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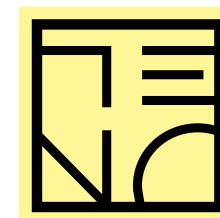
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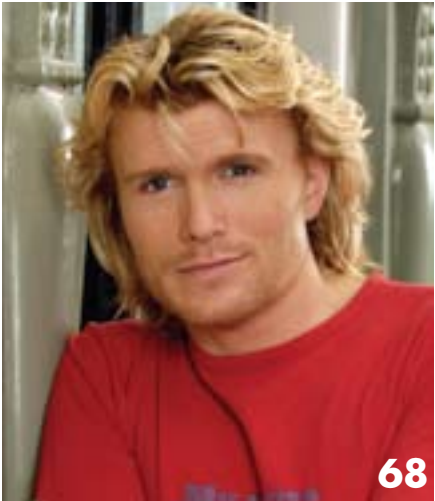
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THANKFULNESS

As I sit here working around the clock to bring you another exciting issue of *QVegas*, I'm on the eve of what is perhaps the most difficult decision I've had to make in my entire life. No, it has nothing to do with which gay-for-pay celebrity to interview next. It's of a life or death nature, the worst kind I have ever had to face in my 32 years.

The day before going to print with this issue, my maternal grandmother—who's outlived nearly every single member of my family on both sides and has probably outlived your own grandparents as well—suffered a stroke, resulting in partial paralysis and the inability to speak. We're not sure if or when she'll regain her movement or speech. We're not even sure if she'll be able to eat on her own or if a feeding tube will be needed. Her comatose state makes us unaware of what to expect. Huge decisions will need to be made in the coming days, and a large part of that rests directly on my shoulders. I'm an only child and so is my mom. And soon, a life could rest squarely in our hands.

Nana will be 98 on her birthday this December. That's one heck of a long time on earth, don't you think? She's lived through every major setback and milestone in the past century. She's lived through two world

wars, survived the Great Depression and saw women gain the right to vote throughout the United States. As a southerner, she even experienced first hand the changes that came along with the civil rights movement in the '50s and '60s. My grandmother may not have been a world traveler, and frankly, she rarely ever left her hometown. But she has been able to live a very long life, far longer than I could ever hope to live. And for that, I am thankful.

Sometimes it takes a negative situation for one to truly see the positive. Looking back at my childhood, my Nana was always there for me after school while Mom was at work. She cooked and cleaned for us almost daily. For her devotion to our family, I am thankful. I haven't lived back home in the south for a few years now, but my mom has continued to be there for me whenever I've needed her, and to her, I offer my gratitude. Here in Vegas, I have an amazing partner and four adorable dogs, and I am thankful for the love and devotion I constantly receive from each and every one of them. And to our amazing staff and the wonderful community we support and serve, I give thanks for the acceptance and appreciation you have shown. You have allowed me to grow into the man I am today.



No matter how screwy our government may be, no matter how few rights and protections they may want to grant us, we should each take a moment and give thanks for the acceptance we have already succeeded in gaining over the years. Our community is leaps and bounds beyond where it used to be. We should stop for a moment and appreciate our gains and then strive for more. We should also show our thanks for the advancements in medicine and medical care that have allowed so many members of our community to survive and thrive.

Take a moment, sit back without blinders on, and just be thankful for being alive. Think about the love your friends and family have shared with you throughout the years, think about everything you've learned and experienced, think about the life you have ahead of you, and be thankful for every breath you take. I have, and I've learned how lucky I really am. I bet you'll do the same.

Cory

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TRIVIA GIVEAWAY

An instant hit in theaters earlier this year, *Hairspray*—starring Nikki Blonksky, John Travolta, Michelle Pfeiffer and Queen Latifah—is the movie adaptation of the Broadway hit musical based on John Waters' 1988 film of the same name.

At least two lucky *QVegas* readers will be receiving a complimentary copy of this exciting two-DVD set, containing the hilarious musical and a slew of special features. To enter to win, visit www.qvegas.com and correctly answer the following question. Winners will be randomly chosen from all correct entries and announced in our December issue.

**TWO STARS OF THIS 2007
FILM STARRED IN TWO SEPARATE
FILMS OF THE SAME MUSICAL
FRANCHISE IN THE LATE '70S
AND EARLY '80S.
WHO ARE THEY, AND
WHAT WERE THE FILMS?**

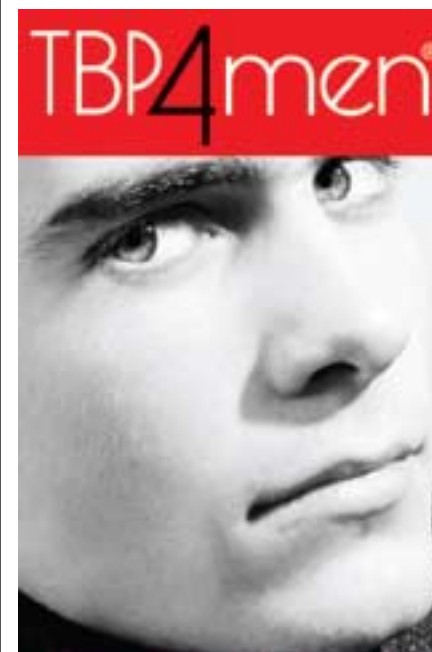
LAST MONTH'S WINNERS
DON SPORMAN
LILY KWAN

READER LETTERS

Dear Editor:

Regarding the article "Good Times with Old Timers" by Andrew Georgiou [*QVegas*, Oct. 2007]: Thank you so very much for the kind words and wonderful public relations effort. The age divide in the gay community cuts the young off from those who are the history of Stonewall, AIDS, and all of the large and small acts of heroism that have made a gay identity so very different today from when we silver foxes were young. An "extended family" in the gay community would make it very much stonger.

Jim Jolly
Las Vegas, NV



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NEVADA BALLET AND CIRQUE DU SOLEIL PRESENT CHOREOGRAPHER'S SHOWCASE

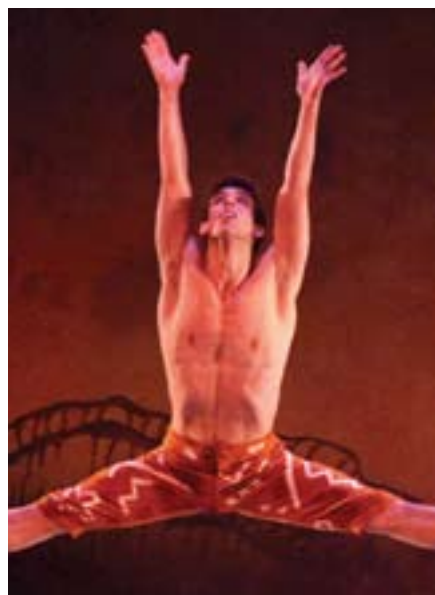
The Choreographers' Showcase is a collaborative project between Nevada Ballet Theatre and Cirque Du Soleil's Global Citizenship Service. This action based event, held November 30 and December 2 at Treasure Island's Mystere Theatre, will not only support artistic initiatives to get employees creatively involved, but also supports the valley's cultural community. This collaboration will showcase 10 original choreographed pieces that will be presented to the public as well as Clark County school children.

Through the Clark County School District Partnership Office, fourteen schools from Nevada Ballet Theatre's Future Dance Program and 5 middle schools from the After School All-Star program will attend the matinee performance on Friday, November 30. A performance at 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 2 is open to the public.

David Ligon, one of the featured choreographers and a soloist in the showcase, is an active member of the Las Vegas gay community. He was born in Dallas, Texas and was raised in Columbia, South Carolina. He began his dance training with William Starrett and Serge Lavoie at Columbia City Ballet. At 16, David attended the School of San Francisco Ballet on full scholarship where he performed in such productions as *Don Quixote* and *The Nutcracker*. The following year, David joined the professional division of the Pacific Northwest Ballet School. He performed with the company in productions such as *Prodigal Son*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Nutcracker*. Since joining Nevada Bal-

let Theatre, David's repertoire has included lead roles in George Balanchine's *Who Cares?*, *Allegro Brillante*, Bruce Steivel's *Peter Pan*, Sonia Dawkins' *Legitimate Brillo* and a principal role in in Val Caniparoli's *Lambarena*. David is happy to be entering his third season with Nevada Ballet Theatre.

Tickets are priced at \$15 for reserved seating and go on sale to the general public Saturday, November 3. Call (702) 894-7722 or 1-800-392-1999. All proceeds from the event will go to Nevada Ballet Theatre to support performances and educational projects. **Q**



HONORARIUM TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

At press time, seats and tables were still available for The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada's 13th Annual Honorarium, to be held November 3 at the Gold Coast Hotel & Casino. The theme for 2007 is "Many Colors, One Cause," representing the diversity of Las Vegas joining together for the greater good of our community.

This year's honorees include Earl Shelton, Dawn Christensen, Dr. Gary Schroeder, Marcus Grissom (aka Kitty Litter), Brent Lovett and Joshua Snipper.

Tickets are expected to be available until the day of the event and may be obtained by calling The Center at (702) 733-9800 or online at www.thecenterlv.com. **Q**

GET READY TO WEAR YOUR RED DRESS

Mark your calendar for what's expected to be one of the biggest and best fund-raising events to hit the Las Vegas LGBT community.

The Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, whose mission is to raise money for AIDS charities and fight for queer rights and visibility, is actively preparing for their first Sisters, Saints and Sinners Red Dress Event, to be held February 17 at a location yet to be determined.

Based on overwhelmingly popular events in Portland and other cities, this event requires you to wear a red dress to attend.

For more information on the Red Dress Event and the mission of the Sin City Sisters, visit www.sincitysisters.org. **Q**



SNICK'S PLACE CELEBRATES 31 YEARS

Dominic Vitale and the staff of Snick's Place, at the corner of 3rd. Street and Las Vegas Blvd., celebrated the bar's 31st anniversary on Wednesday, October 17. Snick's Place continues its reign as Las Vegas' oldest bar for our LGBT community still in operation.

IN MEMORY OF SHENALE "CHUCK" MILLS JULY 26, 1974 - OCTOBER 7, 2007

Shenale "Chuck" Mills, 33, previously of Las Vegas, died, suddenly and unexpectedly, at home in the arms of his beloved husband, partner and friend, Chuck Wilson, on October 7, in Atlanta. Chuck is survived by his husband Chuck Wilson, Las Vegas, NV; Mother, Bernice Mills, Virginia Beach, VA; Brothers, Gene, Jerome, and John and Sisters Marcelle and Roberta. Chuck was laid to rest on October 13 in Virginia Beach.

Chuck and Chuck met in Las Vegas and then relocated to Atlanta earlier this year. Chuck's first love was God, his partner and family, he also loved basketball, traveling, was a great cook, and a great friend to all that knew him.

Chuck will be sadly missed by all those who knew and loved him. Friends may call Chuck Wilson at (404) 694-6955. A memorial service is pending for the many friends who knew and loved Chuck here in Las Vegas.



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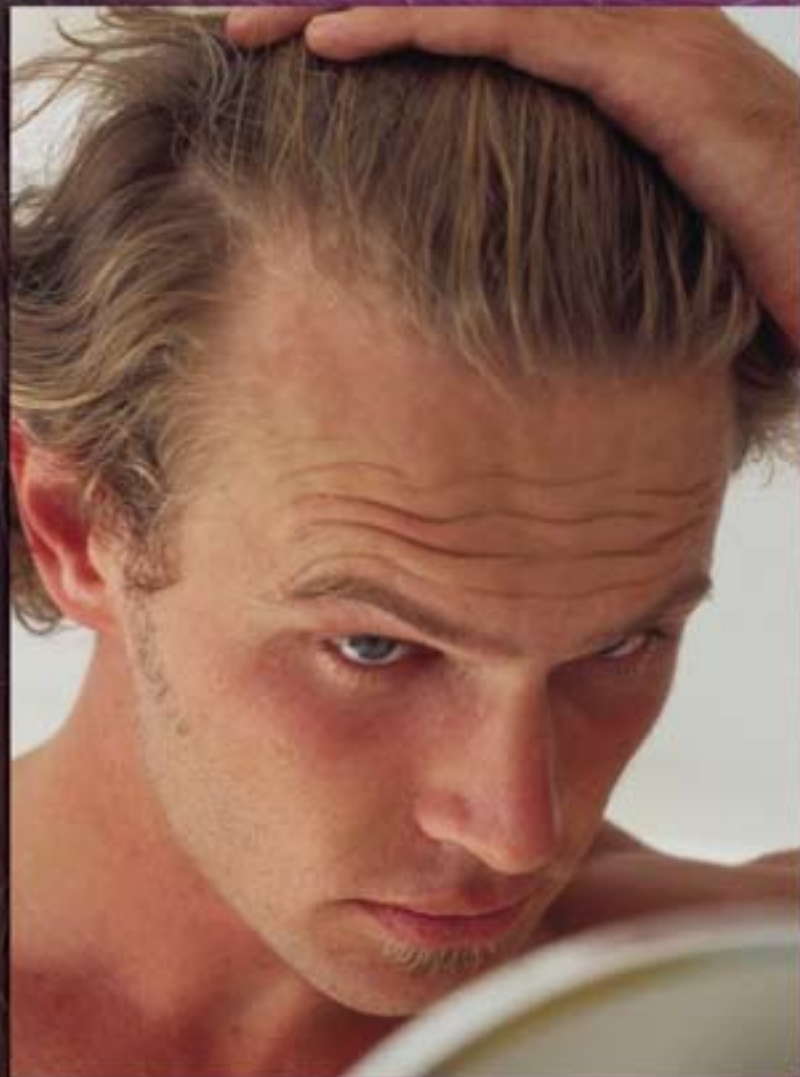
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QNEWS >> LOCAL, NATIONAL AND BEYOND

APOLLO SPA CHANGES OWNERSHIP AND BECOMES ENTOURAGE VEGAS

Customers of the Apollo Health Club and Spa will have noticed a subtle change of emphasis taking place in the last few weeks. Primarily this was as a result of Chris Campbell (Stonewall Publishing's general manager) being asked to step in as a temporary manager while the owners found a replacement for Manny Weiffenbach. It appears that Chris has found his niche in life because he has now persuaded the owners to sell it to him. Anyone who has ever met Chris might be surprised he seems to be swapping leadership of *QVegas* for a rather more esthetic existence managing one of gay Las Vegas' best-known institutions. He corrected me and said that helping *QVegas* publisher Kelly McFarlane Smith with the magazine was and still is his passion and that Apollo was his chance, as he put it, to put his money where his mouth is.

I decided to explore a little further and asked Chris to explain what his plans for the old Apollo actually are. It appears a name change to Entourage Vegas is among the first changes. Chris explained that Apollo's reputation was incompatible with what he has planned for the place. At that stage I felt a bit like an advocate for the community, knowing what Apollo's reputation is in the community, I needed to get the skinny on how the place is going to change. Chris thinks for a moment and announces that when he is done the establishment formerly known as the Apollo will become a social Mecca for gay men. Instead of being ashamed to say you go to or have been there you will not feel complete unless you visit it at least once a week.

Now I'm intrigued. Exactly how does he expect to change community perceptions about a sleazy bathhouse into?—what did he call it?—a social Mecca for gay men. The answer took Chris a little over two hours to explain and culminated in an on-site visit to help in the visualization. I will summarize just some of the more interesting concepts: an internet café featuring state of the art Apple iMac machines; upgraded

gym, steam room, sauna and restroom facilities; and more spa experiences such as massage treatments, hair removal services, hydrocolon therapy coming in the foreseeable future.

How does he expect to achieve all this, I asked? Chris explained that he has always been a critic of bath-houses. He launches into a speech which, for the sake of brevity, I'll summarize. Chris resents the sleazy reputation that bathhouses have. Apollo has always been the name that everyone speaks about, but nobody admits to going to. The intention is to create a social experience where men of like mind can socialize and obtain health vitality and inner well-being in one place. Alcohol, smoking and any other substances are taboo. The new Entourage Vegas will be all about entering in one frame of mind and leaving in an entirely better one, clean, refreshed and possibly physically changed through one of the many treatments, events and activities that will be available.

Chris is working closely with all to bring about a whole new experience for the gay man living in or visiting Las Vegas. The inevitable question is when? The answer is that it has already started. Chris explains that he is committed to a five year program of major re-investment and improvement. His aim is that any once-monthly visitor will see something different or new each time he visits until the ultimate male Shangri-la in the desert is created. So after running the place for 3 months does he really think it can be done? "My savings and a good deal of debt say it can be done."

On November 21, 8-10 p.m., the community is invited to attend the grand opening of the new internet café at Entourage Vegas. An RSVP to (702) 650-0636 ext. 107 or by e-mail earl@qvegas.com is required for attendance.

Apollo is open 24/7 365 days a year and is located at 953 E. Sahara Ave., Ste. A-13 in the Commercial Center. For more information, call (702) 650-9191 or visit the new Web site at www.entouragevegas.com. **Q**

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LGBT LEADERS TO GATHER IN VEGAS

Las Vegas is about to play host to a whole lot of LGBT power. The 23rd International Gay & Lesbian Leadership Conference will be held there November 29 to December 2, according to the Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute, which sponsors the annual gathering. The conference brings together hundreds of openly gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender public leaders from politics, government and LGBT civil rights organizations.

