



# OUT IN THE MOTHER LODGE

A PROGRAM OF SIERRA HEALTH RESOURCES, INC.  
P.O. BOX 159 ANGELS CAMP, CA 95222 TELEPHONE (209) 736-6792

## News and Views

### Of the GLBIT Community

Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Intersex and Transgender

FEBRUARY 2010

#### News

##### No Mother Lode Pride Event This Year

Out in the Mother Lode will not have a Pride Picnic this year. Instead, Sierra HOPE's fundraising committee is planning a different kind of event that they hope will bring supporters from both the gay and straight communities together to support HIV/AIDS programs.

A **Red Dress Party** is in the works for the Mother Lode, on **May 22, 2010**. (See separate story in Sierra HOPE newsletter or visit our website at [www.SierraHOPE.org](http://www.SierraHOPE.org).)

We would like to offer Out in the Mother Lode exclusive events in the future. If you would like to help organize an event, please contact Jerry at Sierra HOPE, telephone 209-736-6792 or email [info@outinthemotherlode.org](mailto:info@outinthemotherlode.org).

##### We All Count

The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force is circulating a petition on the Internet to urge the U.S. Census Bureau to include "just one question that allows an individual to identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered. To sign the petition go to: <http://www.queerthecensus.org>

After you sign the petition, you will be directed to a page where you can order a free sticker provided by CREDO Action to use when sealing the envelope in which you return your census form.

##### Hollywood vs. Washington D.C.

When the Supreme Court prohibited video coverage of the Prop 8 trial, a group of Los Angeles filmmakers decided to create dramatic reenactments. An all-star cast was recruited for the drama, including Tess Harper, Adrienne Barbeau, and Gregory Itzin. Testimony in the trial ended the last week in January and closing arguments are scheduled for March. The twelve episodes, one for each day of the trial, can be viewed at [www.marriagetrial.com](http://www.marriagetrial.com).

##### Bill Would Strip Denigrating Language from Welfare and Institutions Code

SACRAMENTO – A Democratic assemblywoman has filed a bill that would repeal a particularly offensive section of the California Welfare and Institutions code, which instructs the State Department of Mental Health to conduct research

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#### Living Out in the Mother Lode Pat's Story

Pat moved to Tuolumne County in 1995 from San Jose where she had been a member of the symphony for 30 years. When a new conductor arrived on the scene, Pat was one of musicians that he swept out. So Pat and her lover decided to get out of town.

"We liked Tuolumne County. Not because of the gay scene," says Pat with a laugh, "But because we liked the nature scene." They found a place in Long Barn that they loved. They had never lived in the snow before, so it was new adventure.

Eventually Pat's girlfriend moved on. Pat, however, stayed in Long Barn. "I'd really become a lover of the forest and the lifestyle. I do a lot of hiking and snow-shoeing. I gather my own wood, slice it, dice it, and get it all ready for winter."

Pat works full-time as a CNA in a long term care facility where she admits she is not totally out. She also acknowledges that this is not the best area for meeting people, though she has acquired a group of friends. "I go to the Leaping Lesbian Pot Lucks when I can. And I joined Camping Women, which is not actually a lesbian group, but it's really fun."

Pat has two dogs—mutts she says—that she got at the Oakdale Animal Shelter. The dogs love going for walks, and Pat obliges by taking them out for 40 minutes every day. Their favorite place to walk is on the old logging trails.

Pat gave up music when she first moved here because there was no orchestra. She even sold her concert horn. When one of her friends from college learned this, she gifted Pat with a French horn.

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## Pat's Story cont'd

"From that point on," Pat says, "I kept on playing." She plays with groups around the area, including the Columbia College orchestra.

"Sometimes I miss the gay bars, but I like the more relaxed atmosphere up here. I used to dance all night for exercise. Now I go hiking."

On Super Bowl Sunday, Pat joined friends to watch the game. She didn't have a favorite team but she loves a good game. "I hope it's a really tight game," said Pat. "And I want to have a good time with the girls."

*This is the second story in the OML about GLBIT folks who live and work in the Mother Lode. Editor Patricia Harrelson is interested in your story. Please contact her to arrange an interview at [info@outinthemotherlode.org](mailto:info@outinthemotherlode.org)*

### Out In The Mother Lode News and Views

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# Sierra HOPE

Health Opportunities, Programs and Education

- Education and support for HIV/AIDS.
- Hepatitis Education and Support Group
- Community Food Pantry for anyone in need

Call 209-736-6792 for info

## LOCAL EVENTS

**Leaping Lesbians** meets every month, often in homes and sometimes in restaurants. They are open to new women, singles and couples attending. The next two events are

Saturday, March 6

Saturday, April 3

For details email: [llpotluck@yahoo.com](mailto:llpotluck@yahoo.com)

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Angles Camp Union Congregational Church is an Open & Affirming Church. They are located at 1141 S. Main Street in Angels Camp. (209-736-4171)

### Bear Valley Ski Resort

Reggae on the Mountain & Micro Brew Festival

Saturday April 10, 2010 from 2pm to 6pm

All proceeds from the Micro Brew tasting benefit Sierra HOPE

### Red Dress Party on May 22, 2010.



Communities around the country are holding Red Dress Parties where the visual impact of all attendees in red dresses serves as a powerful symbol of solidarity for people living with HIV/AIDS. We are encouraging *everyone* to wear a Red Dress to this event; whether you are male, female, gay or straight, young or old.

Tickets and information online at [www.sierrahope.org](http://www.sierrahope.org).

## News (Continued from page 1)

into the "causes and cures of homosexuality" with the implication that LGBT Californians are sexual deviants, potential sex offenders and a threat to children.

On Wednesday, Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal, D-Long Beach, introduced AB 2199 in conjunction with Equality California.

"This section of the code is deplorable – it propagates blatantly false, harmful and outdated mischaracterizations of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, and it should have been repealed long ago," said Geoff Kors, executive director of Equality California.

The bill will be heard in policy committee in the coming weeks.

"This is something like race restrictions on deeds," Lowenthal said. "It's not enough to ignore them, you have to blot them out and make it clear we're never going back there."

## National long-term care resource center for GLBT elders to be established

Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius has disclosed an award of \$900,000 for the first-ever national resource center to assist gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender seniors in planning for their long-term care needs.

The resource center will be established through the organization Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE). It "will provide information, assistance and resources for both mainstream aging organizations and LGBT organizations," Sebelius said in a statement.

SAGE will partner with a number of aging-related organizations that deal with issues such as culture change, competency and program evaluation. SAGE will also develop a comprehensive Web site, which will include social networking tools, an "Ask the Experts" service and Web-based training among other features.

The funding will be spread out over three years, according to Sebelius. More information can be found at both [www.aoa.gov](http://www.aoa.gov) and [www.sageusa.org](http://www.sageusa.org).