near Morse Ave)
916-979-1188 • 10am-10pm daily

GREEN JADE
MASSAGE THERAPY
NEW STAFF

ACCUPRESSURE
DEEP TISSUE
SWEDISH
2860 FLORIN ROAD
SACRAMENTO 95822
DAILY 9AM-9PM
916.231.9498

# MASSAGE THERAPISTS

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SN&R Sacramento News & Review

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Vibrational
TANTRIC MASSAGE



ANTELOPE
9AM-9PM
DAILY
$80+
Ann, CMT
916-722-7777
SPA & BODY SHAMPOO
PRIVATE 29 - JET SPA



XT MASSAGE SPA



1 HR = $40
½ HR= $30

80 AUBURN GARFIELD MADISON

FREE TABLE SHOWER
5412 MADISON AVE #160 • SACRAMENTO 95841
916.331.6188 • 10AM–10PM DAILY



Special
$35/one hour
one coupon per customer. cannot be combined with any other offers.
10am - 10pm daily
Golden Massage
916.481.3388
4783 Manzanita Ave
Carmichael 95608
Happy Massage
916.983.5588
418 E. Bidwell St
Folsom 95630



this is a model


# CLASSIFIEDS

Print ads start at $6/wk.
www.newsreview.com or
(916) 498-1234 ext. 5

Online ads are STILL FREE!*

Phone hours: M-F 9am-5pm.
All ads post online same day.
Deadlines for print:
Line ad deadline: Monday 4pm
Adult line ad deadline: Monday 4pm
Display ad deadline: Friday 2pm

*Nominal fee for adult entertainment.
All advertising is subject to the newspaper's Standards of Acceptance. Further, the News & Review specifically reserves the right to edit, decline or properly classify any ad. Errors will be rectified by re-publication upon notification. The N&R is not responsible for error after the first publication. The N&R assumes no financial liability for errors or omission of copy. In any event, liability shall not exceed the cost of the space occupied by such an error or omission. The advertiser and not the newspaper assumes full responsibility for the truthful content of their advertising message.

## jobs& training

**$$$HELP WANTED$$$**
Extra Income! Assembling CD cases from Home! No Experience Necessary! Call our Live Operators Now! 800-405-7619 EXT 2450 www.easywork-greatpay.com (AAN CAN)

**AIRLINE CAREERS** begin here - Get trained as FAA certified Aviation Technician. Housing & Financial aid for qualified students. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-492-3059 (AAN CAN)

**ENGINEERING**
Emulex Design and Manufacturing Corp. seeks Engineer in Roseville, CA to test and qualify storage solutions on operating systems incl. Unix, Linux, and Windows. MS+1 yr exp req. or BS+5 yrs. Resumes Attn: HR, Emulex 2560 N. 1st St. #300, San Jose, CA 95131-refer job code: SS-01.

**Help Wanted!**
Make extra money in our free ever popular homemailer program, includes valuable guidebook! Start immediately! Genuine! 1-888-292-1120 www.easywork-fromhome.com (AAN CAN)

## music corner

**Smooth Jazz Band** under reconstruction. The door is open for an upright bass & saxophonist. For appt call 916-362-1983

**Learn Sax or Clairnet** from experienced professional player and CA credential teacher. Positive no-pressure method. Any age, any level. Horn rental avail. 530-889-2310.

## rentals & real estate

**SPECIAL 1/1 2/2**
Nice, CH&A, patios, pool & laundry. 4735 College Oak www.Sacramento-Rentals.com 916-692-0246 $45-$795

**ALL AREAS ROOMMATES.COM**
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: http://www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

## mind body&spirit

**FREE Movie Night**
Meatless Organic Potluck Lunch. Screening The Secret. Sept 22 2-4pm @ the Cabin RSVP Citrus Heights 916-729-0103

**Tired of being oveweight?**
Lose weight now. Ask me how. 2-5 pounds weekly with natural herbal products. Free follow-up. 916-330-2721 408-507-5024

**$40 1-hour**
**Chinese full body massage. Natomas area (916-706-4890) appt only.**

**Oriental Magic Hands**
Jason Shimomura CMT
**601-1292 (9am-9pm daily)**

**HEAVENLY TOUCH MASSAGE**
**Whatever your going through, make it better today. Drape yourself in an heavenly way. $35/hr**
**916-372-7334**
**916-599-9588**
**in & out calls 9-9**