This year's conference, which will be held at the Paris Las Vegas hotel, will feature speakers, panelists and moderators that include U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), U.S. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), Ambassador James C. Hormel, NBC News White House correspondent John Yang, NPR News reporter Ari Shapiro, Blogger Pam Spaulding, and OurChart CEO Hilary Rosen. U.S. Senator Harry Reid has been invited to address the convention, but had not accepted as of press time.

Openly gay Nevada state Assemblyman David Parks (D-Las Vegas) is the local host and the main reason the group picked Las Vegas this year. "I was determined to show my fellow colleagues how welcoming and diverse our city is. I made a strong case that attendees would appreciate coming here, and I'm told that early registration numbers have

proven me correct. This will be the largest Leadership Conference yet, and I don't think that's a coincidence," Parks said.

"We're honored that Las Vegas has opened its arms to us," said Chuck Wolfe, president and CEO of the Leadership Institute. "We get a lot of work done each year at this conference, but attendees always appreciate being in a place where they can have some fun too. Having a local leader like David make a strong case for his city made it a much easier decision."

The opening reception on Thursday, Nov. 29, at Planet Hollywood Casino will be followed by two days of panel discussions and keynote speeches. Out comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer will entertain conference-goers at a closing party at Krave on Saturday, Dec. 1. The Leadership Institute is also holding its Campaign & Candidate Training concurrent with the conference. The training teaches budding politicians how to run winning campaigns, especially when a candidate is openly LGBT.

The Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute is a non-partisan, tax-exempt education and training organization dedicated to equipping LGBT leaders for success. For more information, visit www.glli.org. For more information about the conference, visit www.glli.org/conference2007. **Q**

SLDN DEMANDS INVESTIGATION INTO DEATH OF LESBIAN SERVICE MEMBER

Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) recently demanded that Pentagon officials conduct a full and thorough investigation into the death of Specialist Ciara Durkin, a lesbian service member with the Massachusetts Army National Guard who was found dead from a gunshot wound to the head September 27. Durkin was serving in Afghanistan at the time. SLDN joined Durkin's family, Senators Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and John Kerry (D-MA) and Congressman William Delahunt (D-MA) in calling for the investigation.

"Specialist Durkin's family deserves to know what happened," said Aubrey Sarvis, the group's executive director. "Though we have no evidence, at the moment, to conclude that this was a hate-motivated crime, numerous questions demand that military leaders must search for the answers. Ciara was, by all accounts, a stellar National Guardsman who loved serving our country. Anything but a full and thorough investiga-

tion into her untimely death would be a disservice to her memory."

Durkin's sister, Fiona Canavan, told the *Boston Globe* that, while evidence does not clearly point to a hate crime, the family has no evidence to the contrary, either. "Ciara was a lesbian, and that's bound to come out," Canavan said. "It is possible that someone over there found that out, and, you know, maybe they were very homophobic."

"Specialist Durkin was a first-class soldier and her family deserves first-class treatment from military leaders," Sarvis said. "We will not rest until the facts surrounding her death are known and her family is satisfied that they have received all relevant information about the murder."

SLDN has also asked anyone who served with Durkin or who may have information regarding her to death to contact the organization at (202) 328-FAIR or by email at legal@sldn.org. **Q**

AMAZING RACE WINNER TO RAISE MONEY FOR NINE HIV/AIDS CHARITIES

Chip Arndt, who won CBS's *Amazing Race 4*, has teamed up with Hollywood creative minds Luis Iga, Jorge Valdés-Iga, Eric Levine, Kyle Alvarez and Good-Cop Bad-Cop Productions to reach out to the YouTube Generation to raise awareness—and money—for people living with HIV/AIDS. The collaboration has resulted in the production of a music video, which has become part of Chip's Personal Response to AIDS Across America (CPR to AAA), which may be found at www.myspace.com/chiparndt.

The goal of CPR to AAA is to raise

\$100,000 by December 1, 2007 for nine non-profit organizations that help persons living with HIV/AIDS. Arndt completed his second AIDS ride, from Gettysburg, Virginia to New York City, on September 30, and appeared as the Grand Marshal of the Washington, DC AIDS Walk on October 6. He completed another AIDS walk and ride in Florida earlier this year.

To learn more about Arndt's campaign, or to make a donation, please visit <http://www.myspace.com/chiparndt>, or email Arndt at cpaaa@chiparndt.com. **Q**

LONDON MOST VISITED INTERNATIONAL DESTINATION FOR US LGBT TRAVELERS

London is the most visited international destination for gay and lesbian travelers residing in the US, according to the 12th Annual Gay & Lesbian Tourism Survey conducted by Community Marketing, Inc., San Francisco, CA. It is the largest consumer survey of its kind, and 8.4 percent of the 6,764 US residents surveyed had visited Britain's capital in the last 12 months, placing it ahead of Paris, Rome and Montreal. Survey respondents indicated that they chose leisure destinations because friends recommended them, they offer unique attractions, and are known for their gay-friendliness.

Simon Bradley, Executive Vice President of VisitBritain – The Americas, the tourist office for England, Scotland and Wales, said: "We were one of the first tourist boards to market a destination to America's LGBT communities, so we are absolutely delighted to hear this news. Britain's inclusive society and friendly welcome combine with our history, culture and diverse destinations. The gay and lesbian market typically comprises of experienced, savvy travelers who take longer vacations."

London has the largest gay and lesbian population in Europe. From the bars and restaurants in Soho, considered the heart of gay London, to the many historic icons including royal residences and parks, world-class shopping and free-to-visit museums, London offers something for everyone. And London is the perfect stepping stone for heading on to Britain's stunning landscapes like the Lake District and Highlands of Scotland, as well as to cities including Manchester, Brighton, Stratford-upon-Avon, Bath, York and Edinburgh.

Staff in VisitBritain's New York office are

proud of how gay-friendly Britain is. Jordan Hewitt, a Brit who is on a yearlong work placement and recently attended Halsted Street Fair and GLAAD Summer Series events to promote Britain, said: "It's fantastic to get out there and meet Americans who want to travel to Britain when England, Scotland and Wales are so gay-friendly. There really is a warm welcome for gay and lesbian visitors. I'm from Aberdeen in Scotland, even this smaller city has a gay scene and same-sex couples who all feel very much part of the community."

Britain has long been considered one of the friendliest countries in the world and, from 2005, same-sex couples have been able to register Civil Partnerships, with many venues providing spectacular settings for ceremonies.

VisitBritain's marketing campaign has, this year, seen the organization sponsoring PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and GLAAD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation), as well as continuing online and print advertising with gay-specific media. The campaign directs Americans to the website - www.VisitBritain.com/Rainbow - to "experience the colors of Britain", subtly highlighting the country's diversity and culture. VisitBritain's dedicated gay travel websites have won several IGLTA (International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association) awards over the past ten years.

Britain's reputation as a destination for gay and lesbian visitors was also behind London's selection as host of the IGLFA World Championships (August 24 - 30, 2008) when 1,500 people are expected to come to Britain to participate in or watch the largest gay sporting event ever held in the UK. **Q**

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On February 17, 2008, the Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will host Sisters, Saints and Sinners Red Dress Event. To prepare our community for Las Vegas' first red dress affair, QVegas has asked community leaders, business owners and managers to show the community it is okay for one night to wear a red dress.

The following pages present just thirteen of the over 50 men and women who have agreed to be pictured to help raise money for Sin City Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program (SADAP). All the proceeds raised from the event will benefit SADAP.

This program is designed to assist individuals living with HIV/AIDS in Southern Nevada with both short-term and long-term acquisitions of prescribed medications needed for their continued health and well-being.

Please visit QVegas.com for more information on the event details and how you can get involved.

JOSHUA MONTGOMERY
HIV PREVENTION COORDINATOR
THE CENTER

"I will do anything (haha) to raise money for our community."

J. HAMILTON
REGISTERED NURSE
UMC TRAUMA ICU

"I support all causes that help the LGBT community. I believe that support within the community is paramount to our community moving forward."

RANDY SLOVACEK
REALTOR

"I think this is a great cause that helps people affected by HIV/AIDS to look forward to their own future. I'd like to think of this as my own appearance in a red dress to hopefully inspire others to look to the future."

TOD STORY
DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR
CONGRESSWOMAN
SHELLEY BERKLEY

"I am wearing a red dress to support the worthy cause of assisting those individuals aided by this program and organization."

VALERIE JAMES
SINGER

"Because I heard they needed a GIRL in a dress too!"

MICHAEL GINSBURG
LABORATORY MANAGER
REPROCURE LLC

"Twofold: 1. When our friends at QVegas ask us to do something for charity, the answer is always yes. 2. Putting on a red dress seems like such a small thing to do compared to the impressive goal of SADAP, and we are proud to participate."



**FRANK FELIZ
(AKA MISS FRANKIE)**
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
CMTECH

"I love being a lady in red, especially when I am helping the community."

NATHAN MARES
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
& MR. GAY PRIDE 2007

"Well, red is my favorite color! But in all honesty I believe in our community and if there is anything that I can do or be a part of, I am there!"

SERGIO X. BROOKS
INTERNET SALES MANAGER
COURTESY IMPORTS

"I believe in giving back to the community as much as possible, and by supporting the organizations that support the LGBT community, I hope to raise awareness as well as increase and improve services to those who need it in Southern Nevada."

**TROY SIMMONS
& ERIC PETERSON**
OWNERS, NORTHERN LIGHTS

"We are wearing dresses because it is a different approach to fund-raising, and we love doing creative things."

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“Once we are able to establish some kind of freedom of authenticity as individuals, then we will be able to heal the country as well.”

Jennifer Beals



JENNIFER
BEALS

Redefined!

An Interview by David R. Guarino

THE LAST FOUR YEARS HAVE BEEN NOTHING IF NOT SIGNIFICANT IN THE LIFE OF ACTRESS JENNIFER BEALS.

As the beautiful, driven, yet emotionally flawed Bette Porter on Showtime's "The 'L' Word," Beals has fearlessly portrayed a competitive Los Angeles art professional who also happens to be lesbian and bi-racial. Sans sexuality (Beals is heterosexual in real life); the role of "Bette" would seem to somewhat parallel Beals' own personal experiences as a successful bi-racial woman in the fiercely competitive world of show business and entertainment.

Heading up an outstanding ensemble cast, Beals has carefully guided her character through a dizzying assortment of triumphs, tragedies, indiscretions and betrayals as she and her eminently capable co-stars have made history creating the first-ever continuing drama to focus on the lives, loves and often numbing realities of a particular group of lesbian friends living in Los Angeles' fast lane.

It would seem that *The L Word* not only brought Beals into a position of sharper focus, it has redefined her career as an actress. The bold and often controversial show has proven to be an unprecedented success, now heading into its fifth triumphant season on the always innovative Showtime Network come January 2007. With a parade of guest stars making their mark on the show, including the likes of: Camryn Mannheim (*The Practice*), Cybill Shepherd (*Moonlighting*), Anne Archer, Alan Cumming, Eric Mabius (*Ugly Betty*), Sandra Bernhard, Holland Taylor, Tammy Lynn Michaels and Guinevere Turner among many others, *The L Word* has remained one of Showtime's most successful

projects, following closely in the footsteps of its groundbreaking yet equally controversial predecessor, *Queer as Folk*.

A graduate of Yale University, the Chicago-born Beals is no stranger to success. In fact, she had her first major break playing the part of Alexandra Owens in the smash 1983 blockbuster, *Flashdance*, while she was still attending classes at the Ivy League college. She went on to star in over fifty films, and has also tackled television as well, guesting on such classic shows as *Frasier*, *The Outer Limits*, *Nothing Sacred*, and *Law and Order*.

I caught up with this intelligent, lovely award-winning actress on the heels of a recent visit she made to The Windy City to appear in a celebrity cook-off.

DG: Jennifer, you have been filming the fifth season of *The L Word*, and the question that's on my mind and everyone else's, I guess, is: are you surprised that the show has lasted this long and secondly, where is the show going? Is it nearing the end of its run?

JB: I can't imagine that it will go on that much longer just because, historically, on Showtime, no show has gone past five seasons. And I'm sure they have a lot of other shows that they would like to put forward into the world. But then on the other hand, the show is so successful and it certainly makes them money, so I'm not really sure. I know that the cast would be happy to come back for a sixth season. Everything is in place for that to be able to happen. This is the first year that I'm really, really not sure.

Being honest with you, Jennifer, I have always found it disappointing that the story

line between you and your fictional lover, Tina, took you through a very acrimonious breakup and to a place where the two of you became distant, almost to the point of being enemies. I was wondering how difficult it was for you and Laurel Holloman to play that story arc through. Were you happy with the ultimate direction the writers had taken?

Well, David, I think it was truthful in the sense that people change, and if you don't recognize and process that change as a couple, then you can be doomed. And I think that they were. Unfortunately, I do wish that Ilene (Chaiken-Creator and Exec Producer) would have had us process more early on. And it was very difficult...first of all when she made Bette have an affair; I was so, so upset by it, that I could barely even talk to the woman with whom I was supposed to be acting. It was really hard for me; I was resentful that it was all happening. But people move on and characters move on...and Bette found Jodi (Marlee Maitlin) who is really amazing...Bette is lucky to have some kind of relationship with Tina, and they have their child together, so, it isn't so bad.

I have several lesbian friends who are rabid fans, and it just seems like everyone was rooting for Tina and Bette to survive this...

Yeah, to pull it together and be adults.

Exactly.

Oh, I Know. But I think everybody has their journey; you know, fictional characters are not exempt from that. I would hope that Bette and Tina would be able to ► **PAGE 30**

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◀ **PAGE 30** maintain at least some kind of friendship as the years go on.

When I interviewed Eric Mabius prior to his huge success on *Ugly Betty*, I remember him saying how much he enjoyed working with you and how he felt that you had set a tone or a standard for the rest of the cast when he worked with all of you on the first season of *The L Word*...

We had so much fun. He's a very dear friend and we have remained in contact after he left the show. I loved working with him because he's so grounded as an actor.

Jennifer, what type of performance do you find the most intimidating? I mean, you've appeared in film, on television and on the stage...

Oh, the stage is always the most intimidating for me. And it's also the most freeing. It's the most intimidating because it's you—you and the audience and the other people around you; you can't rely on the camera to tell the story. And in that way it's incredibly liberating but it's also a huge responsibility. I like the communal feeling, especially of a television show that goes on for years and years. The group is working on a story; I like that feeling. There's something about film that is really magical in that you know there's a beginning, a middle and an end. All of them are exciting. To act, period, is exhilarating.

I saw your work in the film *Grudge 2* and I thought you were wonderful in it.

[Jennifer laughs.] Oh, thanks! It's was really fun; I had my daughter with me. My mother loves Japan, and this was a great opportunity to work and to travel to Japan and work on something that was in a genre that I found interesting. You know it was all based on those ancient Japanese horror stories, and the tradition is really fascinating.

Jennifer, you have gone beneath the skin of a lesbian woman for the last five years, playing on *The L Word*. In terms of the lessons learned, what stands out in your mind?

I've learned the importance of story telling; I mean, I've learned it again in a much more palpable way. What I've learned is that the stories we tell are crucial to our well-being both as individuals and as groups. It's essential to the collective and it's essential to the individual. And I feel really privileged to have been part of a story that is deeply meaningful, so helpful to so many people. Oh, my God, before I played this character, I never realized how important gay rights issues are; I never paid much attention. And then when

I started playing this character, it was a personal affront to me. It seems outrageous that the things I and many others take for granted, gay people cannot. I think the marriage issue that gays face is outrageous as well.

Did your status as a bi-racial woman help or hinder you in the portrayal of Bette Porter?

[Hesitates.] Well it helped in that I asked for to be written as bi-racial; she wasn't originally conceived as bi-racial. I made the request so that we could draw from other issues that might deepen the character in some ways.

In looking at LGBT issues and their possible resolutions, what area interests you the most? Where is the need for change the greatest, in your eyes?

What has become clear to me, David, is that the issue is one of authenticity. And how we have to give ourselves permission to experience our own authenticity and still allow others to experience theirs. And if we are able to do that, we will not only evolve as human beings, but we will also evolve as a culture and make way for a true democracy. Because right now we don't have a true democracy and part of the reason for that is the need to compartmentalize people and trying to win. Once we are able to establish some kind of freedom of authenticity as individuals, then we will be able to heal the country as well.

Jennifer, you acted as Grand Marshall in the 2006 San Francisco Pride Parade. What was that experience like for you?

It was the most fun! Of all the events I've done for *The L Word*, it was really probably the most fun. David, it was such a rush! People were so lovely, and you know what really irritates me is that so often the news shows characterize them as freak shows. When I was there in San Francisco it was primarily families, so totally unlike what the media often tries to portray it as being. And it's really true that this is the way the media often tries to characterize the gay community—as a freak show. They don't look at people and their relationships, they don't look at the families, and in doing so it really makes it hard in terms of passing legislation for GLBT people regarding the most simple of rights, including basic things like hospital visitation. People aren't looking at gay couples other than as some form of bizarre entertainment. And that's really upsetting to me. **Q**

The *L Word*: The Complete Fourth Season is available on DVD from CBS/Paramount Home Entertainment. The fifth season of *The L Word* debuts January 6, 2008 on Showtime. Check local listings for times.

