

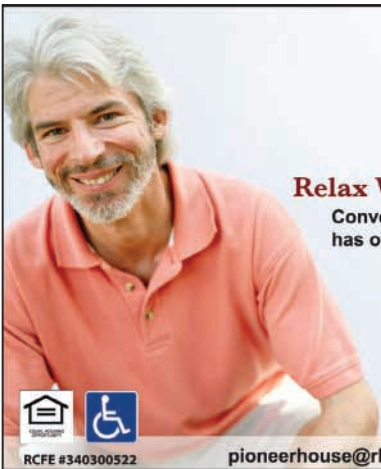
sac pride News

LIFE AFTER DOMA, PG. 5

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Editor's Note

NEWS SHORTS

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

Pride Media—Join our movement



Publisher Kevin Manz

Why Pride Media?

The answer is simple: A commitment to a wider, deeper, and more inclusive identity. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Ally, Asexual, Intersex, 2 Spirit, Pansexual (LG-BTQAAI2SP) community

transcends the separateness of labels and geography. We are so much more than the silos of special interest that existing media has chosen to represent who we are and where we live and work. Our time is NOW. We are a group of dedicated journalists, community leaders, business people and allies who are working hard to use best practices and cutting-edge technology to serve our audience and partners by providing news coverage, event management for non-profits, and sophisticated marketing. Using a multi-channel approach, Pride Media reaches audiences not just in the thousands but the millions, with 300,000 monthly print readers in our five-county region and millions more in digital audiences for radio and video. We invite you to join our growing family of sponsors, supporters, and advocates as we stretch to empower all who read, hear and watch us.

SacPride News

A division of Pride Media



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A.B. 420 Rally

Students joined Assembly-member Roger Dickinson at the Capitol on Aug. 14 to bring focus to Assembly Bill 420. AB 420 seeks to lower the number of elementary students expelled or suspended for minor behavior problems that do not threaten safety. For high school students, the bill limits the authority of the superintendent or principal's authority to suspend or expel a student for disrupting school activities or "willful defiance."

Sacramento Stonewall Hosts Arena Debate

The Stonewall Democratic Club of Sacramento (SDCS) held a forum on Aug. 12, discussing the proposed Entertainment and Sports Center in Sacramento to be built around the location of the Downtown Plaza. The center is slated to begin construction in 2014 with a target completion date of October 2016. The arena will be owned by the City of Sacramento and leased to the Sacramento Kings ownership group.

Vigen Returns to LLACE

The Lavender Library, Archives & Cultural Exchange (LLACE) has been an integral part of Sacramento for the past 16 years. Lead by Gail Lang and Michael Bennett, the organization was founded by a group of community members with a passion for both books and preserving LGBTQ history. While Lang and Bennett have since passed on, their legacy lives on, being steered once again by fellow LLACE founder Clint Vigen. After a two-year sabbatical, Vigen stepped back into his role as library president in June with hopes of the well-established nonprofit facilitating a renaissance of sorts in our community's arts and cultural scene.

Transgender Advocacy Day

The Transgender Law Center (TLC) and Equality California (EQCA) held the 4th Annual Transgender Advocacy Day Aug. 12, at the California State Capitol, with approximately 50 transgender advocates and allies in attendance. The bills in discussion were AB 420: Disruption and Defiance: Reducing Grounds for Harsh Discipline (Authored by Assemblyman Roger Dickinson, D-Sacramento); AB 1121, Transgender Name Changes and Birth Certificates (Authored by Assemblywoman Toni Atkins, D-78); SB 716, Sexual Abuse in Detention Elimination 2013 (Authored by Senator Ricardo Lara, D-Bell Gardens).

Police to Communicate Through Nextdoor

The Sacramento Police Department has teamed up with Nextdoor to help them deliver public safety information, crime alerts and tips. Nextdoor is an online service to connect people within their community to share information on news and events that affect them directly. The site works similarly to Facebook, where people can interact with people and their neighborhood. "The partnership is supposed to facilitate a better neighborhood watch by including social media," explains community member George Raya, who attended one of several community meetings to bring awareness to Nextdoor.

The Passing of Jose 'Mama Jose' Sarria

Jose Sarria, aka Her Royal Majesty, Empress One of San Francisco, Absolute Empress Jose the First, the flamboyant and fabulous subject of "The Empress Is A Man: Stories From The Life of Jose Sarria," passed away Aug. 19, at age 90.

