

# FEARLESS TRAILBLAZER

**1812-1879: Charley Parkhurst** drove a six horse stage coach across the rugged, dangerous terrain of this part of California for twelve years. He fought off Sugar Foot the bandit, made it over a collapsing bridge in a torrential rainstorm, lost an eye to a horse kick, guarded gold in his carriage, voted and gained the reputation of a rough, tough individual who could be counted on to get the hard job done.

**To LEARN MORE** about old California, stagecoaches and Charley check out these books: \*

**Rough, Tough Charley**

by Verla Kay  
illustrated by Adam Gustavson

**Riding Freedom**

by Pam Munoz Ryan  
illustrated by Brian Selznick

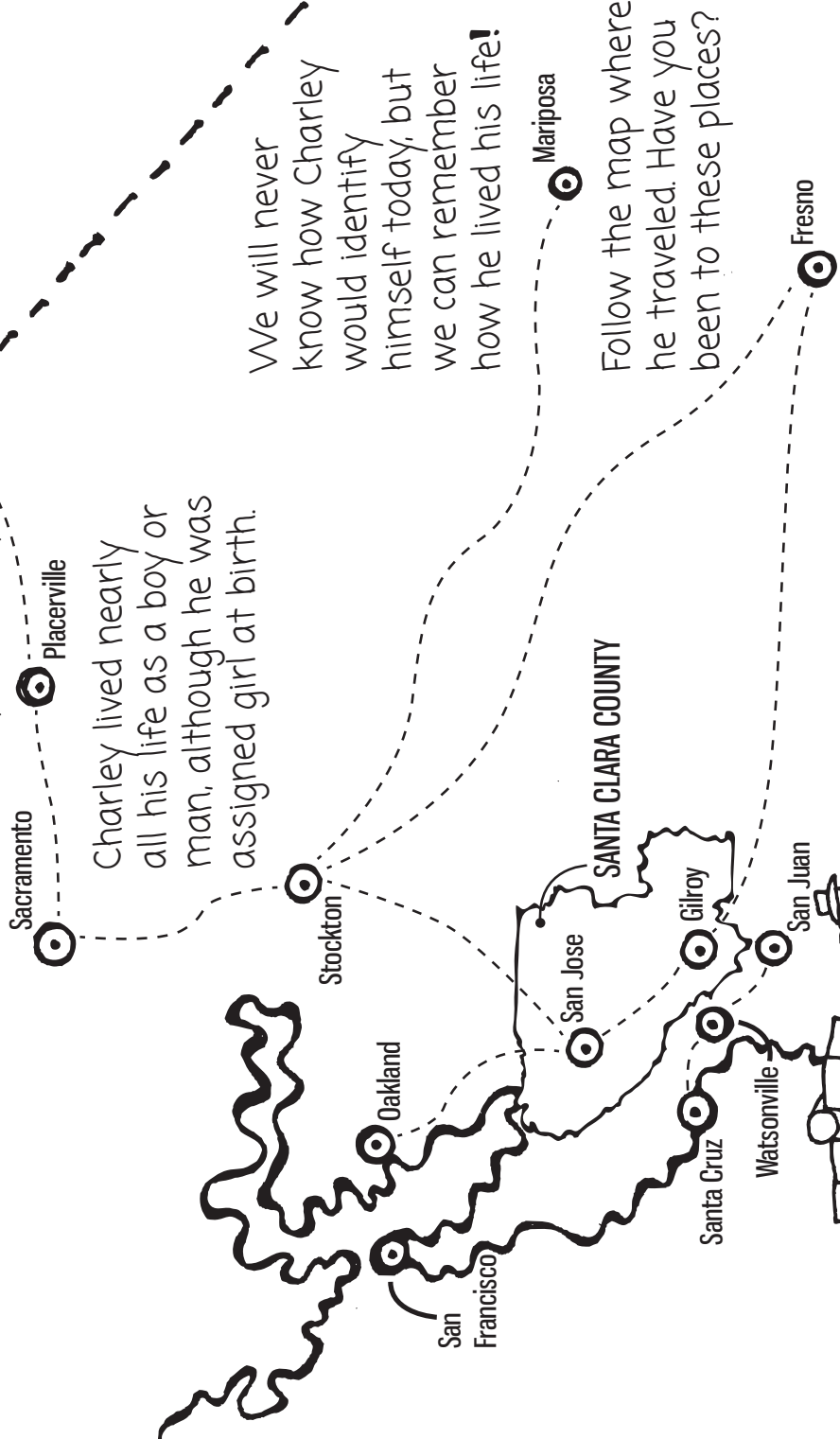
**The Stagecoach in Northern California: Rough Rides, Gold Camps & Daring Drivers**

by Cheryl Anne Stapp



\*NOTE: Although these books use a pronoun Charley didn't use, they are a chance to learn about his amazing life.

LGBTQ people have always been a part of US history. Here is the true tale of the fearless stagecoach driver known as One-Eyed Charley.



Charley lived nearly all his life as a boy or man, although he was assigned girl at birth.

We will never know how Charley would identify himself today, but we can remember how he lived his life!

Follow the map where he traveled. Have you been to these places?