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I'M DREAMING OF A GAY CHRISTMAS

BY RICHARD DAVIS

It's home for the holidays and your boyfriend doesn't want to be introduced as your "roommate" again this year. He's tired of sleeping alone downstairs on the hide-a-bed and you're not exactly full of holiday cheer yourself about being tucked away on your lonesome in your boyhood bunk. So this year you've decided to come out for the holidays! Are you crazy or what? We asked some of our community's emotional and spiritual caregivers what they think about coming out over the holidays. And, if you've made the decision to come out this holiday season, what's the best way to do it?



"Try to find a better time," suggests the Reverend David Gillentine, associate pastor at Metropolitan Community Church. "The holidays can be traumatic enough all on their own. Sure, everyone is together at Thanksgiving, but not everyone is equally ready to hear what you have to say. Mom might be ready, Dad not. Depending on the level of your family's dysfunctionality, you could end up being blamed for 'ruining the holidays.'"

"Coming out is very stressful to do during the holidays," says therapist Susan Thompson. "Plan out carefully your approach and how you are going to have the conversation. Love yourself first, and likewise, be very kind, very gentle in your approach."

Joan Israel, a licensed clinical social worker, says that it is important to assess your audience. She recommends that you ask yourself, "Who's going to be there? Who am I going to tell? Mom? Dad? Only your siblings? Or everybody?" Regardless of whom you decide to tell, Rev. Gillentine says, "Don't pit family member against family member, but work with the strengths of each individual."

"Get as relaxed as possible before you begin," Israel advises. "Do deep abdominal breathing. Exhale completely before you open your mouth." She says, "Start by asking them, 'Is this a good time to talk?' If they say, yes, they have indicated that they are ready to listen. Are you prepared to listen to what they have to say, even if it is negative?"

"Tell it like it is," says Ron Lawrence, ex-

ecutive director of Community Counseling Center. "Don't be concerned about sugarcoating it. Tell your experience the way that you have experienced it. You need to be firm in your identity. Allow people to have whatever feelings they may have, but remain firm. Some people will have to grieve because it is not what they expected. For others it will be no big deal. But whatever the range of feelings, let people have their own feelings."

Charles O'Neill, director of Imago Dei, Gay and Lesbian Catholic Ministries of Las Vegas, said, "When I came out, my family had to 'come out' also as having a gay son. When you come out to your family, be as patient and loving with them in their 'coming out' experience as you were with yourself when you where coming out. You want them to love and accept you just as you are, love and accept them as they are. Give them time to come to terms with it. If I had blown up at my evangelical Christian father for not immediately accepting me, because he had to wrestle with his own response, then I may not have gotten the letter that came latter affirming his unconditional love for me."

Israel cautions that even if your family says they are ready to listen, "Be ready for the worst case scenario. I knew one person whose father literally had a heart attack. You need to have a support system ready to back you up." Rev. Gillentine also emphasized the need to surround yourself with a supportive community when you come out to

your family. Thompson added, "You need to have good self-esteem."

Randi Ferrell Vazquez, a family therapist, said, "Holiday time is a good time to come out because it is a time that represents family, acceptance and love. It is a time of connecting, when we can share each other with each other. How can I love my family and not be real with them?"

"Coming out is a good and loving thing to do in itself," Vazquez said. "Don't let the goodness of what you are doing depend on what anyone else says. Their possible lack of acceptance is not your problem. You should come out because you feel good about sharing yourself, not because you are trying to change them."

Israel says, "If your family's response is negative, remember, it is about their fears and their values. It's not about you. It's about them." O'Neill concurs, "If their response is negative, your gayness may not be the only issue in the relationship."

"Everyone might say, 'We've been waiting for you to tell us,'" Rev. Gillentine said. "Your family may be loving and supporting." Israel said, "Holiday time is a happy, family time, and so in some families the holidays are a very happy, positive time to come out."

O'Neill said, "After I came out, I had a nine hour drive back home and I kept asking myself, 'Did I actually just tell my family that I'm gay?' I knew things would be different from that time on." **Q**

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Celebritney

BY ANDREW GEORGIU

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One could argue that the birthplace of the "home-brand" celebrity was reality television. This television phenomenon, responsible for putting half the scriptwriters and actors in Hollywood out of work, first introduced us to ourselves nearly a decade ago. From *Survivor*, *Big Brother*, and *The Bachelor*, through to *The Biggest Loser* and back again, reality television has made household names from extremely average households. Their rise to fame and fade to obscurity is nothing new. One can't recall all the contestants from *The Apprentice*, just that you wanted them to die in that lift before the boardroom scene. It's pleasurable to see them get fired by a ginger combover

on legs, but after they take off in a cab, we wouldn't know them from that slutty intern in the White House.

The 8 million hits Chris "leave Britney alone" Crocker experienced in the week his boo-hoo-tube video was release was even more of a surprise than Britney's ice-induced performance at the VMAs. Global corporations spend millions of dollars for that sort of exposure and a twink with poorly-applied Maybeline mascara and a stained bed sheet as a set, achieves their corporate wet dream from his nana's house in Tennessee. They must have skipped the "weeping homo" technique at Harvard Business School. As a result of his KMart toy aisle tantrum, Crocker's previous YouTube monologues suddenly experienced enormous attention. His Britney tears earned him top billing on a variety of news channels in the U.S and abroad, so it came as no surprise when he was offered his own television show as a result of his tanty. Christ knows, sister should actually manage Ms. Spears.

In a sense, outlets such as YouTube and MySpace have become the new talent scout agencies. Why flick through a portfolio of actors' head shots, smiling like serial killers at the camera with their clenched fists fused to their chins as head support, when you can find the real deal online? With homemade celebs such as Perez Hilton and Chris Crocker, who needs William Morris?

However everything comes full circle. Reality shows are beginning to decline in popularity. Apart from *Celebrity Colonic Irrigation* and *Surprise Abortion Clinic* there really isn't much left. We crave reality because it makes us feel closer to celebrities, then we reject it again claiming that it's not entertaining enough. We watch Angie and Brad adopt the entire VonTrapp family, and then we scorn them for being out of reach. Perhaps we have simply got a nasty case of COPD—Celebrity Obsession Bi Polar Disorder?

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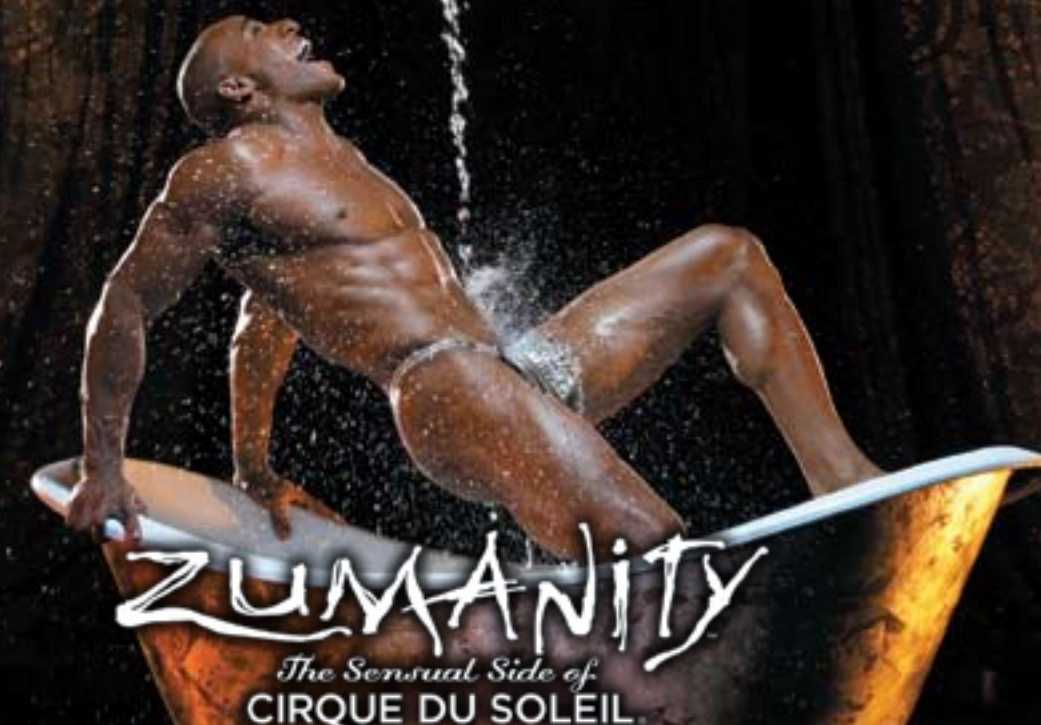
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Prepare to laugh your ass off—and you'll have plenty chances to do so—when The Comedy Festival (TCF) comes to town mid-month.

TCF is a four-day comedy event that takes place at Caesars Palace November 14-17 with multi-artist performances, tributes, stand-up and sketch comedy as well as live televised special events. Organized by HBO and AEG Live and sponsored by TBS, the first TCF took place November 17-19, 2005. Last year's performers included Bill Maher, Bob Saget, Chris Rock, Sarah Silverman and George Lopez.

This year, a slew of big name (Ellen Degeneres, Jerry Seinfeld, Chris Rock) talent has been added to the schedule, including Chelsea Handler (pictured above). Individual shows take place throughout the property in the various ballrooms as well as the Colosseum and the Roman Plaza Amphitheatre. Notable comedians on the schedule are listed at right.

At the Festival Village in the Roman Plaza, guests can enjoy live entertainment, music, special events, celebrity signings and more.

Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com and may be available at the box office on the performance date, subject to availability. Prices vary depending on artist and venue.

Visit www.thecomedyfestival.com for the updated schedule and more information. 

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14

AUGUSTUS BALLROOM, 9 P.M.

The Soprano's Steve Schirripa hosts the Vegas Va-Voom Variety Spectacular

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

AUGUSTUS BALLROOM, 7 P.M.

Kims of Comedy with Steve Byrne, Bobby Lee, Dr. Ken Jeong and Kevin Shea

THE COLOSSEUM, 7:30 P.M.

"Ellen's Really Big Show," a Vegas variety special by Ellen Degeneres

AUGUSTUS BALLROOM, 12 A.M.

Artie Lange

FRIDAY, NOV. 16

THE COLOSSEUM, 8 P.M.

Jerry Seinfeld

PALACE BALLROOM, 8 P.M.

Blue Collar Comedy: The Next Generation Hosted by Bill Engvall

AUGUSTUS BALLROOM, 8 P.M.

Russell Simmons' Def Comedy Jam

AUGUSTUS BALLROOM, 10:30 P.M.

Nick Swardson & Jamie Kennedy

THE COLOSSEUM, 11 P.M.

Chris Rock

PALACE BALLROOM, 12 A.M.

Chelsea Handler & Jim Breuer

SATURDAY, NOV. 17

AUGUSTUS BALLROOM, 7:30 P.M.

Wanda Sykes

THE COLOSSEUM, 8 P.M.

Jerry Seinfeld

PALACE BALLROOM, 10 P.M.

Joy Behar & Kevin Nealon

AUGUSTUS BALLROOM, 10 P.M.

Eddie Izzard

THE COLOSSEUM, 11 P.M.

Chris Rock

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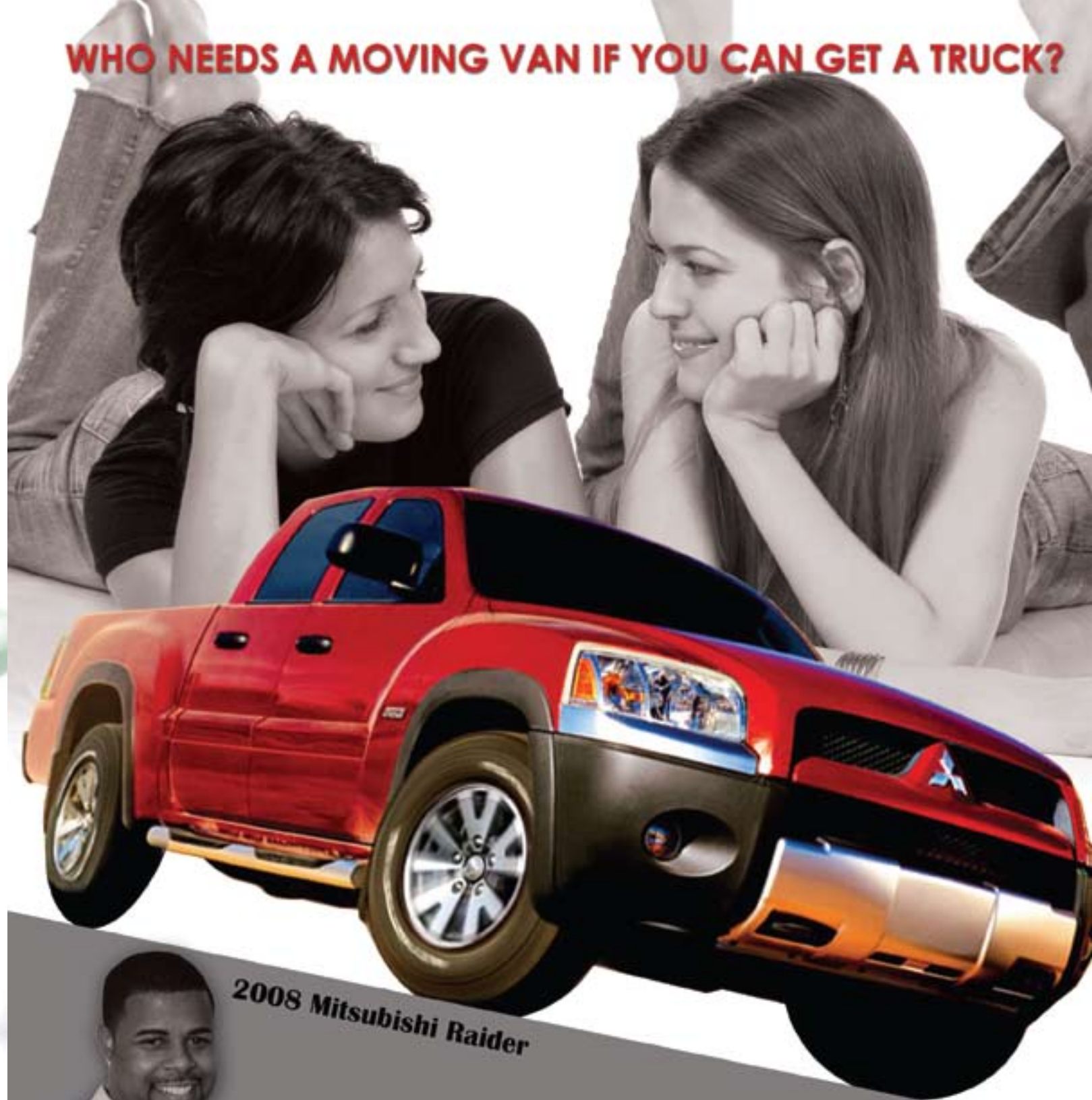
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ACT II

THE CONTROVERSY BEHIND THE REVISED EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT

BY WILLIAM BESSETTE

As Democrats swept both houses of congress in our last major election, the chances of our elected representatives taking up an issue specific to the LGBT community became much greater. Now we know what the first will be, probably the easiest one to push through a very tightly wound Senate and raucous house. The first Employment Non-Discrimination Act, or ENDA as the bill has come to be known, was intended to provide employment protections specifically aimed towards gays, lesbians, bisexual, and transgender employees. Unfortunately, a second bill was offered in September that would leave out protection for transgender employees. Representative Barney Frank, an openly gay congressman from Massachusetts, removed language from the new bill that protected transgender individuals from discrimination, thus causing a backlash among the community.

On June 28, 1969, police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village. The years of relentless harassment and entrapment by police, however, had grown to a simmer and the patrons of the bar fought back. That response to the intolerance of public officials was driven mainly by the bar's transgender customers. In some cases it has even been reported that a transgender woman named Sylvia Rivera threw a bottle at a police officer after being prodded by a nightstick, thus triggering the series of arrests and riots. In a time of such intolerance as 1969, transgender people stood up for the rights of all gay, lesbian, and bi-sexual people by not allowing themselves to be discriminated against. To this day, the Stonewall riots are marked as a watershed moment in the history of gay people all over the world. By removing a protection for transgender people in the ENDA bill, Barney Frank, himself a gay man, is saying no to those who so long ago made it possible for him to be an openly gay congressman.

It is said the language was removed in order to make the bill more likely to pass. Opponents of the bill offer their usual array of arguments which range from homosexuality and gender identity being choices to employment specific questions, such as concerns over bathroom usage. Companies will work through their own specific concerns in positive ways if they are given the right sort of prodding by the government. This bill is just that sort of prodding; it hasn't been since the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that a bill has been offered with such a scope as this when it comes to protecting minority

communities. It is unfortunate that by removing protections for transgender individuals, they undermine the very spirit of the bill which is that fairness is a fundamental American principle, and it is unfair to fire or refuse to hire people based on identity, rather than job performance or qualifications.

In the end it may matter little as to which bill passes, as President Bush is likely to veto either one. This begs the question of whether or not it is worth it to at least pass a bill, rather than no bill at all. If Republicans block the bill entirely and it fails, it will be more difficult for them to change their vote later and harder to even get the bill up to a future president who would be more likely to sign it. By at least passing this bill without the transgender language and allowing it to be vetoed, a future bill offered to a different President may find itself in a more favorable climate to include a gender identity amendment.