**Daisy's Touch**
www.head2toecatering.com
**916-752-4782**

**Tandem (2 therapists in 1 session)** Pacific style massage. 2hr $120. Family friendly, fluent english, therapeutic, clinical avail. & relaxing. Certified massage therapist. 916-206-9652

**Vibrational Massage**
Private 29-Jet Spa
Ann 916-722-7777 CMT

**Deep Tissue Male Massage Therapist** Not sensual, not sexual. Out calls. 10 years exp. 916-583-2459

**Delightful massage!**
Special rates for seniors. Private upscale home w/ shower. By appt only in Fair Oaks (Sunset & Minnesota).
***82-916-961-3830**

**The Cabin**
**Get a Great Massage!**
**Sauna & Spa**
**Citrus Heights**
**916-729-0103**

**VIAGRA 100MG**
40 pills+/4 free, only $99.00. Save Big Now, Discreet shipping. Call 1-800-374-2619 Today! (AAN CAN)

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**Notice of caution to our Readers!**
Whenever doing business by telephone or email proceed with caution when cash or credit is required in advance of services.

**PREGNANT? THINKING OF ADOPTION?** Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families Nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 866-413-6293. Void in Illinois/New Mexico/Indiana (AAN CAN)

**Want to make $1000 per week?**
Need 100 people to start now!
Call 916-467-4DEE

**KILL ROACHES**
Buy Harris Roach Tablets. Eliminate Roaches-Guaranteed. No Mess, Odorless, Long Lasting. Available at Ace Hardware, The Home Depot, homedepot.com (AAN CAN)

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Same day free pick up. Cash on the spot. 916-992-5447

**CASH FOR CARS: Any Car/Truck.**
Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 www.cash4car.com (AAN CAN)

## adult

### ESCORTS

**Let Me Help You Take A Load Off** Sexy Hottie. Young, petite beauty 5'4", 118 lbs, 34C, lt brown eyes. Let me show you what I can do for you. Don't hesitate to call. Raina 916-286-9454

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**Absolute Deluxe Massage** Red Crystal Red Lace Massage. $70 for 2 hours, Incall also, outcalls always. Great hands with a great girl. Marvelous lemon or plain oils. In call special $38. Call til late 916-256-7093

**Be touched!**
She puts the Mmm in Sensual Massage. Upper thigh massage included. Daily/Nightly appts until 3am 916-256-7093

**Slow & Extremely Seductive** Come enjoy a body shakin', leg tremblin' experience in an upscale private loc. with a licensed CMT. Loc. Natomas. 916-678-9926

***IN THE MOOD* MEN'S TEMPTATIONS**
Pleasurable & Irresistible Massage. Softest hands ever. Strawberry blonde 31 yr old, 5'6" 135 lbs, slender, very pretty CMT.
**4pm-11pm Incall/Outcall Bailey 916-910-8907 by appt. Mon-Fri**

**FULL BODY MASSAGE**
Come spend some time with a petite sensual blonde in my serene discreet home. Convenient location. Ask for Specials 916-812-5330

### PHONE ENTERTAINMENT

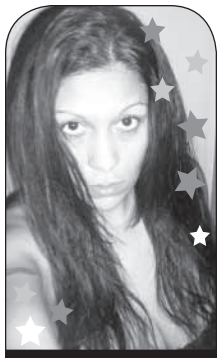
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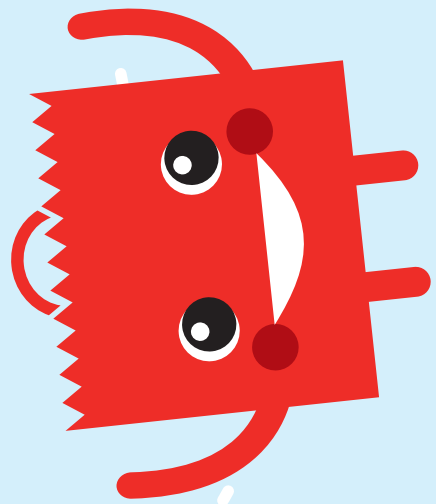
MASSAGE
Come enjoy a relaxing full-body massage with me at my home.
916-628-8217
Open 7 days a week
11am – 10pm