SIGLFF Lineup Announced

The Sacramento International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival (SIGLFF) has released its official 2013 festival lineup. Founded in 1992, the yearly event brings the best of LGBTQ films for the community to enjoy over a 3-day event. This year highlights of the festival will include The Happy Sad by director Rodney Evans, questioning what really makes for a happy relationship, Who's Afraid of Vagina Wolf? By director Anna Margarita Albello and an amazing line-up of short films covering various subjects prevalent within the LGBTQ community. The highlight of the festival, however, will be the First Look Focus Study of Kate Logan's Kidnapped For Christ which addresses the rise of abusive treatment within the "troubled teen" industry. All over the U.S. and abroad, so-called therapeutic boarding schools, boot camps, and wilderness rehabilitation programs take in teenagers with a wide range of issues and use unsafe and often harmful tactics to reform them.

ABA Helps Curb 'Gay Panic' Use

The American Bar Association (ABA) has passed an extremely important resolution at their annual meeting. The ABA House of Delegates voted unanimously to pass a resolution that is intended to urge governments (at the federal, state, local and territorial levels) to pass much needed legislation. That legislation is to curtail the use of the "gay panic" and "trans panic" defenses. In plain English, the ABA believes it is time for laws to be put in place that would prevent the "gay panic" and/or "trans panic" defenses from being used in criminal court. This is really good news! Laws that prevent the use of those discriminatory defenses would bring America one step closer to true equality.



Top to bottom: Assemblyman Roger Dickinson is interviewed by Pride Media's Tyler Edwards. Masen Davis of the Transgender Law Center poses with Pride Media's Kevin Manz. Supporters of A.B. 420 on the Capitol steps.

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As the first radio show of its kind in Sacramento, SacPride Live gives a voice to the LGBTQ community. Top to bottom: Tyler Edwards, Jovi Radtke and J. Todd Lohse

Photos by Steven Chen

Starting A Dialogue

Sacramento's first LGBTQ radio show serves as a voice for community

by **Kendall Fields**



Every week the hosts of *SacPride Live* set out to start an honest conversation in the LGBTQ community — even if it gets a little tense.

As the first and only live LGBTQ radio show in Sacramento, *SacPride Live* carries on conversations from the LGBTQ community to fulfill the mission of its founding company, Pride Media: “End labels and start conversations.” The show is hosted by Tyler Edwards with co-hosts Jovi Radtke, Todd Lohse and Kevin Manz.

Edwards, one of the three founders of Pride Media, says his goal for the media agency is to broaden the community’s knowledge and give the LGBTQ community a voice.

“We are not trying to change minds. We are

“We had a really intense conversation on the show. People were uncomfortable — we were uncomfortable. But that’s what creates change.”

Jovi Radtke
Co-host, *SacPride Live*

just trying to be people and be accepted,” Radtke says, adding her ultimate goal is to get the whole Sacramento community involved, not just the LGBTQ community. “It’s just about having the same rights.”

Radtke, who researches what to cover on the show each week, says topics range from what’s going on in general news to hotter topics such as this summer’s historic legalization of gay marriage in California. Edwards and Radtke say that 13 states legalizing gay marriage is both a source of worry and hope. “It’s

no longer about two humans who love each other, it’s about our rights and equality. We are just equal,” Edwards says. Because of the show, Radtke’s mother now supports legalizing gay marriage.

“We had a really intense conversation on the show. People were uncomfortable — we were uncomfortable. But that’s what creates change,” Radtke says.

As a voice for the LGBTQ community, the show bridges the current generational gap, Radtke says. “As with any community there are cliques or groups of people who don’t get along,” Radtke says. “We want to bring everybody together and get on the same level of understanding.”

Edwards also wants to connect people to charities and organizations that provide important services like suicide prevention and health care in the Sacramento area. “It’s a core belief to blend media with social service to help the community.”

Whether tackling tough topics or discussing lighter fare, the hosts’ chemistry on air makes for a lively show. Edwards and Radtke, who met two years ago and both have performance backgrounds, joke about having a “work marriage.”

“We are there every week and sometimes it is challenging, but we are growing,” Edwards says.

Listen to *SacPride Live* every Saturday night at 10 p.m. on Talk 650 KSTE.

Photos courtesy of Charles Abel and Scott Lear



From L-R: Charles Abel on the steps of the Capitol on June 26, the day the Supreme Court struck down the Defense of Marriage Act and upheld a lower court ruling that repealed Prop. 8 in California; Charles Abel and Scott Lear pose for a photo together during a May 2013 trip to British Columbia; a screenshot of the moment they heard the DOMA ruling.



What DOMA's End Means For:

BI-NATIONAL COUPLES:

Bi-national couples can sponsor their foreign-born partner for a green card, even if the state they reside in does not allow same-sex marriage. Before DOMA was struck down, many bi-national couples were separated by their country's borders, or were at risk of deportation after their visas ran out.