So, the controversy will continue and the discussion will rage both in and outside of the LGBT community. Even as this article goes to print, it will be unlikely that either ENDA bills will have been put up for a full vote in the house. With a presidential veto looming, it may not matter anyhow. What must be remembered, however, is that next year brings a new election and with it the possibility of a president who would be willing to acknowledge fundamental human rights and not veto them. As time goes by it becomes more and more apparent as to why the LGBT community's involvement in next year's election is so important. **Q**

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NIGHTMARE ON MADELINE ST.

BY RICHARD DAVIS

Harry Thorn, 67, a retired room service waiter, has lived at 2008 Madeline Drive in northwest Las Vegas for thirty years. Thorn met his partner Garry Miedl, 62, a barber, while eating at Denny's when they both happened to turn to give money to a beggar at the same moment. Miedl has lived with Thorn at their Madeline Drive home for 27 years. The two are members of Metropolitan Community Church, where Miedl used to sing in the church choir. All was happy until approximately two years ago when Vicky Eckols moved into 2004 Madeline Drive.

Miedl and Thorn began to notice parking problems in the neighborhood because of the large number of vehicles parked around 2004 Madeline. Beginning in July 2006 there were

a series of police calls regarding cars from 2004 Madeline blocking Miedl and Thorn's driveway at 2008. Problems escalated with "trash" from 2004 being dumped in Miedl and Thorn's yard, first old appliances and then auto parts and an industrial size trailer hitch. Eckols installed flood lights to shine directly on the house at 2008. Miedl's car door was keyed. Acid was spilled on Miedl's car cover. The fence between the properties was damaged. These incidents were accompanied by harassing phone calls and verbal threats, with words such as "queer" and "faggot" being shouted at Miedl and Thorn, particularly by Eckols' boyfriend, Keith Camblin, reputedly a convicted felon. Because of the repeated threats and harassment, Miedl and

Thorn sought and obtained a restraining order against Camblin.

When Miedl and Thorn repeatedly called the local Bolden Area Command of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department under Bureau Commander Captain Patrick Neville about the problems, they said response was condescending, "Like we were idiots," Thorn said. Miedl and Thorn said that 2004 Madeline is openly known as a chop shop, where stolen cars are disassembled and the parts sold. Cars and their disassembled parts clutter the house's property.

On the morning of September 26, 2007, Miedl began to trim the bushes on the south side of his property adjoining Eckols' property at 2004. Camblin suddenly appeared, yell-

ing obscenities and shouting, "Now you're gonna get what you deserve, you fucking queer, fucking faggot. We called the police, they are on their way to arrest you for cutting down our trees." When Thorn came out of the house to see what was happening, Camblin yelled he was going to "take out" Thorn also. He yelled that Miedl and Thorn were child molesters who "fucked little boys in the ass" and that they were on the Internet as child molesters. Camblin came onto the property at 2008 and walked within three feet of Miedl, in violation of the restraining order, and said to Miedl, "I'm going to beat you into the ground and do you in. It will only take me two minutes." Miedl called 911 and Camblin ran back inside the house at 2004. Miedl said that then Eckols came out of the house and assaulted him, grabbing his left arm and scratching his bare arm deeply with her nails.

When the police arrived, Eckols came out to speak with them. They told her the bushes were on Miedl's property and that there was nothing they could do. Officer G. Munco, #6844, looked at where Eckols had scratched Miedl and observed, "You're not bleeding." Sergeant R. Byres told Miedl to file a police report regarding the assault and death threats. No arrests were made despite

the fact that a court-ordered restraining order had been violated and, as was later discovered by Miedl and Thorn's lawyer, Christina DiEdoardo, a no bail bench warrant was out for Camblin's arrest. They ascribe the lack of police action to discrimination. The police report indicates that the incident had a "bias motivation."

According to Eckols, she is the one being harassed. "From the day I purchased this house they have accused me of dealing drugs, of car theft, murder, you name it. They have gone through my mail, followed people who come to my house, researched my life. They had my power shut off, my water shut off."

Eckols accuses Miedl of trespassing, "He jumped into my backyard and took pictures of us while we were in my kitchen." In a September 28, 2005 police report, Eckols said that Miedl had trespassed into her yard and garage and falsely accused them of running a meth lab. She said that Miedl's behavior is "erratic."

"It's insanity," Eckols said. "They have called the police so many times that the last time the police said that they were tired of coming out and that the next time they would arrest them for harassing us." She said that the police have said that the problem between

the two households is a civil matter.

When asked about the bench warrant against Camblin, Eckols said that the warrant was for a missed traffic court date and that the matter had been taken care of. She denied ever physically assaulting Miedl. She said that there are no narcotics or stolen vehicles on her property.

Eckols denies being motivated by animosity towards gay people. "It has nothing to do with their sexual preference. It is about them. Everything they've received has been due to their own actions."

She added, "I will have him injured to the point of being hospitalized if I find him in my backyard again."

When I spoke with Lieutenant Klatt at the Bolden Area Command he said that he was not familiar with the incident and so could not comment. He said that if someone has a complaint about the way that officers have handled a case that they should report it to Internal Affairs. Assisted by their lawyer, Christina DiEdoardo, Miedl and Thorn have a complaint pending as this story goes to press.

Miedl and Thorn vow not to move. "Why should *we* move? It's our home. We've lived here together for 27 years. We intend to die here." **Q**

A MEAL THAT MATTERS

Brought to you by Whole Foods Market



Thanksgiving dinner is traditionally a meal that is steeped in tradition. Some turn to the classics—turkey, cranberry and stuffing. Others step into a more eclectic realm. Wherever your tastes land, get ready to tie on your apron and whip up a meal that is memorable and delicious!

EDIBLE ARRANGEMENTS

Set the mood and create a fetching arrangement to decorate your table or home by using intriguing centerpieces made from edible items. Display seasonal produce in a simple glass vase, a treasured family bowl, or even a wine glass. The arrangement can reflect your style and passion, whether it's simple and elegant or down-to-earth and funky. Try making arrangements from figs, fresh herbs, persimmons, cranberries, pears, berry branches, pomegranates and gourds. ► **PAGE 50**

APRICOT & SHIITAKE MUSHROOM STUFFING

Dairy-Free
Serves 10–12

- 1 large onion
- 4 stalks celery, sliced
- ½ pound shiitake mushrooms, chopped
- oil
- 12-ounce package whole wheat dinner rolls, cubed and dried
- 1 pound breakfast sausage, cooked and crumbled
- 8-ounce package corn bread dressing mix
- 4 ounces dried apricots, chopped
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 tablespoon poultry seasoning
- 1 teaspoon dried sage
- 5 cups poultry stock
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- sea salt, to taste

Combine first 3 ingredients in casserole. Toss with enough oil to moisten vegetables. Roast 15 minutes at 450° F. Add remaining ingredients in a large bowl and mix well. Pour into large oiled casserole and bake, covered, 45 minutes at 350° F.

GINGERED PEARS WITH PORT GLAZE & MASCARPONE

- 4 half-inch pieces fresh gingerroot
- ¾ cup Tawny Port
- ¼ cup fresh lemon juice
- 1½ cups natural sugar
- 6 firm-ripe Anjou, Bartlett, or Comice pears, with stems
- ¾ cup mascarpone cheese
- 2 teaspoons finely grated orange zest

Peel the gingerroot and cut into thin slices, then cut these slices into strips. Cook the gingerroot in enough water to cover for 10 minutes, at simmer. Drain and discard water.

In a large sauce pan, bring 8 cups water to boil with gingerroot, Port, lemon juice, and sugar, stirring until dissolved.

Peel the pears, leaving the stems on, and if necessary cut a thin slice from the bottom of each pear to allow them to stand upright when served. Arrange pears on their sides in the poaching liquid, adding water as necessary to cover. Simmer pears, turning occasionally until tender, 20 to 40 minutes depending upon ripeness.

When ready, transfer the pears using a slotted spoon to a bowl. Finish off the poaching liquid by boiling until reduced and slightly syrupy. Whisk together the mascarpone and orange zest.

To serve, pour the sauce over the pears and spoon dollops of mascarpone over top. Delicious warm or chilled.

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◀ **PAGE 48**

TRADITION MADE EASY

Are you a classic cook? Try a subtle new flavor by choosing a gourmet rub or brine for your turkey. A good rub makes a great turkey, so find one that will add a bit of zest or enough heat to make it interesting.

Brining adds moisture and flavor to poultry and is a must for the serious cook. To brine a turkey, you need salt, seasonings, water and a large, sealable bag to fit the turkey and brine (cover the entire turkey). Try the popular Gourmet Gobbler Brine Kit for a sure crowd-pleaser.

If you're more interested in hosting, spend less time in the kitchen by ordering a pre-cooked gourmet meal. Order a complete holiday meal or a few ready-made side dishes to ensure you have time to light the candles and enjoy your guests.

CREATE YOUR OWN TRADITION

More of an adventurer? Wow your guests with a turducken—a de-boned turkey stuffed with a de-boned duck, which itself is stuffed with a small de-boned chicken that can be braised, roasted, grilled or barbequed. Other meat alternatives include roasted lamb with rosemary and garlic cloves, a perfect glazed ham with herbed French beans, smoked rib roast with collard greens or a perfectly cooked salmon roast.

Meatless options abound, from tofurkeys to completely pre-prepared vegan dinners. Even if your entrée is a meat option, think outside-the-box and serve a vegetarian side dish or vegan dessert. Look for fun and funky options from other cultures or traditions that originate from different regions of the U.S.

or other countries. There are many ways to make your holiday meal fun and a reflection of your personality.

TOAST OF THE TOWN

To begin, raise a glass of bubbly to your honored guests (our recommendation: Nicolas Feuillatte "Reserve Particuliere" Brut) and pair with le Bon Homme Brie and pears.

During dinner, choose a wine that will complement your meal and reflect your good taste. Remember, a good wine doesn't have to be expensive. Whole Foods Market offers a wide selection of complex, exclusive wines priced \$15 a bottle or less. Rosé wines pair well with turkey—try the Chapoutier "Belleruche" Rosé with your meal for a delightful experience.

End the evening with a mug of hot buttered rum finished with a scoop of whipped cream and dusting of nutmeg.

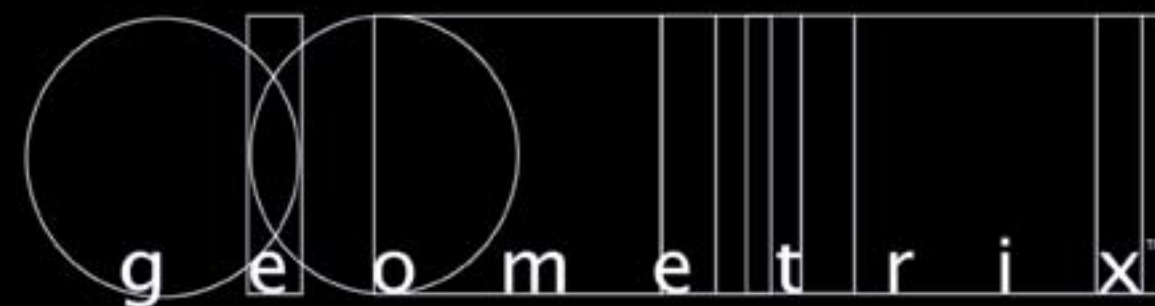
GIVING AND GRATITUDE

Ultimately, Thanksgiving is a day to enjoy a meal with those you love and appreciate. It's a time to give thanks for their valued friendship and the good food to be shared. Celebrate the bounty this season brings! **Q**

If last year's holiday season had you longing for January, Whole Foods Market is here to help. Whether you are searching for all the ingredients to make your meal from scratch or you'd like someone else to do the cooking, we've got you covered. Whole Foods Market is located at 100 S. Green Valley Parkway in Henderson and at 8855 W. Charleston in Las Vegas. Visit www.wholefoods.com for more information or to place your holiday order.



Interior design living rooms and bedroom Hilary Radley, Photos Glenn Moody



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THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW

BY DANAECA SCOTT

Straight people, live with 'em or live with 'em, right? The blasphemy, the name calling, the disgrace from them thrown our way, and the labels; personally, the only label I need and the only label I am accepting of is my name, Danaeca, Black American, and then there is the all too familiar lipstick lesbian.

Heterosexuals know us as gay men or women or as bisexual; however, there are those heterosexuals that are not as kind, and that few and ignorant bunch don't know us as such, but refer to us as fag, dyke, homo, carpet muncher, and fecal freak to name few.

THE REASON

Heterosexual beings have no idea how far our labels have evolved since the days of fag and dyke.

In our own community, we have jumped significantly since those days and now we refer to each other in a much broader spectrum. I believe that we have taken to the labels because after all we are only human, and it is my belief it is human nature to classify things and people. We homos as a whole have been stigmatized as we have decided to take control of the degradation we have been force fed by heterosexuals and clean it up a bit.

By no fault of our own we have been forced to evolve. Evolution after all is not simply the Darwin way, it is the human way.

CROSS-REFERENCE

You might be *butch*, but you can be *masculine* or *stud*. You may be *stud*, but you might just

be *soft butch*. You might be *femme*, but you can be *submissive* or *fish*. You may be *fish*, but you might just be *femme-aggressive*. You may be *soft butch*, but you (unfortunately) might be a *switch-hitter*. You might be *femme-aggressive*, but (if you are blessed) you might be a *lipstick*.

LABELS...WHAT IN THE HELL DOES IT ALL MEAN?

Butch—resembling a man in actions, mannerisms and style of dress; always a *topper*.

Topper—always on top in sexual situations; *masculine*.

Masculine—Holds the man position in life as well as in the relationship; *stud*.

Stud—assumes the role of dominance when opposite a *femme*.

Femme—is the woman in actions, mannerisms and style of dress; always a *bottom*.

Bottom—always on bottom in sexual situations; *submissive*.

Submissive—Holds the woman position in life as well as in the relationships; *fish*.

Fish—assumes the role of submissive when not a *femme-aggressive*.

Femme aggressive—Feminine and with all the attributes of a bottomer submissive; however, she can be the aggressor in bed and/or in life. She has the uncanny ability to look femme but can serve strap with the best of them if need be, which is sometimes the case when with a *soft-butch*.

Soft-Butch—Masculine and with all the attributes of a topper dominate; however,

she can be the submissive in bed and/or in life. She has a knack for being masculine and looking the part but she can also be soft and willing to be dominated if the situation calls for it, which would possibly make her a *switch-hitter*.

Switch-Hitter—A switch-hitter in our community is to a homosexual as a bisexual is to a heterosexual....'nough said!

Finally, the one label true and dear to my heart: lipstick.

LIPSTICK LESBIANS, BABY!

I am so sorry, but we are so fabulous we deserve a paragraph all our own!!

A lipstick lesbian is all glam. She is a step if not two steps up from simply being femme and or submissive. She is glamorous without trying. The lipstick lesbian is femininity with cup runneth over. She is long nails, she is makeup, she is fabulous hair, shoes, and never leaves home without ultra-shiny lip gloss. She is the ultimate arm candy for her butch, and lusted after by men in the masses. She never goes clubbing without her stilettos and her breasts are always out, shimmer between the cleavage, and ready to be adored. She is a woman who loves the submissive life and she enjoys being the bottom; however, she is always number one, on top. She is a lesbian woman who needs no confirmations of affirmations from anyone, man or woman to know who she is. She is a lipstick: Red, glossy and a woman femme or butch can never have too much. **Q**

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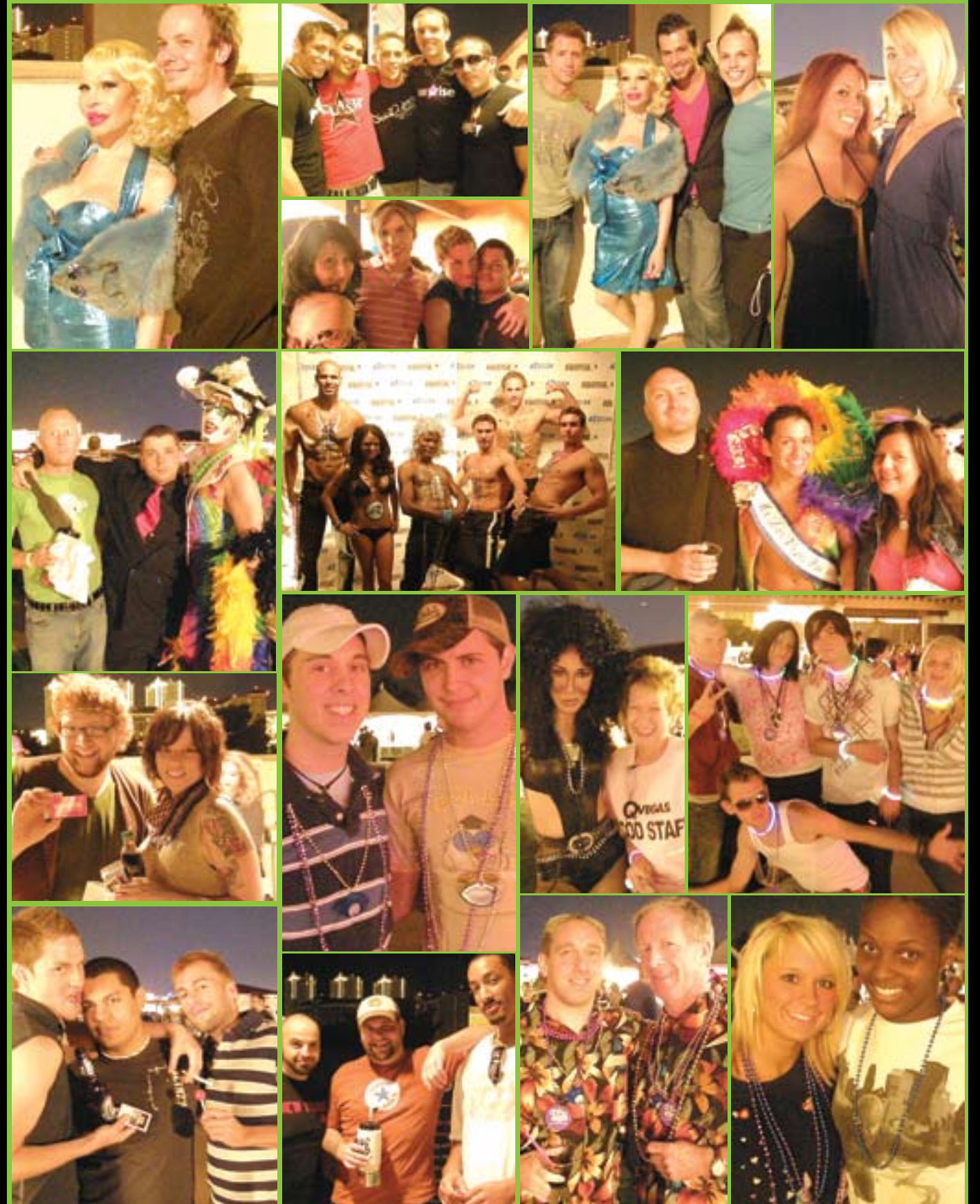
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POWERED BY SERVICE

BY WILLIAM BESSETTE

QVegas sits down with Tony Hsieh, chief executive officer of Zappos.com, for a candid discussion regarding the company, its business, and its future.