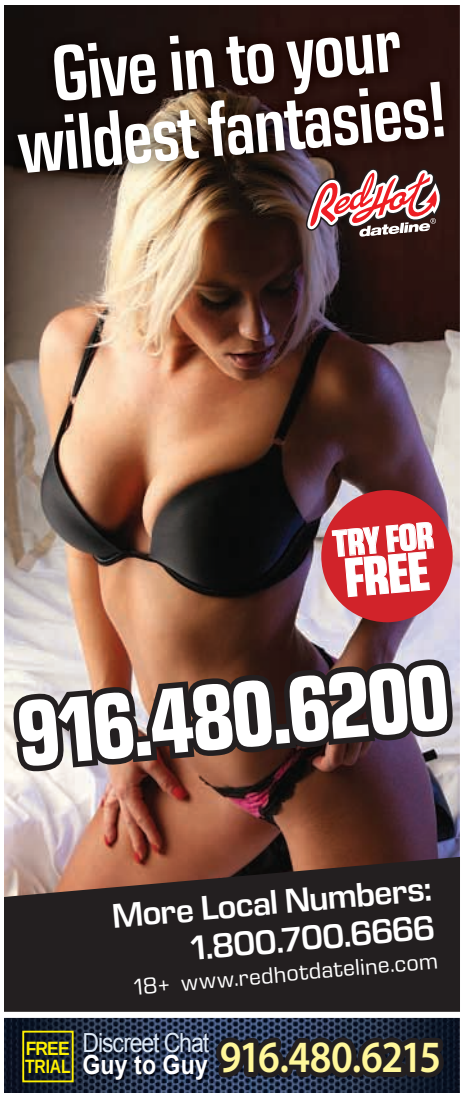

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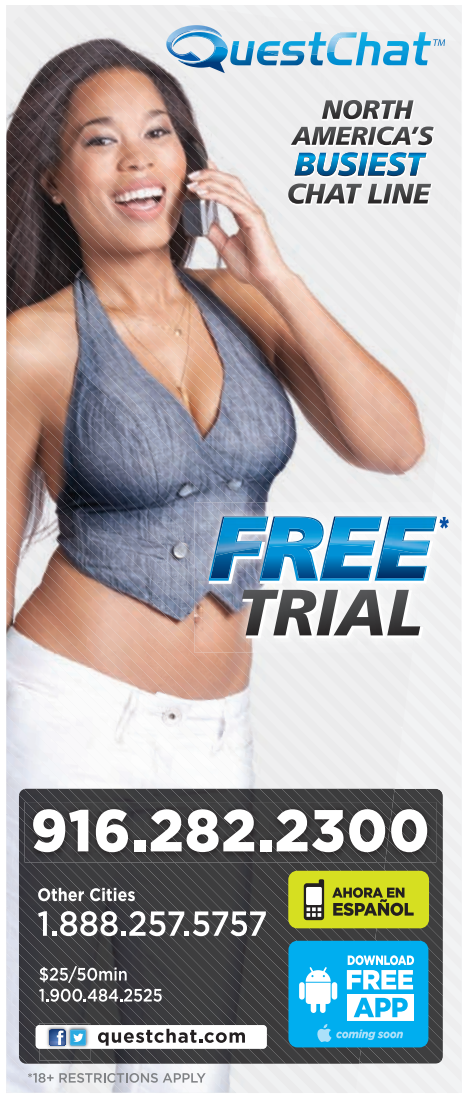



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SN&R


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BAR & CIGARS
Free Drink WITH AD!
Carson City, Nevada
4 miles East of 395
WHERE THERE'S ALWAYS A BUNNY ON YOUR BAR STOOL!


PUREGOLD SHOWGIRLS
Fantasy Booth
OPEN 2PM
TOTALLY NUDE
STORE OPEN 10am
CLUB OPEN 5pm
5 PACK DVDs $9.69
W/COUPON REG. $12.69
AD EXPIRES 10-31-13
1 PER CUSTOMER
$8 ADMISSION BETWEEN 5PM-7PM EVERY DAY
DVD'S AT $3.69
GLASS PIPES $6.69
$10 DANCES ALL NITE
THIS IS A MODEL
DANCER AUDITIONS DAILY
VISIT OUR GREAT DANCER BOUTIQUE...
VOTED BEST PRICES BY DANCERS
616.6060 DANCERS SHOES: $19.69
LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED
3000 SUNRISE BLVD. #2
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA
916.631.3520