SAME-SEX FAMILIES:

Before DOMA was struck down, same-sex parents could take time off to take care of their children, due to the Family and Medical Leave Act, but they could not take time off to take care of their spouse. Now, same-sex couples are protected by this law, which allows eligible employees to take up to 12 weeks unpaid each year to look after a seriously ill spouse.

This decision does not mean that states are required to recognize the validity of same-sex relationships, so couples with children should still perform second-parent adoptions if possible, and get a court order establishing them as the official legal guardian of their children.

DOMA Is Dead, What's Next?

Sacramento LGBTQ residents respond to historic DOMA, Prop. 8 decisions

by Natasha von Kaenel

They were up early. The Supreme Court's decision on DOMA and Prop. 8 was well overdue, and on the morning of June 26, Charles Abel and his partner Scott Lear were anxiously waiting for the court's ruling — in separate countries.

Abel and Lear have been together for three years, but separated by the Canada-America border. Even though Abel had proposed, he couldn't sponsor Lear for a visa because they couldn't be married in the eyes of the federal government. The Court's decision would determine whether or not they would finally be able to be together. Abel made a date on video chat with Lear at 6:55 a.m. to await the decision. "Our hearts just were pounding. You could feel it in your chest. We're about to find out how this is all going to play out — Canada, California," and Abel pauses, emotion thick in his voice. "I'm getting choked up just thinking about it," he says, "and then the decision is 5-4, and Scott just let out such a huge cheer and I started to cry."

And so, the morning of June 26, 2013 was a morning to be remembered. But many couples like Abel and Lear are just now beginning to think beyond the relief and joy of the DOMA and Prop. 8 decisions and find out exactly what each decision means for

their unions.

For couples who are in a domestic partnership, the federal government has said that the federal benefits awarded to government workers will not extend to couples in a domestic partnership or civil union. Wendy Hill, who is currently in a domestic partnership with her partner, says she still is waiting to hear what will happen with Social Security, tax and veteran benefits. "We are learning that it's quite possible that we as domestic partners won't receive any of the benefits. For example, filing joint 1040s or being able to utilize medical reimbursement accounts, because we would need a marriage license to do that," she says. If that is the case Hill plans to get legally married, hopefully on their anniversary, even though she and her

"There is a different bounce in my step today, than there was [before the court's decision]. There's just something uplifting about knowing that you are no longer thought of as second-class."

Wendy Hill

partner had their real wedding in November 2010.

Hill adds that DOMA is not the end of this fight. Both Hill and her partner have three kids and while both their names appear on their youngest, 16-month-old son's birth certificate, they have not yet gotten a court order that establishes custody. "If we were in Utah and we were all in a car accident, they could take him and put him into CPS because we have an 'invalid' birth certificate in that state," she says. "The only thing that would make that different is federally recognized marriage in all 50 states."

Hill says that since the decision came out, no one has asked her if she is going to get married, because she and her partner already had their wedding. The state and federal government didn't recognize the union, but Hill says because they called it a marriage, their friends did. There is a laundry list of tangible benefits that the court's decision awarded to same-sex couples, but for these four the biggest benefit is the acknowledgment that their love is equal.

"There is a different bounce in my step today than there was [before the court's decision]," Hill says. "There's just something uplifting about knowing that you are no longer thought of as second-class."

SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS:

The Family and Medical Leave Act allows spouses to take up to 26 weeks unpaid to care for their service member spouse.

Same-sex military spouses will be given the same access to health insurance, base housing, ID cards, on-base shopping and burial at Arlington Cemetery, and many other benefits previously denied them.

Veteran spouses are now eligible for assistance with college tuition, and if their spouse is injured they receive enhanced disability compensation.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES:

Federal employees will receive marriage benefits based on the "place of celebration" rule. This means that their marriage will be recognized regardless of whether or not the state they live in allows same-sex marriage.

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS:

The Obama administration has said that they will not extend marital benefits to couples currently in a domestic partnership. NVK



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EVENT CALENDAR

Rainbow Festival

Sacramento's annual LGBTQ Pride event held over Labor Day weekend is back for another year of fun. The Rainbow Festival strives to make the community aware of the many services provided by the various charities it supports. These charities provide a plethora of services to Greater Sacramento, including Youth Outreach and Support programs, Issues-oriented meetings and social functions, and Information exchange. This year the Sunday Street Festival will include Christina Milian, Kat Daluna and Daniel Alexander. The festival features multiple stages, local and regional talent, guest political speakers and informational and vendor booths. Admission is \$10.
Sun. Sept. 1, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., 20th & K Sts., sacramentoainbowfestival.com

Pride Media Launch Party

The official launch party for Pride Media is in full swing on Aug. 29. The parent company of SacPride News, SacPride Radio and SacPride Events comes out to Sacramento in one large event to be held at Vizcaya Elite Event Center.
Thurs., Aug. 29, 6 p.m., Vizcaya, 916-498-1600, pridemedia.com

Wear it Purple Day

On Aug. 30 show your support for young people who identify as sexuality and gender diverse by wearing purple! Everyone is great just the way they are, but it may not always feel that way if you're a young person who identifies as sexuality or gender diverse. Not all these young people have support immediately around them, with many facing bullying, rejection and discrimination from family, friends and the community at large. Join us on Wear it Purple Day to show these young people everywhere that they are not alone, they have support and can be proud of who they are.
Aug. 30, Everywhere, wearitpurple.org.