Powered by service is a simple, yet profound statement that explains why some companies succeed where others fail in the lost art of customer service. It is also the staple phrase for Zappos.com, an online retailer established in 1999 that, while widely known for their massive selection of shoes, now handles clothing, eye wear and watches, even as they continue to expand into other categories. By maintaining their amazing customer service experience, Zappos.com has managed to grow their sales from \$1.6 million in 2000

to a projected \$800 million this year, while minimizing advertising and maintaining their attractive benefits package. In a time of instability brought on by the mortgage crisis, chief executive officer Tony Hsieh explains why he's not nervous.

"We've been around for a little over eight years," he explains. "During that time we went through the dot com bust, 9/11, the war and a recession. Through all that we kept our culture. If people have to really dig down and make the company successful despite all these other things going on in the world, then that can really have a positive effect on the culture." Talking about culture is very important when it comes to Zappos.com, as they are

very much defined by it. "I think it all starts with our company culture, which is based on our ten core values," Hsieh points out.

Everything about the company is driven by its ten core values, which in themselves shed light on the organization as a whole. They range from *Be Adventurous, Creative and Open Minded* to *Create Fun and a Little Weirdness*, while reminding you to always *Be Humble* during your times of creative weirdness. The company job fairs attract hundreds of people to classes of less than forty by offering an array of attractive benefits, such as an employer paid health plan, which includes domestic partnerships, catered lunches and free drink and snack machines, ► **PAGE 64**

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THE MAGIC OF BEING MYSELF

AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW BY ERICA GRIMALDO



DUTCH ILLUSIONIST **HANS KLOK**, THE STAR OF *THE BEAUTY OF MAGIC* AT PLANET HOLLYWOOD, CHOSE THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY TO **END THE ILLUSION** CREATED AROUND HIS PERSONAL LIFE.

In an exclusive interview with *QVegas*, the 38-year-old illusionist talked about lying when radio personality Howard Stern asked about his sexual orientation last June, his parents' reaction when he first came out of the closet at age 22 and his relationship with his partner of 16 years.

The Beauty of Magic is a fast-paced mix of classic magic tricks, dancing and drama spiced with a healthy dose of skin—mostly Pamela Anderson's with a few glimpses of Klok's chiseled chest and abdomen sprinkled in.

Throughout the 90-minute production, Klok is smooth and charming, making objects float in midair as he flirts and exchanges suggestive jokes with Anderson. But his every movement seems tightly choreographed, down to the way he runs his hands through his professionally tousled blonde mane every few minutes.

In contrast to his stage persona, Klok was relaxed, unguarded and candid during the Oct. 11 interview with *QVegas*.

"I was very lucky to grow up in a progressive country," he said. "Things are different in Europe, being gay is not a big deal over there. This country is more conservative."

Klok began his magic career as a teenager, winning several top international competitions by the time he was 16. By age 23, he was co-starring in a touring show with Holland's top comedian. Two years later he played Vegas for the first time, as part of NBC's *The World's Greatest Magic*, broadcast live from Caesar's Palace to an audience of 60 million people. Then came tours throughout Europe and China.

Last year, about 500 million soccer fans in 152 countries saw him make the World Trophy appear in a glass cage during the opening of the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany.

This summer, Klok reached his goal of starring in his own Las Vegas Strip show. "I wanted an old-fashioned variety act," he said. "It's a high scale-production, something like Liberace meets Siegfried & Roy, meets Cirque du Soleil."

Despite his previous success as an openly-gay performer, Klok said that several people, including Anderson, advised him to hide his sexual orientation until he was better-known in the U.S.

"They told me you don't want to talk about

that right away here in America," he said. "They said it's best to wait two years, until people get to know me."

So, just a few days after *The Beauty of Magic* opened on June 1, Klok told the Howard Stern Show that he was straight.

"I wasn't thinking that I was going to tell Howard Stern that," he said. "He asked me if I fucked this person, that person, if I was heterosexual. He surprised me."

Klok didn't make a public correction. And

DESPITE HIS PREVIOUS SUCCESS AS AN OPENLY-GAY PERFORMER, KLOK SAID THAT SEVERAL PEOPLE, INCLUDING PAMELA ANDERSON, ADVISED HIM TO HIDE HIS SEXUAL ORIENTATION UNTIL HE WAS BETTER-KNOWN IN THE U.S.

when national media outlets such as *Entertainment Tonight* began circulating rumors that he was sexually involved with Anderson, they both fueled the gossip, telling *The Late Late Show* host Craig Ferguson that they were not dating, they just "got physical" behind the scenes.

The lies made headlines in the Netherlands. "I was in trouble," he said. "All the press asked me what is going on because I have always been out in my country."

Klok said he soon decided that he didn't want to lie anymore. "I'm proud about who I am," he said. "I don't want to lie. But then nobody else asked about that, you are the first. It's good to talk about it."

"I did my coming out when I was 22," he said, adding that his parents seemed surprised, but they were very supportive.

"After a long time, my father told me they

were a little sad at first," he said. "They never showed me. But they worried that I have a hard life. You always want your child to be happy."

Klok has been with his partner, Frank, for 16 years and says the quality he loves most about him is that he knows when to give him space.

"Sometimes, sadness makes you selfish," he explained. "When my father died, I was selfish. I didn't want to talk. I wanted to go to the beach, be by myself. He let me do my own thing."

The two also make time to be together, despite Klok's busy schedule.

"Today, the world is smaller," he said. "You don't have to travel a long time to get to different countries. He comes to visit me every 6 weeks."

Klok will be visiting him in the Netherlands Nov. 15 when he attends the premiere of *See You in Vegas*, a documentary made by Dutch filmmakers Antoinette Beumer and Maaik Krijgsman about Klok's life from 2003 to 2006.

"It's about what it's like to be the boss of your own company and the process of being a showman, traveling, playing in theaters, bars," he said. "Every night I would end the show saying 'See you in Vegas,' so that's the name of the documentary."

Klok said his mother and his relationship with Frank are also part of the film.

"The film is very honest and down to earth," he said. "That's how we are in the Netherlands. We don't take ourselves too seriously."

As for future plans, Klok said his team is working on a proposal for a permanent Vegas show.

"I would love to stay in Vegas, it's the ultimate capital of show business," he said, adding that this city does present some challenges.

"My neighbors (on the Strip) are Tony Braxton, Celine Dion," he said. "Each day, you have to compete for every ticket."

Klok said he also misses the gay scene of some of the other large cities where he's lived. "Vegas is a very heterosexual world," he said. "I was surprised how gay life in Vegas is nonexistent."

Maybe Klok will also make that appear out of thin air. **Q**

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A CALL TO ARMS

Governor Howard Dean and New York State Assemblyman Danny O'Donnell speak with QVegas about next year's election, community involvement in the political process, and personal stories of triumph.

BY WILLIAM BESSETTE

As an increasingly unpopular President continues to wage a costly war and erode civil liberties at home, a changing of the guard looms with the coming of next year's election. The fact that the upcoming election has the potential of making history underscores the importance of community involvement. After years of conservative rule, an opportunity presents itself in the form of a reborn Democratic Party bent on reclaiming the White House. The LGBT community, along with minority groups across the country, must form up and demand that their voice be heard after years of isolation and neglect.

Governor Howard Dean, one time presidential candidate and Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, puts into plain words the reason why all minority groups must realize that this fight strikes at the heart of civil and human rights. "Any minority that doesn't get the same treatment and equal rights under the law as everyone else is being discriminated against," he explains. "The cure is to just say who you are, to be clear about how you are proud of whom you are, and to make sure that people get to know you as a person and not a category." The discussion then turns to an Asian-American group who had recently told him about a poll that said eighty percent of Americans would not vote for an Asian-American. "There are a lot of categories like that, including gay people, Jews, black people and so on," he replies. "Folks say they won't vote for Mormons and so on. The fact of the matter is that they will vote for you if they know you and like you and that is a lot of what the civil rights movement is about."

The Democratic Party is known as the party of minorities, in more ways than one. Fortunately for the LGBT community, the DNC under Governor Dean has put inclusion policies into place to ensure the community is represented in the political process. "We felt very strongly that in order to have a strong Democratic party everybody had to be involved at the basic level, so we asked the states to have an inclusion policy; to seek out folks and try to come up with at least a minimum number of delegates that are LGBT in every state," he explains. "Before, the number of states that had done that was sixteen; today it is forty-eight. We now field the highest number of states with an inclusion policy, including states like Georgia and Utah, not typically places you'd expect."

With the upsurge in tolerance and openness afforded to the gay and lesbian community by their fellow Americans, new doors are opened. Dean explains how a Democrat in the White House may approach a short term agenda dealing specifically with LGBT issues. "Certainly hate crimes passed and signed by the president. ENDA [Employment Non-Discrimination Act]

passed and signed by the president and a real serious effort to undo don't ask don't tell so that gay and lesbian Americans can serve openly in the military. I think we can make some real short term progress on immigration reform so that gay and lesbian couples can be reunited in the same ways that heterosexual couples can," he concludes.

Governor Dean's remark about voters trusting and supporting people they know and like serves as a testament to Danny O'Donnell's experience. As New York's first openly gay assemblyman, representing Manhattan's Upper West Side, O'Donnell managed to pass a bill approving gay marriage with even more votes than he needed. He candidly discusses what it was like being the first openly gay man elected to his post. "I don't represent a community that is primarily gay. A gay politician from West Hollywood or Chelsea, that's sort of a given, so my community—although very gay friendly—is not a gay based community. So, I confronted homophobia, I had people curse at me, I had people tell me they wouldn't vote for me because I was gay. But there were also people who wouldn't vote for me because I had black hair or was Irish or weighed too much," he says with a shrug.

As a staunch supporter of Hillary Clinton, O'Donnell continues to champion on her behalf and explains what he believes her initial push for LGBT causes might be as President. "She has been phenomenal on hate crimes and AIDS funding," he asserts. "When the Bush Administration's proposal to change Ryan White funding would have devastated programs in poor communities of color, which is where the numbers are just spiking out of reach, she dug her heels in and said no we are not going to take this money away from these programs." As for whether or not O'Donnell's sister, Rosie, will play any part in the process, O'Donnell says, with a smirk, "I certainly hope not."

For Clinton's sake?

"For my sake!" he replies with a laugh.

On January 19th Nevada will hold its Democratic Caucus, and people will gather to decide who they want their nominee for President to be. As the first state in the west to hold a caucus, Nevada will play a crucial role in deciding who wins the nomination. Participation by the LGBT community is essential to this process. "One of the reasons we moved the states around in the beginning, and Nevada first," Dean says, "Is that Nevada is one of the states with a well organized LGBT community. I think the LGBT community and the community in Nevada will play a really significant role in the caucuses, or at least I certainly hope they will."

As do I. Q

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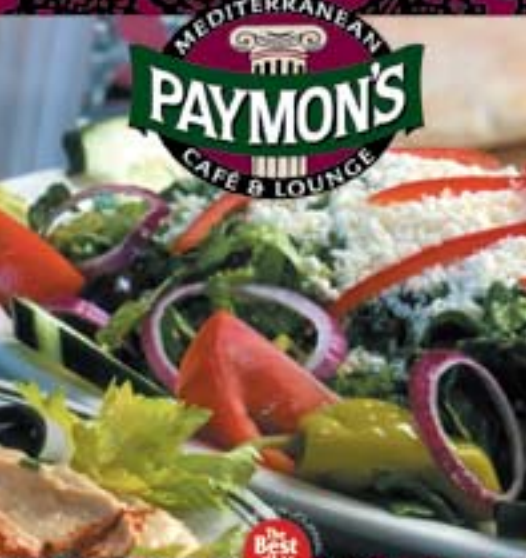


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THE MORTGAGE FORGIVENESS BILL

WILL IT RAISE OR LOWER YOUR TAXES?

One of the most controversial and paradoxical real estate and mortgage finance stories to hit the media in recent weeks was that of a newly crafted real estate tax bill—the so-called Mortgage Forgiveness Bill of 2007. The bill, which may help you hold onto your money if you face foreclosure but will likely hit you hard in the wallet if you own a second home, was drafted by Democrats and approved by the powerful House Ways and Means Committee.

During the past two years, a number of economic factors have conspired to create a perfect storm of problems for many homeowners. First of all, prices of residential real estate fell precipitously. Then, as interest rates rose, the monthly payments for many adjustable rate mortgages jumped. Next the mortgage industry hemorrhaged, thanks to the volume of bad loans and delinquencies, and this trouble spilled over into other areas of the financial industry. In an attempt to control losses and appease government regulators and investigators, mortgage lenders tightened their guidelines for approving loans—after a long period of lax standards and "easy money."

Just as homeowners realized the imminent danger of rising adjustable rates and rushed to refinance into more affordable conventional fixed-rate loans, the ability to refinance got harder as loan applications became much more stringent. As the challenges for homeowners increased, so did the number of foreclosures.

Sometimes banks and mortgage companies will forgive a portion of the debt owed to them, in order to process delinquent loans in the most cost effective manner. Lenders typically lose about 50 percent of their investment when a property goes to foreclosure. So forgiving debt can actually save them money in the long run, by encouraging third-party investors to step in and buy the house before it goes to foreclosure and fetches less money on the auction block. And many government officials—including the President—have asked that lenders show flexibility to homeowners faced with foreclosure, so there is an added incentive for banks and mortgage companies to work out arrangements that are mutually beneficial for lenders and borrowers.

Most homeowners who have part of their debt forgiven are relieved. But many are shocked to find out that under current tax law the forgiven debt is taxed as ordinary income. In other words, if your lender forgives \$20,000 of your mortgage debt, the IRS will immediate-

ly tax that \$20,000 as extra income. Those taxpayers recovering from mortgage problems are already in financial crisis, so paying a hefty tax can easily make a bad situation even worse.

If the Mortgage Forgiveness Bill of 2007 passes and becomes law, homeowners facing foreclosure won't be responsible for paying taxes on debt forgiven by lenders. That is the main focus of the bill, and is great news for those homeowners.

But in order to make up for tax revenues that will be lost if the bill goes through, a major tax break for those who own second homes will be drastically trimmed.

Under current tax law, a married couple is entitled to a tax break of up to \$500,000 worth of profit on the sale of a second home, as long as they have lived in it for at least two consecutive years within the five year period before they sell. Single people can claim a tax exclusion worth half as much, or a maximum of \$250,000. (Of course gay couples still face tax discrimination in the USA because it is illegal for them to marry, so gay and lesbian couples who buy a second home together are only eligible for the \$250,000 tax break offered to singles.)

One clever way to take advantage of the current law is to buy a second home—for instance, a vacation property—and live it for two years. Then you sell and take your profits—and your tax break—before moving back into your first home. But under the proposed new legislation, the tax exclusion would instead be based upon how many years you live in the second home. The longer you live there, the bigger your tax perks. For the most part, the big tax break offered to those who sell their second homes would be severely curtailed, and numerous opponents of the provision say it undermines a tax incentive that promotes investment that helps the economy.