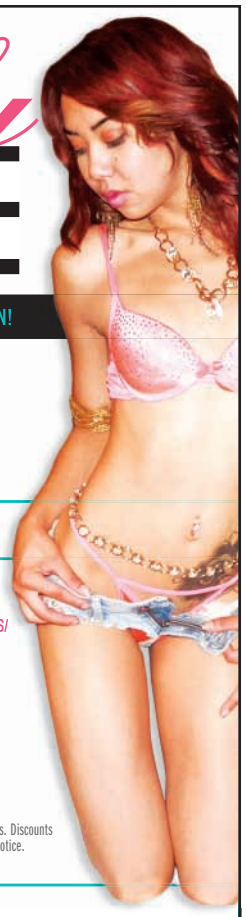

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*18+ RESTRICTIONS APPLY


$5 OFF ADMISSION
WITH COUPON
VALID AFTER 6PM. NOT VALID WITH OTHER DISCOUNTS OR SPECIALS.
Sunday: Check in on Facebook for free admission
Monday: Military Monday - $5 admission with Military ID
Tuesday: Naughty Couple Tuesday - 2 for 1 admission for couples
Wednesday: Totally Naked Retro Party
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FREE ADULT DVD W/ THIS AD
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VOTED CLUB CHAIN OF THE YEAR
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W/ THIS AD / WHERE THE PARTY NEVER ENDS®
* EXPIRES 10.31.13 SAC NEWS SUBECT TO MINIMUMS NOT VALID FOR SPECIAL EVENTS
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WWW.DEJAVU.COM

# Totally NUDE



LONGEST TABLE DANCE SONGS IN TOWN!

**MAD MONDAYS**
$5 TOPLESS TABLE DANCES
EVERY HOUR

**2-4-1 TUESDAY**
2-4-1 DVD / TABLE DANCES
$10 LAPDANCES ALL NIGHT

**WEDNESDAYS COLLEGE/MILITARY NIGHT**
$10 COVER WITH VALID
COLLEGE / MILITARY ID

**THURSDAYS**
TOP 40 VIDEO MIXING, OPEN POOL
TABLE CHALLENGE, NO CHARGE

**FANTASY FRIDAYS**
LIVE TOP 40 VJ MIX

**SEDUCTIVE SATURDAYS**
LIVE TOP 40 VJ MIX

**SUNDAYS**
INDUSTRY NIGHT
$5 COVER WITH PROOF

**FOOD SERVED**
ALL DAY & NIGHT

**NEW DANCERS**
NO STAGE FEES 1 MONTH!!

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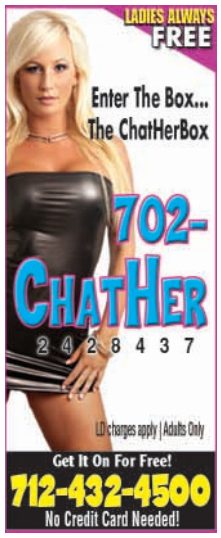


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# FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

For the week of **September 19, 2013** by **ROB BREZSNY**

**ARIES** (March 21–April 19): "If Taylor Swift is going to have six breakups a year," observed comedian Bill Maher, "she needs to write a new song entitled 'Maybe It's Me.'" He was referring to Swift's habit of using her romantic misadventures to stimulate her lyric-writing creativity. With that as your prompt, Aries, I'll ask you to do some soul-searching about your own intimacy issues. How have you contributed to the problems you've had in getting the love and care you want? What unconscious behavior or conditioned responses have undermined your romantic satisfaction, and what could you do to transform them? The next eight weeks will be prime time to revolutionize your approach to relationships.

**TAURUS** (April 20–May 20): Philosopher Alan Watts used to talk about how the whole world is wiggling all the time. Clouds, trees, sky, water, human beings: Everything's constantly shimmying and jiggling and waggling. One of our problems, Watts said, is that we're "always trying to straighten things out." We feel nagging urges to deny or cover up or eliminate the wiggling. "Be orderly," we command reality. "Be neat and composed and predictable." But reality never obeys. It's forever doing what it does best: flickering and fluctuating and flowing. In accordance with astrological omens, Taurus, I encourage you to rebel against any natural tendencies you might have to fight the eternal wiggle. Instead, celebrate it. Rejoice in it. Align yourself with it.

**GEMINI** (May 21–June 20): Author Elaine Scarry defines "the basic impulse underlying education" as follows: the "willingness continually to revise one's own location in order to place oneself in the path of beauty." Consider making this your modus operandi in the coming weeks, Gemini. Always be on the lookout for signs that beauty is near. Do research to find out where beauty might be hiding, and where beauty is ripening. Learn all you can about what kinds of conditions attract beauty, and then create those conditions. Finally, hang around people who are often surrounded by beauty. This approach will be an excellent way to further your education.

