



LGBTQ Issues & Lifestyle in Sacramento,
El Dorado, Placer, Sutter & Yolo counties
January 23, 2014

THE EVOLUTION OF LAVENDER HEIGHTS (A SERIES)

How a historically gay Sacramento neighborhood is undergoing change pg. 2

\$25 Off Wedding Expo Exhibitor Fees

Exclusively For Rainbow Chamber Members



Tuesday, February 18

5:30 p.m.

Red Lion Woodlake Hotel
500 Leisure Lane

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity
to showcase your business to hundreds of
LGBT couples planning their weddings!

Sign up today at

www.sacrgbwtweddingexpo.com

Sacramento



www.rainbowchamber.com

PLEASE SEE THE WEDDING EXPO VENDOR APPLICATION FOR DISCOUNT DETAILS.

RAINBOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FEATURED MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Sacramento



**Honesty.
Respect.
Professionalism.
Courtesy.**



State Farm

It's how I treat all my customers.
And you can be sure I'll always
do my best to meet your needs.

Like a good neighbor,
State Farm is there.™

CALL ME TODAY.

Stephanie Slagel CLU, Agent
Insurance Lic#: 0C34763
6130 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite E
www.stephanieslagel.com
Bus: 916-485-4444



State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL



Publisher's Note



Kevin M. Manz

Change is a constant. The arc of history curves toward progress. 2014 is our moment. The impacts of state budgets, employment numbers, equity markets and health insurance may

each seem too large to understand. However, the LGBTQ and allied communities of the Sacramento region are poised for success. In the coming months, Pride Media will be exploring the breadth and depth of change as it is being experienced in our community. Our series will cover where and how we live, shop, eat, work, create and play. Our businesses, educational institutions, organizations, professions, artists, and nonprofit entities have striven and are prepared to help lead us into a community of possibility. Our diversity of gender, class, age, ethnicity and sexual orientation uniquely positions us to achieve this. Now is the time for an evolved vision of a fully inclusive community.

Photo by Louise Mitchell



A Changing Neighborhood

The Evolution of Lavender Heights (Part 1)

by Jovi Radtke and Matthew Burlingame

Lavender Heights is most commonly thought of as the two-block radius surrounding the intersection of 20th and K streets. Yet, over the years, it has stretched from I Street (The Open Book, Lambda AIDS Project) to O Street (Lavender Library), to 17th Street (Hamburger Mary's/Patties) to 24th Street (Lioness Books). It has seen any number of LGBTQ-owned and -operated businesses come and go: Lambda Players Theatre, Club 21, MGW Newspaper,

This Side Up Newspaper, B-Bop's, Cheap Thrills, McMartin Realty, Postcards Etc. and more. But is Lavender Heights only the cluster of businesses that have managed to stay open through economic highs and lows and the ebbs and flows of community interest? Where does the LGBTQ community live, work and play?

"The Evolution of Lavender Heights" is an ongoing series of articles that will ask our community in Sacramento to define itself — to



Relax Without Worries
Conveniently located near Downtown attractions, Pioneer House has offered the best value in Senior Living for more than 40 years.

Enjoy

- Meals in our restaurant style dining room
- A variety of social and recreational activities
- Complimentary scheduled transportation
- A secure setting with 24 hour staff

Contact us to find out more about our services and programs.

RCFE #340300522 pioneerhouse@rnhf.org 415 P Street • Sacramento, CA (916) 442-4906

Saving Lives, One Dog at a Time ...



Alpha K9

PTSD Service Dogs and Dog Training

916-400-4337
info@AlphaK9.org
7500 14th Ave. #21
Sacramento, CA 95820

Creating Empowered Transformation

Pride Integration

916.899.0054
prideintegration.com

Anxiety | Depression | Weight loss | Fears & Phobias
Insomnia | Pain Relief | Confidence | Sexual Challenges
Relationship Improvement | Performance Improvement

Hypnotherapy and Holistic Health services

be heard



pride live

Saturdays 10 p.m. - Midnight
Talk 650 KSTE or iheartradio
The LGBTQ Perspective

pride news pridemediamedia.net



be seen

explore where we have come from and ponder where we are going.