But, ironically, the bill has the support of many of America's largest real estate industry organizations, including the National Association of Realtors, the Mortgage Brokers Association, and the National Association of Home Builders. One reason they support it is that while it does slim down the tax exclusion, it nevertheless preserves it, instead of totally eliminating it. **Q**

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ANNIE LENNOX: A CONCERNED CITIZEN

BY ARJAN WRITES

Annie Lennox is a woman of many different qualities. Not only is she a legendary singer, songwriter and a pop icon, she is also a mother, an Oscar winner, a humanitarian and a concerned citizen of the world. On her much-anticipated new album *Songs Of Mass Destruction*, she shares her concern about the state of our planet and her worries about social injustice with listeners. But no mistake about it. This is by no means a sad record. Lennox swings out, hoping and praying, using her soulful music to send out a message of compassion and equality.

YOU COLLABORATED ON THIS ALBUM WITH GLENN BALLARD WHO IS MOSTLY KNOWN FROM HIS WORK WITH ALANIS MORISSETTE. WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO WORK WITH HIM?

It was a very enjoyable, creative experience. I really got on very well with Glenn, and it was fantastic every day that we worked together. It was just tremendous fun and very inspiring for both of us.

HOW DO YOU APPROACH THE SONGWRITING PROCESS. HOW DO YOUR SONGS COME ABOUT?

I don't know how any of my songs come about. It is really hard to say. I work very intuitively. I usually make a start on piano and I find something that is really interesting for me, or maybe I have a keyboard and I have an interesting sound and I just start with one line and I just go on to create the song, whatever comes. There's no formula for it except that I just have to make a start.

THE SONG "COLORED BEDSPREAD" IS FOR ME PERSONALLY A STAND OUT TRACK WITH ITS ELECTRO-POP FEEL. IT REMINDS ME OF A VINTAGE EURYTHMICS TUNE.

Well, I love electro music. The Eurythmics were fairly eclectic and a lot of our influences were very diverse [coming from] a broad palette of influences. I love electro music, I think it is very exciting. There is still so many aspects and styles of music that I want to record and explore. If you listen to the album, you will hear that each song has its own particular style and many different reference points.

ARE YOU PLANNING TO MAKE A LOT OF VIDEOS FOR THIS ALBUM?

I already made a video for "Dark Road" and it is a little sad that one. I dress up as a failed super heroine. Nowadays we need superheroes more than any time, but I think even the superheroes are past their sell-by-date, you know. In reality, I feel that the world is in a very vulnerable and potentially volatile place. When we are looking at ecology, when we are looking at warfare, when we are looking at global warming. Half the planet is chronically ill and endemically poor, it is a mess. Religious institutions seem to fight each other instead of looking for loving solutions. So I'm very concerned especially as I'm a mother and I'd love to see a future for the next couple of generations at least.

DO YOU THINK THERE IS A LACK OF STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE WORLD?

I think there's a tremendous lack of visionary, ethical, moral and creative leadership. There's a tremendous lack of this. By and large politicians lack vision, they fall into the convention of just following the party line, doing whatever is good for business and I think it is a great travesty and tragedy of the democratic system.

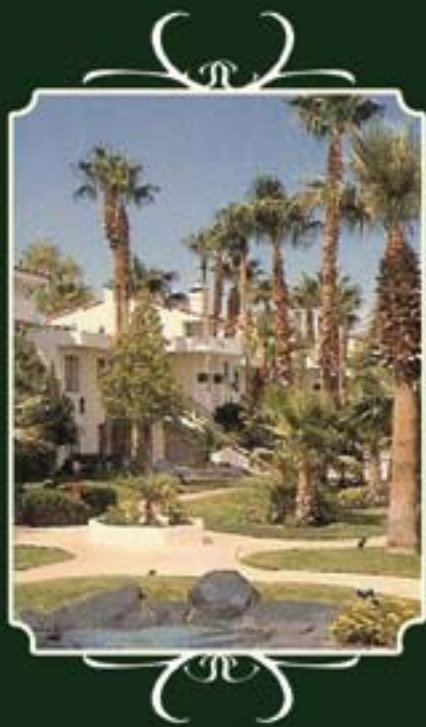
YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN AN ADVOCATE FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

DO YOU FEEL AFFINITY WITH THE LGBT COMMUNITY AND THEIR STRUGGLE FOR EQUAL RIGHTS?

Yes, I do. I would say so. Anyone who is victimized because of their sexual orientation to me is so unnecessary. That we are in a place where we can't be tolerant to our differences. Surely, if we respect each other as human beings we have to understand we're not all the same, we don't all come in a square package that looks one way. We are by nature different. And some of us go one way and some go another. There's nothing threatening about that. Some people react insensibly because their afraid inherently. As a woman, I feel that women historically have quite a bad rep in terms of empowerment and power. That's very sad for me. Especially, when I go to developing countries and I see women (...) that have no real social empowerment and political empowerment, no empowerment over their sexual health in terms of reproductions. There's a desperate need for feminism.

WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GAY COMMUNITY?

I don't have a community, except that I'm just part of of the human race and being the best of it, you know. I don't know what to say about the gay community with any real authority as I'm not part of it. It is something that is a little separate to my own experience you know. This is the thing that I find funny. Why does your sexual orientation have to be predominant? It is like saying I'm really good friends with a black person, or that woman is a good friend of mine. If you're gay it doesn't make any difference, I look at you as a whole person (...) I suppose when somebody was very ghetto-ized gay than we would have too much in common, because obviously I'm not male and I'm not gay. **Q**



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Philip Croft, a master spy for Her Majesty's secret service, MI6, was cruelly outed and tortured for his homosexuality. All his adult life he was a dedicated rice queen, partial only to Asian men. In his life he had three lovers and a few brief encounters. He was a gentle man and a gentleman, a member of private clubs, a man of privilege, who was betrayed by some of his friends, not for being gay, but for being too decent and naive. This book breathes life into a gay man who served his country through deception, and though his country punished him for his personal deception, he became the victor rather than the victim.

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**HERE!
FILMS**



CUT SLEEVE BOYS AVAILABLE NOW

Get ready for a fun and fabulous journey of self-discovery in Cut Sleeve Boys. Mel, a scene queen, believes life is a beauty pageant, but he wonders how much longer he will want to sashay down the catwalk. His friend, Ash, has grown tired of the jaded gay scene and all the macho posing. Can they successfully change their ways and still find their dream men? With witty one-liners and funny, flamboyant characters, it's a riotous romantic comedy about fitting in, standing out and finding love.

TOP OUT COLLEGES WWW.TOPOUTCOLLEGES.COM

TopOutColleges.com is a hot new site where college students rate the LGBT-friendliness of their university. The site lists the top 500 most LGBT-friendly American colleges as rated on a ten-star scale by college students and alumni, according to their overall experiences with campus issues, i.e. life in the dorms, campus LGBT events, contact with campus LGBT groups, etc. As students and alumni rate their colleges, those rankings change and are displayed in real-time in a "Top 25" list. Colleges are also ranked and rated by their state, region, and conference for easy searching and organization for prospective students researching their future college. Additionally, each college has its own ranking page, where students can post event announcements and stories of their LGBT experiences on their campus.



BEARLY BUDDIES WWW.BEARLYBUDDIES.COM

Finally, a site that is not just about your stats (although you can certainly give them out if you'd like). This brand new website is for men who know who they are, like who they are, and are not afraid to live the way they want to. Mitch Stein, the founder of bearlybuddies.com, felt that the major social networking sites, such as MySpace and Facebook, were not catering to the Bear community. All too often, while searching through these large sites, the Bear profiles had been set to private, as if to be ashamed of who they are and what they represent. Why should

these amazingly beautiful men feel the need to hide themselves? Mitch, a proud Bear himself, has set up bearlybuddies.com in hopes of not only building an online "bear" community, but to also shatter the inaccurate stereotypes that plague the community itself. The site is free and offers unlimited picture sharing, mailing, commenting, and blogging. Bearlybuddies.com is a place to meet new friends, advertise an event, share personal experiences, and meet other men in the community. Bearlybuddies is for anyone who identifies as a "Bear" or "Bear-friendly."

MATTHEW'S PLACE WWW.MATTHEWSPLACE.COM

The Matthew Shepard Foundation launched MatthewsPlace.com, a comprehensive online resource for LGBTQ youth in America, on October 12, the ninth anniversary of Matthew's passing. Designed with a great deal of youth involvement, MatthewsPlace.com features up-to-date national and LGBT news, advice columns from notable voices and affirming resources on issues affecting LGBTQ youth, and an information hub for youth to access critical resources such as safe and inclusive direct-service providers, homeless shelters, and youth-serving organizations. This is the first of three phases of Matthew's Place. In the coming year, the website will expand to include more interactive and cutting edge elements such as blogging, moderated chats, expanded "ask the experts" section, and individual youth spaces.



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TO SUPPLEMENT OR NOT TO SUPPLEMENT

It is widely understood that we need to eat every 2-3 hours due to the thermogenic effect of food in order to maintain a high metabolic rate and a sustained level of energy. But is it possible to get all we need from food? There may have been a time where it was possible to get all the essential nutrients from food, but the fact remains that every individual should ingest a high quality, vitamin & mineral supplement. Unless we grow or care for our own organic fruits, vegetables, grains, legumes and livestock with the utmost care, prepare by grilling and steaming (or raw when safe to do so) it is nearly impossible to attain the proper level of nutrients.

The more active you are or the lack of proper dietary habits (or a combination of both) the greater the need for supplementation. But what about the other supplements such as energy bars, drinks, creatine, glutamine, and amino acids?

First off, it must be understood that energy bars and drinks are meant to supplement the diet, not serve as meals or replacements for actual food. Energy bars and drinks are either to be taken when it is not possible to eat healthy or as a supplement to intensify your workouts. You should not be utilizing energy bars and drinks as staples for weight loss or other performance gains unless your daily regimen also includes vigorous exercise for an hour or more.

WHAT IS THE BEST TIME TO INGEST ENERGY BARS AND DRINKS?

During extended workouts of moderate to high intensity lasting an hour or more or following a vigorous workout. For optimal results, individuals should drink a 4:1 carbohydrate to protein ratio beverage to recover efficiently from the workout and repair damaged tissue (you are going to have to do your homework as not all carbohydrate and protein sources are equal). If you don't want to research too much go to www.milliondollarbody.com/perfectimage and look for P90X Peak recovery formula. Not too many products have creatine, l-glutamine, l-arginine, as well as protein to give you all the nutrients you need to keep your muscle hard and pumped! P90X Peak Recovery Formula is a state-of-the-art, great tasting, body-shaping cocktail that's guaranteed to take your workouts to the next level, and I love it!



WHAT IS CREATINE?

Creatine has been touted the best supplement around for strength and gains. This volumizer stores water in muscle tissue to increase the body's ability to perform at higher intensities for longer durations. Increasing strength as well as stamina, creatine is the preferred supplement in the fitness industry. In the past few years this supplement has taken on many forms. The most popular type of creatine supplementation is monohydrate. Recently science has developed new formulas that are more effective and have fewer side effects. The real problem with monohydrate is the side effects, which may consist of, muscle twitching, stomach cramping, bloating and kidney problems. A great alternative to monohydrate is creatine ethyl ester or CEE. This break through product gives you all the benefits of monohydrate without bloating or discomfort. Creatine should be taken by individuals that are serious about working out and taken religiously for best results. It is imperative that you drink plenty of water to flush your kidneys while supplementing. Creatine will add size in both water retention to the muscles and muscle gain over the course of a few weeks not to mention increased muscular endurance if used properly. Only those who already eat a healthy diet and engage in intense workouts need to consider this supplement.

WHAT IS L-GLUTAMINE?

Glutamine is the most abundant amino acid in plasma and skeletal muscle. There have been few studies to show harm from the use of

glutamine. There have been numerous studies showing the benefits of taking 5-12 grams of glutamine following a vigorous workout to aid in recovery from tissue damage during exercise. Glutamine is a must have for anyone that is serious about getting results, even in fat loss, this amino acid plays a very important role. Glutamine has been known to aid in muscle recovery, reducing muscle soreness and muscle catabolism (the break down of muscle tissue for energy use) you want your fat used for energy, not your muscle!

MEAL REPLACEMENT SHAKES

The most overlooked meal of the day is breakfast; did you know that the name "breakfast" comes from breaking the fasting that your body goes through while you are at rest? Skipping breakfast is the number one cause for rapid weight gain. When your body does not get the nutrients it needs, it takes it from your muscle and stores your fat! Yikes!!! Meal replacement shakes are a definite every morning if you are serious about losing fat and building muscle to speed up your metabolism. Sure you may not have time for a big breakfast, that's all right, but you do have time for a fast shake in the morning to start your day off right!

As with any supplement, herb, or medication, do not use without first consulting a physician. If you should have any questions about this article or need some advice don't hesitate to call 702-341-6052 to get your questions answered! **Q**

Mark Lani, CPT, CSN, is a Certified Personal Trainer and owner of PerfectImage4Life Fitness. He may be reached by calling (702) 341-6052 or by e-mailing mark@perfectimage4life.com.



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■ **QGIRL** >> BY ERICA GRIMALDO

PAINT, PILLOWS AND COMING OUT

There's a familiar rumbling coming from most of my partnered friends now that the holiday season is just around the corner.

It's the bitching and bickering that surrounds the all important decision of where to spend each of the upcoming holidays. "You want us to spend Thanksgiving at your sister's again? After the way her mother-in-law kept crossing herself every time we hugged or held hands?" "Oh, you think New Year's Eve at your parent's went better? Maybe we'll get a repeat performance from your drunken aunt Dotty, the 75-year-old wannabe stripper!" These people are usually not looking for advice, they just want to vent. And that's a good thing because I really have no idea what to say. Every time I get caught in the middle of one of these conversations, I just try to look interested, nod politely and make all the right noises, "oh, uh-ha, mmm."

Then there is the other side of the coin: those few friends who are in love but still in the closet. With them, it's all about what kind of story they're going to spin in order to be together. "We'll tell my parents that you're an orphan, that's why you're doing Hanukkah with us." "Ok, and then we'll tell my family that you're spending New Year with us because you just went through a bad breakup." Back in my college years I would have told them to stop playing into their family's oppressive, heteronormative expectations and just come out already. Now I'm thinking "Hey, at least these conversations are more creative." You help them script a little soap opera and then they come back and tell you how it went.

Maybe it's because life mellows you out and makes you more pragmatic as you get closer to 30. Maybe it's because the direct approach didn't work out so well for me.

I tried to come out to my mother back in 2001. I was living in Reno at the time and I came home to visit for Christmas. I don't re-

call the exact words I used but I remember that I was all pumped up with adrenaline. I knew she wouldn't like what I had to say, so I kept reminding myself to stay calm and be nice, no matter what.

The problem was, every time a conversation takes an uncomfortable turn—regardless of the topic—mom tries to ease things up by talking about interior decorating. So here I am, trying to explain to her that her dreams of seeing me walk down the aisle in a white dress, to the arms of some tall, dark, handsome man who will take care of me forever will never come true—and she's talking about curtains.

I want to explain to her that the first girl I ever kissed, back in a small town in Mexico, years later committed suicide. But I didn't get stuck in that town, I'm back in the U.S. And gay people might be considered second-class citizens here, but at least I got options.

Mom wouldn't hear it. She tried to talk about paint colors for the dining room, the new throw pillows she got for the living room, and did I notice the new bedspread in my room? I kept binging the conversation back to her having a lesbian daughter. Eventually, she got up, looked me straight in the eye and said: "No." That was the last thing she said to me in almost a year. I missed her.

There was a death in the family the following November. We started talking again at the funeral. I've made sure the rest of our extended family knows I'm gay. But we've mostly settled for a policy of "Don't ask, don't tell."

My family doesn't really celebrate Thanksgiving. So I show up alone for Christmas and they don't ask me where I go for New Year's Eve.

Hey, at least I know where I'll be spending each of my holidays. **Q**

Erica Grimaldo is a bilingual freelance journalist based in Las Vegas. She is also one of the coordinators for the upcoming Monólogos de la Vagina 2008, Las Vegas. For Grimaldo, being able to write in English and Spanish often means that her brain will spontaneously switch channels to whatever language she doesn't need at the moment. Caffeine usually solves the problem.



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■ ASK ANGIE >> ADVICE FROM PERSONAL GROWTH ADVISOR ANGELA R. HARVEY

I'M A HIV POSITIVE GAY MALE RECENTLY DIAGNOSED. WITHOUT GETTING INTO MANY DETAILS, I'M UNSURE WHEN I SHOULD DISCLOSE MY STATUS TO A POTENTIAL DATE. I'VE BEEN CONVINCED BY MY FRIENDS THAT DATING ISN'T OFF LIMITS JUST BECAUSE I'M POSITIVE, BUT I'M UNSURE WHAT I SHOULD SAY AND WHEN I SHOULD SAY IT NOT TO SCARE ANYONE AWAY. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

POSITIVE & SINGLE

Here you GROW, Positive & Single.

You absolutely can and should date. Although HIV and AIDS has devastated our community, it is in no way a death sentence, and we all need love (and sex). What I would suggest is that you allow yourself to be comfortable with your status first. Many consider it a shameful diagnosis, but it isn't, and should be talked about openly and honestly. The way you feel about it will be heard in the way you present it. I think you should also think about what you would want to know or would ask if the shoe were on the other foot. I believe that you should always empower people with truth and let the cards fall where they may. The conversation should surely be had *after* your introduction and *before* you become sexually intimate. There might surely be some guys that will shy away (or even run away), but those are people that you wouldn't want in your life let alone your bed. However, there are many guys that are educated and not afraid of "the disease" that will surely explore further possibilities with you. Those are the people you should keep around. Something to GROW on, Positive & Single.