**CANCER** (June 21–July 22): "Life is either always a tight-rope or a feather bed. Give me the tight-rope." So declared writer Edith Wharton. But she was an Aquarius and more temperamentally suited to the tight-rope. Many of you Cancerians, on the other hand, prefer to emphasize the feather-bed mode. I suspect that in the next nine months, however, you will be willing and even eager to spend more time on the tight-rope than is customary for you. To get primed for the excitement, I suggest you revel in some intense feather-bed action in the coming weeks. Charge up your internal batteries with an extra-special deluxe regimen of sweet self-care.

**LEO** (July 23–Aug. 22): Half of a truth is better than no truth at all, right? Wrong! If you latch on to the partially accurate story, you may stop looking for the rest of the story. And then you're liable to make a premature decision based on insufficient data. The better alternative is to reject the partially accurate story and be willing to wait around in the dark until the complete revelation comes. That may be uncomfortable for a while. But when the full truth finally straggles in, you will be very glad you didn't jump to unripe conclusions.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): A Chinese entrepreneur named Nin Nan dreamed up a unique way to generate capital: He sold dead mosquitoes online for a dollar apiece, advertising them as useful for scientific research and decoration. Within two days, he received 10,000 orders. Let's make him your patron saint and role model for the next few weeks, Virgo. May he inspire you to come up with novel ways to stimulate your cash flow. The planetary omens suggest that your originality is more likely than usual to generate concrete rewards.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): "The most important thing is to find out what the most important thing is," wrote Shunryu Suzuki in his book *Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind.* That's your assignment for the next three weeks. Do whatever it takes to find out beyond any doubt what the most important thing is. Meditate naked an hour a day. Go on long walks in the wildest places you know. Convene intense conversations about yourself with the people who know you best. Create and sign a contract with yourself in which you vow to identify the experience you want more than any other experience on Earth. No waffling allowed, Libra. What is the single most important thing?

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): Sometime in the next nine months you may feel moved to embark on an adventure that will transform the way you understand reality. Maybe you will choose to make a pilgrimage to a sacred sanctuary or wander further away from your familiar comforts than you ever have before. Right now is an excellent time to brainstorm about the possibilities. If you don't feel ready to actually begin your quest, at least formulate a master plan for the magic moment when you will be ripe.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): In the indigenous culture of Hawaii, *mana* refers to a spiritual power that may abide in people, objects and natural locations. You can acquire more of it by acting with integrity and excellence, but you might lose some of it if your actions are careless or unfocused. For instance, a healer who does a mediocre job of curing her patients could lose the mana that made her a healer in the first place. I believe that similar principles hold true for non-Hawaiians. All of us have an ever-shifting relationship with the primal life force. What's the current state of your own personal supply, Sagittarius? It's time to make sure you're taking full advantage of the mana you have been blessed with. Your motto: "Use it or lose it."

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): Have you been getting enough? I doubt it. I think you should sneak a peek into the hiding place where your insatiable cravings are stored. If you're brave enough, also take a look at your impossible demands and your unruly obsessions and your suppressed miracles. Please note: I'm not suggesting that you immediately unleash them all; I don't mean you should impulsively instigate an adventure that could possibly quench your ravenous yearnings. But I do believe you will benefit from becoming better acquainted with them. You could develop a more honest relationship, which would ultimately make them more trustworthy.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Don't tape your thumbs to your hands and stalk around pretending to be a dinosaur. Don't poke three holes in a large plastic garbage bag and wear it as a tunic while imagining that you are a feudal serf in a post-apocalyptic, sci-fi dystopia. Don't use a felt-tip marker to draw corporate logos on your face to show everyone what brands of consumer goods you love. To be clear: I would love you to be extravagantly creative. I hope you will use your imagination in novel ways as you have fun playing with experimental scenarios. But please exercise a modicum of discernment as you wander way outside the box. Be at least 20 percent practical.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19–March 20): "Take a lover who looks at you like maybe you are magic," said the poet Marty McConnell. That's good advice, Pisces—not just in regards to your intimate relationships, but about all your other alliances, too. If you're seeking a friend or consultant or business partner or jogging companion or new pet, show a preference for those creatures who look at you like maybe you are magic. You always need to be appreciated for the sweet mystery and catalytic mojo you bring to your partnerships, but you especially need that acknowledgment now.