Ask any LGBTQ person in Sacramento where the heart of our community is, and the majority will no doubt immediately say 20th and K streets. Since the 1980s, it has become Sacramento's iconic hub of queer activity — a smaller version of San Francisco's Castro Street. Once considered a safe haven, a rash of alleged hate-related crimes in recent years has some questioning whether the core of Lavender Heights still offers the same peace of mind it once did.

In March 2013, a gay man was attacked with a baseball bat at 20th and D streets. Last fall, two gay men were attacked outside The Old Spaghetti Factory. Anti-gay slurs are heard more frequently through the noise of the milling weekend crowds and tales of alleged scuffles go unreported to officials, but circulate through the community grapevine.

"It's unsettling," says Ashley Lamb, a former member of the Lavender Heights' (primarily) volunteer security team, The Lavender Angels. Lamb, 22, has been active in the neighborhood since she was 14. "I feel safe in [the 20th and K area], but when outside of that two-block radius, the feeling of safety goes away entirely. It makes walking home with a friend or walking to my car a scary task."

Michael "Misha" Kennedy, owner of Kennedy Art Gallery, feels safe most of the time, but adds, "There have been times I have felt uneasy with the crowds on the weekends, and the panhandlers have been an issue at times. I felt safer when we had the Lavender Angels present. I'd like to see them return."

During the last decade the area has seen an influx of non-LGBTQ businesses, including numerous shops and outlets in the MARRS building and a variety of others not looking to cater to a centralized queer clientele. While most of these business owners are quick to assert their openness to LGBTQ consumers, their customer base may not hold the same sentiments.

"I don't see the problem, myself," says Shane Maloney, an LGBTQ ally and former waiter for Headhunters at 1930 K St. Maloney is featured on this issue's cover. "It may mean more straight people, but isn't that what the community wants — acceptance of everyone's differences?"

"Everywhere is a straight place," says community member Eric Olsen. "The reason places like Lavender Heights exist is so we have somewhere that we don't have to constantly watch our back. I am fine with straight people who are supporters, but not the rest. This is our place, and they need to respect that."



Pride News
A division of Pride Media

For ad inquiries, please call 916-498-1600 ext. 08
Publisher Kevin M. Manz **Editor** Matt Burlingame
Copy Editor Carol Couk **Designers** Brian Breneman,
Serene Lusano **Sales Manager** Debi Smith **Sales**
Consultants Rich Jones, Andy Sem **Contributors**
Jovi Radtke, Melissa Martinez, Wayne Myrick, Shane
Maloney, Jerri Cuerden, Ken Pierce, Jen Thorpe,
Michael R. Gorman, Craig Cannon, Marina Martinez
Creativity Contributor Linda Birner
www.pridemedia.net | 1122 Del Paso Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95815



**STEPHANIE
SLAGEL,
RCC's
FEATURED
BUSINESS
FOR
JANUARY
2014**

"I offer personalized service for all of your personal and business insurance needs," says Stephanie Slagel, who has been with State Farm since 1986 and opened her own office in Carmichael in 2002. A State Farm Insurance agent based in Carmichael, Slagel was chosen as the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce (RCC) Business Leader of the Year in 2013. The award recognizes an individual who has had leadership success within his or her business and the business community as well as leadership success within the Sacramento LGBTQ community. Slagel serves as a role model for the entire community. She is a long-time member of the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, has served as RCC Board secretary, and was 2009 gala chair. In addition to her participation with the Chamber, she is a former board member of the Kiwanis Club of Carmichael and is a member of E-Women Network. See Stephanie's Ad in this issue!