MY PARTNER AND I HAVE BEEN TOGETHER FOR OVER TWO YEARS, AND THINGS SEEM TO BE GOING REALLY WELL. WE HAVE A FEW UPS AND DOWNS, BUT IT IS JUST NORMAL STUFF. OUR REAL CHALLENGES COME FROM HIS CONTINUED RELATIONSHIP (HE CALLS THEM FRIENDSHIPS) WITH ALL OF HIS EXES. IT IS SO INFURIATING TO ME THAT HE CONTINUES TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM. THEY ARE CALLED EXES FOR A REASON. AM I RIGHT OR AM I BEING INSECURE, WHICH IS WHAT HE SAYS? WAITING FOR YOUR RESPONSE.

JACK P.

Here you GROW, Jack P.

You are experiencing a problem had by most couples. The ex factor is so very common that you would think that most folks would just get over it. However, we are all human and it is in our nature to be at odds with what might seem like "the competition." You and your partner are both right. Some of the feelings you feel do stem from insecurity, but it is perfectly normal and so is maintaining a healthy and "friendly" friendship with an ex. You should do some soul searching to determine why you are so infuriated with these friendships. Is it because you *are* insecure, or that your partner talks to his friends more than he talks to you, or spends more quality time with his friends than you, or that you don't happen to believe that you can or should be friends with an ex, or that you and your partner have past unresolved issues about his relationships with his exes? All of these findings can help you in understanding why this is a problem for you, thus causing a problem for your relationship (I'm sure it is). Keep in mind through it all you are giving up a significant amount of power when you allow your time spent with your partner to be focused on his time spent with someone else. By the way, they call them exes because you are no longer emotionally and sexually involved, not because they have died (although we often wish they would). Now GROW up!!



SEEKING ADVICE? E-MAIL YOUR QUESTIONS TO ASKANGIE@QVEGAS.COM

Angela Harvey is the founder of Let's T.A.L.K. (Together Acquire Lasting Knowledge). For more information, visit www.lets-talk.net or www.growthbyphone.com.



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VINTNER GRILL

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Opened in December 2006, Vintner Grill has quickly become a local favorite in Summerlin. The menu is presented as Mediterranean food with an American twist; there's a strong French influence in the cuisine, however, as it relies on flavorful sauces and starches to anchor a menu built around interesting and creative proteins. The menu changes daily, but typically features a somewhat fish-heavy menu (in keeping with the Mediterranean theme) with slightly less than half the entrees being other meats (mostly beef). As indicated, both the lunch and dinner menus are printed daily, just a few hours before service begins. The restaurant is not equipped with a large freezer, so dishes rely exclusively on fresh ingredients, generally obtained that same day. Menus are on paper sheets and brought on a clipboard, which offers a casual touch to the restaurant; the service staff is not "buttoned up," also toning down the overall atmosphere. Patrons tend to dress business casual or somewhat dressier.

The atmosphere is that of a busy café or bistro; the décor sits somewhere between Fifties elegant and contemporary, with a predominantly white and cream palette with black and muted accents. The bar area can be loud and busy; this is a popular after-work location for nearby office dwellers. The restaurant offers plenty of quieter niches, though, and it's rare that you have to raise your voice to carry on a conversation. Booths use comfortable, pillow-laden sofas rather than typical banquettes, which lends a kitschy, comfortable atmosphere. Bolster pillows are used even on the comfortable dining room chairs, which lends a decided Middle Eastern or Mediterranean note to the overall ambiance.

Bread service is good: The breads are of good quality if not particularly outstanding. Butter is unique: The restaurant freezes and shaves butter to compact it into a tureen. Two small scoops are removed, leaving room for a small portion of garnish (such as an olive tapenade), and the dish is brought nearly to room temperature for serving so that it's soft and creamy. It's an elegant touch on something where the restaurant could easily get by—as most do—with a simple dish of butter.

The heirloom tomato salad (\$10) sounds like standard fare on the menu: Serves with fresh mozzarella and aged balsamic, with the only unusual addition being mi-

cro-arugula. The presentation, however, is fairly unique: Rather than huge slabs of tomato and cheese, a tri-color selection of smaller grape and cherry tomatoes is mixed with chunks of larger varieties and chunks of cheese. The balsamic is of exceedingly high quality with a rich, deep, sweet flavor—not vinegary at all. The arugula lends a slight peppery note; cracked black pepper is offered but isn't necessary. Other starts include bruschetta (\$10), calamari (\$12), white bean hummus (\$10), butter lettuce salad with brie (\$8), and Treviso Caesar salad wrapped in prosciutto (\$9).

Diver scallops (\$27) are presented on a bed of sweet corn risotto. This is a perfect example of the restaurant's overall culinary philosophy: The protein is almost a textural garnish, while the real flavor and art in the dish is in the risotto, which has a slightly sweet, almost savory flavor. The scallops are prepared perfectly: Firm, but not rubbery, and definitely not creamy or soft in any way. The halibut (\$26) is also perfectly prepared: Rather than a traditional thick filet, the restaurant presents a fairly thinly-sliced filet. This allows the fish to develop a thin, crispy skin simply from frying (and excellent heat control on the part of the chef). This is a mildly-flavored dish, ideal for someone with milder tastes. There are good flavors, but they're not strongly pronounced: They're very subtle. This is served on a bed of couscous which also has mild flavors. The seafood bouillabaisse is difficult to explain. This is *not* the soup that most restaurants pass off as bouillabaisse; mussels and clams are served in the shell, although they're soft and very well-cooked. The sauce has a gentle saffron flavor which reflects good control on the part of the chef, as saffron is easy to overuse in a dish like this. Scallops, snapper, calamari, and shrimp are also present. If you're a shellfish lover, you'll likely enjoy this dish; if you're not a shellfish lover then you may well want to pick at someone else's dish or even try it yourself. Even a die-hard clam-hater may well enjoy the flavors here. Bistro steak medallions (\$28) are served with basmati rice, snap peas, and a portabella mushroom cream. The cream is the star of the dish, and it's important to pick some up in every bite. The rice is amazingly well-cooked: Light, separate pieces that really have an excellent, mild flavor of their own while also serving to carry the mushroom cream. The beef itself



is of good quality and offers the best flavor at a medium-rare temperature; it's lightly seared to a thin crust, which is then given a light dusting of salt and pepper. Again, the protein is nearly a garnish as the cream and starch in the dish take center stage. Portion sizes are well-selected; this isn't a "steak" by any stretch (and isn't presented as such), although the rice and cream combine with the beef to make it satisfactorily filling. Other dinner entrees include mushroom tortellini (\$19), free-range half chicken (\$19), Florida snapper (\$25), crab ravioli with English peas (\$23), veal scaloppini (\$24), and lamb osso bucco (\$25). It should be noted that some of the restaurant's fish dishes use fish on the SeafoodWatch.org "Avoid" list, including snapper. Entrees unique to the lunch service include capellini aglio olio (\$14), penne pasta with grilled Italian sausage (\$14), and other pasta selections (\$14-\$17).

"Traditional" desserts are presented in a unique fashion. The crème brulee trio features banana and butterscotch flavors in addition to a more traditional vanilla bean. The brulees are well-done if not the best possible example of this type of dessert; they're served in an espresso cup which makes for an excellent presentation, but makes it difficult to get that burnt sugar flavor in every bite of custard. The tiramisu is about as far from traditional as possible, and to good effect: Chocolate sponge cake stands for ladyfingers, and shaved chocolate tops the dish. It's a richer, less coffee-intense tiramisu that's easy to love. The portion is huge—two can share it. Although these "traditional" desserts (other selections, such as cheesecake and tarts, are also offered) weren't part of the restaurant's original plan for dessert, they're well-executed and well-presented, and they certainly fit with the overall direction of the menu; they're far from afterthoughts.

Vintner Grill offers a pleasing, unique take on traditional Mediterranean ingredients with an American twist and French culinary sensibility. The environment is casual and inviting, and the menu offers plenty of diversity without being overwhelming. Almost any diner will be able to find something they like, if not love, and the clientele seems to consist of a growing repeat crowd—excellent news for such a new venue. In season, outdoor dining options offer a more casual and romantic ambiance. **Q**

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■ **SHORTIES** >> MUSIC REVIEWS BY ARJAN WRITES



KENNA
MAKE SURE THEY SEE MY FACE
INTERSCOPE • AVAILABLE NOW

Kenna's music does not fit any particular mold. Instead, the Ethiopian-born singer carved out his own little niche. Produced together with The Neptunes, his synthesized blend of rock, pop and hip hop is unlike anything you've heard before, yet it sounds so deliciously familiar. The strength of Kenna's music lies primarily in his emotive and soulful crooning that perfectly balances the crafty and multi-layered soundboard tricks of Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo. These two show once again they are still on top of their game by fusing live instruments with quirky sound effects and wild keyboard swirls. *Make Sure They See My Face* is by far one of the best pop records of the year for its innovation production and gifted delivery. A must-listen.



DURAN DURAN
RED CARPET MASSACRE
EPIC RECORDS • AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 13

Some say that style never goes out of fashion, and that is most certainly true for Duran Duran. After making records for over 20 years, the group returns once again to the pop scene with *Red Carpet Massacre*. To capture the success of their early beginnings and mimic the potent stylings of hits like "Ordinary World," the group teamed up with Timbaland to write and produce a few tracks on this album. This unusual pairing has led to some accomplished new tunes, including "Falling Down" (co-produced with Justin Timberlake), "Nite Runner" and "Skin Divers." They might not be the youngest bunch on the block, but Duran Duran shows they're still on the pulse of what's hip and happening with this new album.



CARINA ROUND
SLOW MOTION ADDICT
INTERACT • AVAILABLE NOW

Carina Round is a British singer who is currently supporting Annie Lennox on her U.S. tour to showcase her new album *Slow Motion Addict*. The record was produced by Glenn Ballard, who also worked with Lennox on *Songs Of Mass Destruction*. But be warned. Carina Round sounds nothing like Annie Lennox. Take for example "Stolen Car," an arresting pop-rock tune that packs a heavy punch with Round's raw vocal delivery and haunting lyrics that are laced by wailing, melodic rock riffs. Growing up in a deprived area of Wolverhampton, England in a single mother household, music was the ultimate escape for Round. After tuning her musical skills in Birmingham's club scene, she released *The First Blood Mysteries* and *The Disconnection* in 2004. For the release of this third album, Round collaborated with Ballard in Los Angeles who added a slick veneer to her raw, rocky sound.



THE KILLERS
SAWDUST
ISLAND/DEF JAM • AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 13

Las Vegas' own Killers are returning on November 13 with *Sawdust*, a collection of B-sides and other rarities. The group also includes a few new tracks, including their cover of Joy Division's "Shadow-play" and "Tranquilize" that is an impressive duet with Lou Reed. The song brings more of the swaggering, '70s inspired Americana that the group presented on *Sam's Town* with Brandon Flowers' frantic vocals and a swirling guitar riff. Also featured on album is "Leave The Bourbon On The Shelf" that is part of the "Hot Fuss" murder trilogy. The song has inspired lots of chatter on fan messageboards and will now finally be heard in its full glory.

"that lil ole bitty pissant country place"

**IRSCDEI Presents
Emperor & Empress
Candidate Show**
Friday, November 2nd
Hosted by Chris Reynolds

Mr. Charlie's Contest
Saturday, November 3 at 10pm
Benefiting Nevada AIDS Project

**NGRA General
Membership Meeting**
Saturday, November 10 at 8pm
Followed by NGRA's Fall
Festival Fundraiser at 9:30 pm

**Sin Sity Sisters'
Monthly Fundraising**
Friday, November 16th

**IRSCDEI Presents
Emperor & Empress
Candidate Show**
Friday, November 23rd
Hosted by Ginger Grant

**Miss IGRA
Benefit Show**
for Miss Roxxy Heart
Saturday, November 24th

**IRSCDEI Presents
Coronation in Town Show**
Wednesday, November 28th

**All November Birthdays
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Our Mission

Aid for AIDS of Nevada (AFAN) is dedicated to providing **support** and **advocacy** for individuals and **families living with HIV/AIDS** in Southern Nevada in an environment of **understanding, compassion** and **acceptance**.

Paramount to our mission is to **educate** the general public about **HIV/AIDS** in order to **reduce infection** and **eliminate fear, prejudice, stigma** and **ignorance** often associated with the disease.



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■ OUT LAS VEGAS >> QUICK GUIDE TO GAY VEGAS

ACCOMMODATIONS

ARUBA HOTEL AND SPA 1215 LAS VEGAS BLVD S. • 702-383-3100

Spacious and comfortable rooms have been fully renovated with tile floors. Aruba offers all the amenities you’ve come to expect on your Las Vegas vacation, including in-room television, restaurant and bar. It sits minutes away from Downtown’s Art District and the Las Vegas Strip which makes this place a prime location for a great Las Vegas experience.

ALEXIS PARK RESORT HOTEL 375 E. HARMON • 800-582-2228

Call the toll-free number and mention the QVegas rate in order to obtain a \$99 suite any night of the year! The property is located just down the street from the Fruit Loop (a hub of gay nightlife in Vegas) and only a couple miles from Krave at Planet Hollywood.

BLUE MOON RESORT 2651 WESTWOOD DR. 866-798-9194 / 702-361-9099

Blue Moon is Las Vegas’ only gay men’s resort. The rooms were recently renovated in a stylish, modern style and are comfier than ever. Amenities include continental breakfast, an internet lounge, wireless internet access and a clothing-optional pool, sundeck, steam room and jacuzzi grotto. Tea dances and pool parties are held year-round for various organizations, so there’s almost always something hot happening at Blue Moon.

MGM MIRAGE PROPERTIES BELLAGIO, CIRCUS CIRCUS, EXCALIBUR, LUXOR, MGM GRAND, MANDALAY BAY, THE MIRAGE, MONTE CARLO, NEW YORK-NEW YORK, TREASURE ISLAND

The MGM MIRAGE corporation now owns roughly ¾ of the Las Vegas Strip, and we highly recommend any of these gorgeous, comfortable, and often extravagantly themed hotels if you want to make sure you’re right in the middle of the action. To obtain the best rates on any of these properties, book your stay through the banners and links on www.QVegas.com. All ten are “family-friendly” in more ways than one.

ATTRACTIONS

BELLAGIO CONSERVATORY AND BOTANICAL GARDENS 702-793-7111

It’s amazing how these seasonal displays are designed and executed with flowers and other vegetation plus nuts, berries and other gifts from nature. Even Martha Stewart’s not this creative.

BODIES...THE EXHIBITION TROPICANA • 702-739-2411

This exhibition takes nudity a step beyond the norm. Tons of well-preserved, real human bodies show every gory detail from inside out.

IEFFEL TOWER EXPERIENCE PARIS LAS VEGAS • 702-946-7000

If you can’t make it to Europe in your lifetime, Vegas provides the next best thing with attractions such as this half-size replica of Paris’ own Eiffel Tower. Fall in love at the top (just don’t fall from it).

FOUNTAINS AT BELLAGIO 702-693-7111

Few things in Vegas are more romantic than kissing your date in front of the world-famous Fountains at Bellagio with shows throughout the evening.

LIBERACE MUSEUM 1775 E. TROPICANA AVE. • 702-798-5595

Liberace blinged before bling was cool. Check out his crystal-encrusted pianos, cars, costumes and other memorabilia at this popular museum.

LUCKY STRIKE LANES RIO ALL-SUITE HOTEL & CASINO 702-777-7999

You can score big tonight at the newest bowling lanes near the Strip where sport is fused with dining, drinking and nightlife.

MADAME TUSSAUDS VENETIAN RESORT HOTEL CASINO 702-862-7800

You can name drop all you want after visiting this world-famous attraction. Show all your friends the pics you took with Ben, Brad, Julia, Whoopi, Bette, Elton and Dubya. It’s a damn shame they’re all wax.

MOUNT CHARLESTON 35 MILES NORTH ON HIGHWAY 95 702-872-5500

Chill out in this mile-high alpine environment in the Toiyabe National Forest and ski in nearby Lee Canyon during the winter months. Life is definitely good at the top.

RED ROCK CANYON 20 MILES WEST ON CHARLESTON BLVD. 702-515-5350

Whoever created this planet was truly an artist, evidenced by the magnificent colored sandstone formations found only a short distance west of the Vegas Valley.

SPRINGS PRESERVE 333 S. VALLEY VIEW BLVD. • 702-822-8344

Recently opened, the Springs Preserve offers colorful botanical gardens, beautiful desert trails and tons of interactive exhibits in the Desert Living Center. In 2009, the Nevada State Museum will open on site.

DINING

ALEX WYNN LAS VEGAS • 702-770-3300

Alex is American-French cuisine at its finest! With an AAA Five Diamond Award of Excellence, this restaurant combines elegant surroundings with a unique flair for food presentation. If you like your food pretty, this is definitely the place to go and is well worth every dime.

AUREOLE MANDALAY BAY • 702-632-7401

Are you a wine connoisseur? Aureole has one of the largest selections of wines to be found in Nevada. With the freshest meats, seafood and poultry, and a well polished wait staff, this is a restaurant you must see to believe. Be careful though; if you are a huge wine drinker, you might want to call a cab.