An Evening with Greg Louganis

Olympic diving star Greg Louganis teams up with Capital City AIDS Fund on Sept. 5 at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento to kick-off an aggressive HIV/AIDS Prevention and Education Campaign. CCAF's goal is to raise awareness, prevent new infections, and save lives. The event will benefit CCAF's Helen Veress-Mitchell Scholarship Fund which provides scholarships to young people living with HIV/AIDS.
Sept. 5, 5:30-7 p.m., Hyatt Regency Sacramento, capcityaidsfund.org

Pride 48

This year marks the 5th Annual Pride48 podcasting conference in Las Vegas, sponsored in part by Pride Media. LGBTQ podcasters and fans will be attending a weekend of live broadcasting by participating podcasters from around the U.S. and Canada including podcasts from Sacramento. Those not attending the event can listen to the live broadcasts via the internet at pride48.com.
Sept 6-8, Las Vegas, pride48.com

Gender Bender Ball

The Gender Health Center's 4th annual Gender Bender Ball will encourage folks to push the boundaries of gender by dressing in multi-gendered, creative outfits. The event brings together guests and sponsors to help fund the operating costs of the Gender Health Center. The theme for this year's Gender Bender Ball is Science Fiction/Space. Costumes are for fun, not required.
Sept. 7, 8 p.m., Girl Glass Studio, 208 15th St., thegenderhealthcenter.org

Annual Friends and Family Picnic

The Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Center is hosting its Annual Friends and Family Picnic at the beautiful Natomas Racquet Club this year. What better way to end the summer than socializing, swimming, painting, dancing, eating, and a whole lot more with our family and friends. This will be a day of fun for all ages, so mark your calendars, and invite your loved ones.
Sept. 15, Noon-5 p.m., Natomas Racquet Club, 916-640-7467, saccenter.org

Sacramento Rainbow Chamber Hires New Executive Director

by Jen Thorpe

Recently, the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce hired Nikki Whitfield as the group's very first executive director. Whitfield has an extensive background of experience that makes it clear that she was an excellent choice for the first executive director of the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce.

In 2008 she became the community mobilization coordinator for the Center for AIDS Research Education & Service (CARES) and worked to build relationships with the African American community, area churches, health care providers, and community-based organizations.

"We're tremendously proud to welcome Whitfield onboard. With only a volunteer board of directors and part-time staff, the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce has made enormous strides as a community leader and advocate

for small and LGBTQ-owned businesses in the Sacramento region," says Chamber President Dr. Darrick Lawson. "The organization has reached a crossroads, when it will either grow

or stay stagnant. We are confident in Whitfield's ability to lead our growth and increase the value of chamber membership, and we are all so thrilled to be part of this exciting new chapter in the history of our chamber."

Even though Whitfield has plenty of important responsibilities going on, she is looking forward to beginning work as the first executive director of the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce. "I'm tremendously honored and excited to have the

opportunity to help the Chamber take the next steps in its growth," says Whitfield.

Read our full-length interview with Nikki Whitfield at sacpridenews.com



D'Primera mano Magazine Holds Second Annual Scholarship Pageant

On Aug. 16, 14 women aged 18 to 26, many recent immigrants to the U.S., competed in the D'Primera mano Magazine Annual Scholarship Pageant. With a theme of empowerment through education, the event recognized struggle, honored Latin culture, and celebrated individual achievement.

D'primera mano Magazine founder and CEO, Miguel Borges, and his publisher wife, Maria Carbonell, welcomed over 250 people to the event including special guests Dr. Kathyren E. Jeffery, president of Sacramento City College, and Isabell Wong Flores, Esq., a motivational speaker known for passing the California Bar Exam without attending law school.

The crowd was treated to the musical excellence of Rincones de Mi Tierra and a stunning Yucatan dance performance. The night culminated with Carolyn Tibbetts from Roseville



being crowned 2013's Miss D'Primera mano, and awarded a scholarship of \$2,000 and a professional photo shoot to be featured on the cover of D'Primera mano Magazine.

Pride Media is proud to partner with D'primera mano Magazine, Northern California's largest Spanish language publication, to provide news, education, and marketing for the LGBTQ and Hispanic communities.

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