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# 15 MINUTES

by **CODY DRABBLE**

# The need for speed

Guitar shredder extraordinaire **Randall Padilla** teaches guitar lessons in Sacramento and hosts Modesto Advanced Guitar Instruction, or MAGI for short, a popular music-instruction YouTube series. Padilla once claimed the Guinness World Records' title for **fastest guitar player** in 2010, but decided against providing the required documentation needed for verification because, he says, the speed-picking stunt demonstrates very little musical ability. Guinness no longer recognizes that particular record, because it became too difficult to measure, as it was broken several times per year. No worries—Padilla says he did it just to get noticed. Still, as a deeply spiritual man, Padilla says he's turned down sponsorship deals from guitar-equipment companies that promote an irresponsible, party-hard lifestyle. Padilla recently put down his guitar long enough to talk to SN&R about technique, teaching and the song inside his heart.



PHOTO BY LISA BAETZ

### Are you really the world's fastest guitar player?

For the year 2010, yes. Each year, someone ends up breaking it. It's a very, very competitive global event.

### How did you decide that you wanted to break the record for being the world's fastest guitar player?

I'd seen [the 2008 YouTube video of] Tiago Della Vega's "Flight of the Bumblebee," [which depicted Vega setting the world's fastest guitarist-playing record]. I did the math. ... I was like, "Wait a minute that's only 21.3 notes per second. That's jogging speed." I can hit 24 easy, on a good day. So, I did the video, submitted it [and] did the Guinness paperwork. I broke [the record] three times in 2010 [by playing] 22 notes per second. [Then,] 23.5, then 26.5.

### Can the human ear even detect guitar playing that fast?

We can't accurately determine it; you need a computer. That's how I did mine, with a computer [running a digital-metronome software] in front of [Daniel Ferreira from the Modesto Symphony, who trained at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music].

### Have you tried to break the latest record?

No. I just wanted the worldwide fame and acknowledgment to redirect [toward my music career]. As soon as I broke it the third time, I told them to abandon all three claims.

### Why did you abandon all three claims?

Music is far, far more than playing fast. Fast is just a byproduct of proper study and technique.

### What is your technique? Is it speed picking or speed fingering or both?

It's both, and it's really determined upon the [picking] hand. A lot of people who play guitar pick a string that's 0.010-of-an-inch thick, and they go a half-inch on the downstroke, but you still have to go a half-inch to get back to the string. I'm just trying to rub the string. Economy of motion, no wasted motion.

### How did you start playing music?

I was a nerd. I wore high-water pants in the '80s. I had bad acne and a backpack. I thought, the only way to break out of that is to really be cool. In junior high, I thought, "This is my chance. I'm gonna go to the band room—I'm not playing sports. I'm going to play saxophone, because saxophone players are so hip, so cool, jazz cats," and all that. I was a dork and dicked off, signed up late. Then, they handed me a violin. I played violin all through junior high and high school. I [switched] to guitar on September 11, 1997. I went through some old study materials and notes that I wrote on tab paper, and on the back of one, I wrote "Started playing at 4:20, September 11, 1997." I would write [my accomplishments] down, like, "On this day, made it to 132 beats per minute."

### Musical influences?

I grew up in the '80s, so I listened to Ratt, Quiet Riot, Def Leppard. Then, I heard Yngwie Malmsteen, and it was over. He took 19th-century romantic-classical music and mixed it with the bombast and power of heavy-metal chords and drums. There were extremely intricate classical passages and arpeggios.

Also, Steve Vai and Joe Satriani. Vai because he's the most completely insane electric-guitar player on the planet. Satriani because he's the most melodic.

### What lessons do you teach students when they're starting out?

My approach to teaching is that every person is born with a song inside that they want to share with the world. As an instructor, it's my job to help unlock that song the best possible way. Not fragment their theory, but teach them proper technique and form. It's the language of the soul; they should have fun doing it.

### What is the song inside your heart?

A death-defying, canyon-jumping shred solo with my hair on fire! My song inside is the sound of one hand clapping, which is the quality of enlightenment in one note. I'm known for playing 26.5 notes per second, but, to me, it's the quality of enlightenment in just one note. Sometimes silence has more impact on the music than the actual notes that are played afterward. □

**Check out Randall Padilla's hot licks at http://randallpadillashred.wix.com/magi.**