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e-Pw brings you a glimpse of events near and far, from  
around your neighborhood to around our world.

**A Special Thanks to OESCI!**

We would like to thank the [Owl Empire of Stanislaus County](#) for their **generous donation of \$1,250**, presented to the PRIDE Day 2008 Committee at the Spring Fling Dance. They helped us make this event a great success, and their event planning expertise was invaluable!

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**"Live, Love, Laugh" Pride '08 Comedy Night on May 17**

Saturday, May 17th  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at  
the State Theater in  
downtown Modesto



**Buy  
Tickets**

**A trio of comedians - headliner Karen Ripley - joined by Dana Cory, and Nick Leonard - will take to the stage for a night of queer comedy as part of a series of Pride '08 celebrations this year.**

**General admission tickets are \$20.00, and VIP tickets are \$30.00.** You can [purchase tickets online](#) or at SPC during drop-in hours. As a bonus, If you purchase a PRIDE Day 2008 VIP Package (also available at SPC) you get a **free upgrade to VIP** for the \$20.00 purchase price of your comedy night ticket.

A VIP after-party immediately following the show



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#### Event Highlights

May 17th - [Pride '08 Comedy Night](#)

June 1-28 - Fellow Travelers: Liberation Portraits by Mark Thompson

June 6 - Fellow Travelers: Opening Celebration

September 27 - [Stanislaus PRIDE Day 2008](#)



will take place at the Queen Bean Coffee House, where comedy-goers can meet and mingle with the performers. For tickets call (209) 527-4697 or visit [www.thestate.org](http://www.thestate.org).

Witnessing the wit of Karen Ripley, Dana Cory, and Nick Leonard makes a funny way of supporting the Stanislaus PRIDE Center! **Our very own Sondra St. James is the evening's hostess.**



ASL/English Interpretation

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Stanislaus PRIDE Day 2008**  
 September 27, 2008  
 Graceada Park, Modesto

[www.spcpride.org](http://www.spcpride.org)

## New Editor sought for e-PRIDE Weekly

The *e-PRIDE weekly* (*ePw*) is a valuable conduit for sharing information with our local GLBT community, friends and supporters. The SPC is seeking a new volunteer editor to coordinate articles for this weekly email news service.

Most of the items that appear in the *ePw* are derived from content sent to a central email address. The editor of the *ePw* coordinates the information sent there, and organizes the articles that appear each week.

The volunteer editor should be a strong writer, and also have some technology skills, as this is an e-based newsletter. It takes approximately two to three hours a week to create the *ePw*. If you are interested in volunteering for this position, please email Desiree Holden at [coordinator@stanpride.org](mailto:coordinator@stanpride.org).



## SPC brings GLBT historical photo exhibit to area in June

**National photo exhibit**



### **honors Modesto native and gay culture**

Fellow Travelers: Liberation Portraits by Mark Thompson, opens June 1st at Deva Café in downtown Modesto. The exhibit, on a national tour, includes 14 large-format black and white, historic portraits of gay liberation pioneers. The exhibit is sponsored by the Stanislaus PRIDE Center and is part of the local celebration of gay pride month. Modesto Art Museum is providing curatorial advice for the exhibit. The opening celebration is Friday, June 6th, 7:00 p.m.

#### **Fellow Travelers: Liberation Portraits by Mark Thompson**

**June 1st - 28th, 2008 at Deva Cafe, 1206 J Street, Modesto, CA**

**Monday - Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Opening reception: Friday, June 6, 2008, 7:00 p.m.**

Portraits in the exhibit include religious leaders Malcolm Boyd, Ram Dass, and Harry Hay; controversial photographer Robert Mapplethorpe; and influential sexologist Joseph Kramer. Men who have two things in common: their enormous contributions to civil rights for gay people, and the powerful effect their lives and friendships have had on photographer and author Mark Thompson.

The exhibit includes Modesto native James Broughton. Broughton was born in Modesto in 1912 and developed an international reputation for his poetry and films. He is remembered for being the father of the West Coast avant-garde film movement and for being part of the literary movement of the Beat Generation. He made more than 20 films, winning an award at Cannes for *The Pleasure Garden* and in 1989 earned a lifetime achievement award from the American Film Institute.

The exhibit's national tour started in San Francisco last year. Before coming to Modesto, it made stops in Los Angeles, New York, Salt Lake City, Philadelphia, and Portland.

#### **Quotes about the exhibit:**

"Fellow Travelers is the manifestation of a masterful collaboration between photographer Mark Thompson and writer Mark Thompson. With uncommon sensitivity, he manages to capture the heart and soul of 14 extraordinary men who redefine what it is to be beautiful. The pictures in tandem with the text achieve an intimacy and vibrancy that is electric--at

once graceful, insightful, political and lyrical." --  
*Michael Kearns, actor-playwright-activist*

"Even the briefest glimpse of these pictures is worth the bother. The show is dedicated to the exploration of gay male spiritual consciousness." -- *David Lambie, Bay Area Reporter*

"Author, journalist, therapist Mark Thompson has spent more than 30 years articulating the ineffable. As an artist, he waits for that one 'perfect' moment to capture the interior of the gay soul." -- *Karen Ocamb, IN Los Angeles Magazine*

## Vote in Support of LGBT Storylines on Soaps

*Forwarded from Lisa Neary,  
an SPC Board Member  
Emeritus:*



**Proctor & Gamble has set up a toll free number so that we can voice our opinions of the Luke and Noah gay story line.** The

LGBT Hate Group, American Family Association, has called for a boycott of P&G Products until they no longer have any LGBT storylines on their soaps and P&G has set up this number to gauge public opinion.

**Please dont let the Haters win!! PLEASE. Call now and vote and please pass this message on.**

**Call 1-800-331-3774.** Be sure you hear "Luke and Noah," then vote that you favor the story line by pressing 1.

Luke Snyder and Noah Mayer are fictional characters on the CBS daytime drama *As The World Turns*, produced by Proctor & Gamble Productions. They are notable for being one of American daytime television's first gay male couples.

Sweethearts Luke and Noah first locked lips on Aug. 17, 2007. They kissed once again, in September, but since then, the pair have been all handshakes and hugs.

Fans have speculated that either complaints from conservative viewers or pressure from advertisers

account for the couple's infrequent appearances since the controversial kiss.

The SPC facility is open Wednesday through Saturday from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM.

*The mission of the Stanislaus PRIDE Center is to provide resources to strengthen and support gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons in Stanislaus and surrounding counties."*

The SPC has three areas of focus: Culture and Community; Education and Information; Health and Wellness. PRIDE stands for "People Respecting Individuality, Diversity and Education".

SPC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. Federal tax ID 20-2676088.

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