StephanieSlagel.com

College
freshman

Partner

Living with
attention deficit
hyperactivity disorder



**Mental Illness:
It's not always
what you think.**

For additional information and resources, go to:

StopStigmaSacramento.org

Call 2-1-1 (OR TTY (916) 446-1434)

**SACRAMENTO
COUNTY**

Project made possible by voter approved
Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act

**KUPROS
+
CRAFT
+
HOUSE
=
SOLID
✓ BEER
✓ FOOD
✓ VIBE**

**DISCOVER
MIDTOWN'S
BEST KEPT
SECRET**

We're a full service two
story restaurant & bar
dedicated to local brewers,
wineries, & growers in a
repurposed 1911 Craftsman
home.

Over 30 craft beers
Craft Cocktails
Live Entertainment
Weekend Brunch
Large balcony & patios

NEW MENU



1217 21st Street
Sacramento, CA
social: @KuprosSacto



kuproscrafthouse.com

California LGBT Legislative Caucus Reception

by Ken Pierce

Each year, the California Legislative LGBT Caucus hosts a Capital region "Welcome Back" reception. On Jan. 13, the 2014 reception was held at The California Museum.

Originally formed in 2002, the role of caucus members is to provide a forum for the California Legislature to discuss issues that affect LGBTQ citizens in California and to further the goal of equality. To this day, the California LGBT Legislative Caucus is the largest gay caucus of any state in the United States.

Chairing the caucus for a second term is Assemblyman Richard Gordon (D-San Mateo). "We are proud of the work we did this past year and the accomplishments that affected us all — such as the U.S. Supreme Court decision that finally brought marriage equality to California. ... I am especially proud of state legislation that affects our transgender students."

Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Long Beach) — who spearheaded Senate Bill 323, the Youth Equality Act, designed to bring youth group tax exemptions in line with California's existing non-discrimination laws — spoke about the future for LGBTQ citizens as "looking awfully bright."



Photo courtesy of Ken Pierce

Assemblyman Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco) warned, "Though we have seen great success this past year, that should never leave us nonvigilant, because those who oppose us will continue to push to take back everything we have gained."

Other caucus members included Senator Cathleen Galgiani (D-Stockton), Senator Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) and Assemblywoman Toni Atkins (D-San Diego).

LGBT Studies Department Created at Sierra College

by Johnnie Terry

At the end of the 2013 fall semester, Sierra College's executive team approved the creation of an LGBT studies department. Sierra's academic senate, the committee charged with program oversight by California Education Regulation, debated the request and forwarded their supportive recommendation to Sierra's executive team, president Willy Duncan, the vice president of instruction Debra Sutphen, and other vice presidents.

The substantial debate regarding the recommendation focused mainly on the wisdom of adding a new department so soon after emerging from the economic recession.

There was no debate about the legitimacy of the program of study.

The curriculum for the department already exists but will be renamed specifically as LGBT studies courses. The Sierra faculty will design an associate degree in LGBT studies that will provide the lower division requirements for UC San Diego's nascent bachelor's degree in LGBT studies.

Sierra College hopes that the introduction of an LGBT studies department and associate's degree will invite the greater LGBT community to see Sierra College as their college. Currently, two other community colleges have LGBT studies departments: San Francisco City College and Napa Valley College.



Congratulations

A VENUE THAT HAS IT ALL!




**CEREMONIES & RECEPTIONS
HISTORIC COTTAGES
AL FRESCO VENUES
CATERING & BAR SERVICES**

Call today! 916.643.6222
Weddings@LionsGateHotel.com www.LionsGateHotel.com
 3410 Westover Street McClellan (Sacramento), CA 95652



d'primera mano es la revista local, educativa, informativa y cultural distribuida a través del norte de California. d'primera mano te muestra empresarios locales, artículos de importancia a tu salud, inmigración y mucho más.

Si estás interesado en ser uno de nuestros empresarios del mes, comunícate al (916) 821-0016.



**PO Box 2131
Sacramento, CA 95812
(916) 821-0016
dprimeramano.net**

d'primera mano .net
MAGAZINE

Uniendo a nuestra comunidad por un futuro mejor.