BENIHANA LAS VEGAS HILTON • 702-732-5755

Talk about entertainment with your dinner! Watch these talented chefs prepare gorgeous meals while throwing around knives and fire. Recreated like a Japanese village with rock formations, streams, live rainfalls, thunderstorms and fireworks, it’s a beauty to behold. Breathtaking!

EGG & I 4533 W. SAHARA • 702-364-9686

With cinnamon rolls to die for, this restaurant is not for the health conscious. If you like to watch a show while you eat, Marriage Can Be Murder plays Wednesday-Friday at 7p.m. and Saturday at 6p.m.

EVOS 10895 S. EASTERN AVE. • 702-269-1389

Finally! Fast food you can feel good about! Evos features free range steakburgers, organic milkshakes, Airbaked™ chicken strips and fries. 50-70 percent less fat and calories. 100 percent full of flavor!

HANDS CUISINE ARUBA HOTEL AND SPA 1215 LAS VEGAS BLVD S., 702-383-3100

The Hands serves delectable quick eats that are great with a cold beer or an exotic cocktail. The chicken wings are a must have along with some of their other specialty dishes such as the grilled kabobs and marinated beef ribs.

HOFBRAUHAUS 4510 PARADISE RD. • 702-853-2337

Hofbrauhaus offers the best European potato salad to be found, with imported beer using original recipes that were handed down 400 years ago. This beer has a taste like no other. Every day is Oktoberfest at the Hofbrauhaus.

LES ARTISTES STEAKHOUSE PARIS LAS VEGAS • 702-967-7999

In a two-story art deco dining room, Les Artistes serves gourmet preparations of game, seafood, and steak, slow roasted in authentic rotisserie ovens. Don’t overlook the cart full of French desserts.

PEPPERMILL 2985 LAS VEGAS BLVD. S. • 702-735-4177

Talk about romantic! This is the best place to take your sweetie for extremely exotic drinks with a very romantic view of the Strip. With breakfast being served 24 hours a day, and with moderate prices, this can be a date to remember.

P. F. CHANGS PLANET HOLLYWOOD RESORT AND CASINO • 702-836-0955

Lettuce Wraps. What more can you say? P. F. Changs has some of the best Chinese dishes that illustrate the influence of Southeast Asian cuisine.

PINOT BRASSERIE THE VENETIAN • 702-414-8888

In an authentic, casual, French bistro setting, the menu offers steak, poultry, pastas, seafood and wild game. Pricing can be anywhere from breaking your wallet or breaking your banking account.

RED 8 WYNN LAS VEGAS • 702-770-7000

Red 8 offers tasty Southeast Asian comfort food with classic fare such as satays, noodle dishes, barbecued roasted meats and kung pao chicken that will keep you coming back for more.

RED MANGO 4480 PARADISE RD., STE. 1000 702-795-0004

I’ll tell you what: once you’ve tried this, you’re hooked! Not only is this yogurt shop hip, they have real yogurt “crafted by licensed U.S. dairy manufacturers and frozen to perfection.” Red Mango is yummy but has all the healthy stuff like calcium, protein and active cultures (aka probiotics). Get real, get healthy, eat at Red Mango. It’s a block from the Fruit Loop.

ENTERTAINMENT

AN EVENING AT LA CAGE RIVIERA HOTEL • 702-794-9433

Who ever expected female impersonators to be such a hit with the older hetero tourists? It’s worked out great for Frank Marino (who hosts and appears as Joan Rivers) and the cast who’ve been entertaining such crowds now for over 20 years. LGBT tourists will also most likely get a kick out of the Liza and Madonna impersonations, among others.

A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO LIBERACE: THE SHOWMANSHIP YEARS LIBERACE MUSEUM • 702-798-5595

Wes Winters performs as Liberace three times weekly in the museum’s Grand Gallery.

BLUE MAN GROUP VENETIAN RESORT HOTEL CASINO 702-414-7469

An amazing show somehow combining comedy, pounding percussion and tons of toilet paper, this production makes you want to go home and slather your boyfriend in blue greasepaint.

CARROT TOP LUXOR • 702-262-4400

There’s no telling what Carrot Top will pull out of his box each night. Check it out this hilarious prop comedian nightly (except Tuesdays).

CELINE DION’S A NEW DAY... CAESARS PALACE • 702-474-4000

Unlike her heart, Celine’s show won’t go on and on and on, so you better hurry and catch this Canadian songbird before her contract ends. Bette’s coming to town and taking over the Colosseum early next year, so get tickets while you can.

COCA-COLA TICKETS2NITE SHOWCASE MALL • 702-968-8800

Everyone likes a great deal, right? With as many shows and attractions as Vegas has to offer, not every show sells out every night, so Coca-Cola Tickets2Nite gives you the chance to be a cheapskate and buy half-price tickets to several of the headliners, comedians and magicians in town.

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OUT LAS VEGAS >> QUICK GUIDE TO GAY VEGAS

with practically nothing but thousands of rhinestones?! Need I say more? Jubilee! is a long-running, definite must-see.

THE FASHIONISTAS

EMPIRE BALLROOM • 702-836-0833

Who would have thought a famous porn film would translate into a show on the Strip? Well, it's a natural fit for Vegas with its suggestive choreography. However, don't expect toplessness here (except on the hunky males).

ICE: DIRECT FROM RUSSIA

RIVIERA HOTEL • 702-794-9433

Russian ice skaters and aerial acrobats have traveled halfway around the world to take over the theater formerly occupied by the long-running Splash.

KÀ

MGM GRAND • 702-891-7777

The first local Cirque du Soleil production with a cohesive storyline, *Kà* will have you wondering "how did they do that?" when you see the stage moving every direction imaginable. Talk about trying new positions!

LAS VEGAS LITTLE THEATRE

3920 SCHFF DRIVE • 702-362-7996

This tiny community theater puts on numerous quality productions throughout the year, many with gay themes and frontal nudity you won't find on any other stage in town.

LOVE

THE MIRAGE • 702-792-7777

The timeless music of The Beatles is melded seamlessly with the clowns, acrobatics and showmanship typical of a Cirque production. More shows based on existing music (and even one featuring legendary magician Criss Angel) are expected to open in the coming years. Let's rename Vegas, "Little Montreal" already!

MANILOW: MUSIC AND PASSION

LAS VEGAS HILTON • 702-732-5755

What exactly is a Copacabana anyway? Find out from Barry himself just down the hall from the Borg and Klingons at the Las Vegas Hilton.

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT

WYNN LAS VEGAS • 702-770-9966

Taking over for the short-lived *Avenue Q*, this musical hilariously retells the story of the Knights of the Round Table, turning Sir Lancelot gay. If you enjoyed *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, you'll love this show.

NEVADA BALLET THEATRE

SEASON TICKETS 702-243-2623

SINGLE TICKETS 702-895-2787

Throughout the year, the Nevada Ballet Theatre produces a variety of ballets both well-known and original, perhaps the only time it's okay for a man to wear tights in public.

PENN & TELLER

RIO ALLSUITE HOTEL • 702-777-7776

The quite-tall Penn Jillette and always-silent Teller have served as grand marshals of the AFAN AIDS Walk for years, so check out their brand of magic and comedy to support those who have supported us.

PHANTOM: THE LAS VEGAS SPECTACULAR

VENETIAN RESORT HOTEL CASINO

702-414-9000

This production of the world's most famous musical is perhaps the most immersive ever, with a massive chandelier swirling above and falling toward your head, the Phantom's haunting voice surrounding you and fireworks blinding you. The theater even looks like a real Paris opera house. There's a reason they changed the name to include "Spectacular."

STOMP OUT LOUD

PLANET HOLLYWOOD • 702-785-5555

Stomp Out Loud is perfect for those who habitually tap their fingers and jingle their keys. This show justifies that music can definitely be created from household objects and bodily sounds.

TIX4TONIGHT

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FASHION SHOW MALL

FOUR QUEENS HOTEL

877-TIX4TNT

Four convenient locations make it easy to buy half-price tickets to same-day shows and attractions.

TONI BRAXTON: REVEALED

FLAMINGO • 702-733-3333

Unbreak your heart by checking Toni's intimate musical and visual journey showcasing her career at the top of the charts.

ZUMANITY

NEW YORK-NEW YORK • 702-740-6815

Add two women in a big fish bowl, two men in a cage, a few others in sexy fetish attire and you have an evening that will turn on almost anyone no matter your age, gender or orientation.

NIGHTLIFE

ARUBA HOTEL AND SPA

1215 LAS VEGAS BLVD S. • 702-383-3100

Hidden treasure inside "Old Vegas." Gay Tuesdays are presented inside a chic dive bar known as the Thunderbird Lounge. Great music and edgy atmosphere make this a friendly place to hang out.

BACKDOOR

1415 E. CHARLESTON AVE. • 702-385-2018

In the mood for something spicy? Go to Backdoor, home of Las Vegas' gay Latino scene.

BADLANDS SALOON

953 E. SAHARA AVE. • 702-792-9262

A cozy country western bar and venue for many community events, located in the heart of the Commercial Center, Badlands Saloon offers something for everyone.

BARCODE

5150 SPRING MOUNTAIN RD.

702-221-5150

Tired of the same clubs dominating the Fruit Loop? Try something that's new and different. One of Vegas' recent nightlife additions, Barcode is a trendy alternative club away from the Strip.

CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS

5012 S. ARVILLE ST. • 702-876-1844

Part of the popular Chicago, Denver and Phoenix scene, this country western gay bar is a popular local hangout. With special events daily, this bar is great to grab a drink with a few friends.

ESCAPE LOUNGE

4213 W. SAHARA AVE. • 702-364-1167

Another new bar away from the Strip, Escape Lounge offers customers great specials, friendly bartenders and a quaint atmosphere. Anyone looking for an escape should stop here on the west side.

FLEX

4371 W. CHARLESTON AVE. • 702-385-FLEX

Flex Nightclub offers drinks, strippers, games and more. A quaint neighborhood bar, Flex is perfect to stop by for an after-work cocktail. Watch their calendar of events carefully; they always have something new and different going on and just underwent a major renovation/redecoration.

FREEZONE

610 E. NAPLES DR. • 702-794-2300

As the name implies, there is never a cover at this popular bar/club (excluding holidays and special events). Freezone offers cheap drink specials (including the famous free beer bust), good times and an ever-friendly staff.

GOODTIMES

1775 E. TROPICANA AVE. • 702-736-9494

Home of the Monday night alcohol/beer bust, this local bar is a great place to start your week. Goodtimes is popular with the gamers as they have some of the most liberal video poker machines off the Strip.

KRAVE

HARMON AVE. AT LV BLVD. • 702-836-0830

Las Vegas' first alternative club on the Strip, Krave is the spot for a good weekend party. Hosting world-renowned DJs and high-energy dance music, this nightclub is perfect for anyone wanting to bust a move.

LAS VEGAS EAGLE

3430 E. TROPICANA AVE. • 702-458-8662

More into the leather, bear and mature scene? The Las Vegas Eagle is just the place for you. This bar is also perfect for a guy looking to save money on drinks—just strip down to your boxers or briefs every Wednesday and Friday night and get free well drinks and beer.

SNICK'S PLACE

3RD ST. OFF LAS VEGAS BLVD.

702-385-9298

Las Vegas' oldest gay and lesbian bar, Snick's Place is the gay equivalent to Cheers. Located near downtown Las Vegas, Snick's is the best place to go for a sociable drink.

SPOTLIGHT LOUNGE

957 E. SAHARA AVE. • 702-696-0202

Located in the Commercial Center, Spotlight Lounge is not only a casual, friendly bar, but also a great community supporter. Lending its space to political fund-raisers and various group meetings, the Spotlight Lounge has shined brightly over the past few years.

ORGANIZATIONS

AID FOR AIDS OF NEVADA (AFAN)

2300 S. RANCHO DR., STE. 211

702-382-2326

AFAN provides support and advocacy for adults and children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in Southern Nevada. AFAN works to reduce HIV infection through prevention education to eliminate fear, prejudice and the stigma associated with the disease. AFAN's AIDS Walk is held downtown each spring with its other big fund-raiser, the Black & White Party, held at the Palms every fall.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (ACLU)

732 S. 6TH ST., STE. 200A • 702-366-1226

The ACLU is a nationwide non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to preserving, protecting and defending the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to all people in this country by the Constitution, Bill of Rights and laws of the United States.

BETTY'S OUTRAGEOUS ADVENTURES

702-991-9929

Become a Betty and enjoy social, athletic, cultural and outdoor events with other members of the diverse lesbian community in Las Vegas.

BLACKJACK BEARS

702-225-4513

Founded in 1994 for "bears" and their admirers, the Blackjack Bears provides a more diverse variety of functions for the Bear community.

COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER (CCC)

1120 ALMOND TREE LANE, STE. 207

702-369-8700

The CCC promotes the healthy functioning of individuals, families and communities with affordable, sensitive and professional behavioral health services in a safe environment.

GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

953 E. SAHARA AVE., STE. B-31

702-733-9800

The Center is a community-based organization that supports and promotes activities directed at furthering the well-being, positive image and human rights of the LGBT community and its allies in Southern Nevada. Various community and social groups for youth and adults of all ages meet at The Center every week, and each fall, The Center holds its annual Honorarium to salute top community members. A new Web site has just been launched to give the community at large a better understanding of The Center.

GOLDEN RAINBOW

3233 W. CHARLESTON BLVD., STE. 108

702-384-2899

Golden Rainbow provides housing and direct financial assistance to men, women, children and families affected by HIV/AIDS in Southern Nevada and is also dedicated to supporting HIV/AIDS-related education. Annual fund-raising events include the Ribbon of Life production show held at Bally's.

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■ OUT LAS VEGAS >> QUICK GUIDE TO GAY VEGAS

HOLY INNOCENTS AMERICAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

702-205-2265

Mass is held every Saturday at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel of the Holy Family at 2000 S. Maryland Pkwy. Monthly socials, gatherings and outings are also held, and holy days are observed.

HOLY ORDER, SIN SITY SISTERS OF PERPETUAL INDULGENCE

702-591-6969

The Sin Sity Sisters are based on the seven deadly sins and promote freedom of expression, diversity, social activism, social service and spiritual development. They can be seen (and aren't easy to miss) helping raising funds at nearly every LGBT charitable event in Vegas.

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN (HRC)

HRC-LASVEGAS@COX.NET

HRC is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender equality and end discrimination against LGBT citizens. The Las Vegas chapter brings guest speakers to town throughout the year, helps raise funds at numerous community events, and hosts an impressive black-tie gala dinner each fall.

IMPERIAL ROYAL SOVEREIGN COURT OF THE DESERT EMPIRE, INC.

P.O. BOX 46481

LAS VEGAS, NV 89114-6481

The Royal Court is the local chapter of the International Imperial Court System and works with numerous local non-profit organizations to help raise much-needed funds. Coronation for the next emperor and empress is held in late fall.

LAMBDA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

702-593-2875

Lambda provides an environment of success for the LGBT and gay-friendly business community through the exchange of ideas, information and resources. Breakfast and Dinner PowerClubs are held throughout the year with mixers each month. A directory of participating businesses is published in the Las Vegas Gay and Lesbian Community Yellow Pages.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH (MCC)

1140 ALMOND TREE LANE

702-369-4380

MCC is a Christian church open to everyone regardless of age, race, gender, HIV status or sexual orientation. Worship services are held Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 9:45 and 11:30 a.m.

NEVADA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (NGRA)

888-643-NGRA (6472)

NGRA is a social group promoting the country/western lifestyle and is part of the International Gay Rodeo Association. NGRA raises funds for community organizations throughout the year and at its main annual event, the BigHorn Rodeo.

NEVADA OUTDOORS

702-860-7110 / 702-278-5172

Formed in 1998 to provide a viable, healthy choice

to the Las Vegas social arena, Nevada Outdoors provides the community a place to meet new friends, learn about the outdoors, attend adventurous trips, dine out together and just have fun. These recreational opportunities are open to all.

PARENTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (PFLAG)

702-438-7838

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of LGBT persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy.

SIN CITY Q SOCIALS

702-622-4085

This social network brings together members of the Vegas LGBT community through weekly Trendy Tuesdays, Fuzion Fridayz and Soaked Sundays.

SOUTHERN NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF PRIDE (SNAPI)

702-615-9429

SNAPI produces Pride Week late every Spring with a Friday night parade downtown near Fremont Street and a Saturday festival in the Clark County Amphitheater. Throughout the year, SNAPI also holds fund-raising bingo events and much more.

SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT (SNHD)

702-759-0702

SNHD has an HIV/AIDS Clinic in Annex A of the Ravenholt Public Health Center (625 Shadow Lane) and provides free HIV and syphilis testing at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center every Thursday, 3-6:30 p.m. Results are available the following week.

SAINT THERESE CENTER

67 E. LAKE MEAD, HENDERSON

702-564-4224

This Catholic ministry welcomes and serves people of all faiths and extends the Lord's healing to all persons infected and affected by HIV/AIDS through spiritual, physical and emotional support as well as educational and social services.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATIC CLUB

702-838-4588

This local chapter of the National Stonewall Democrats is committed to Democratic voter education and outreach, Democratic party participation and LGBT activism and community outreach.

SHOPPING

APPLE STORE

FASHION SHOW

702-650-9550

Stop by to pick up a new iMac computer, an iPod in whatever color you desire, an Apple TV unit to stream music and videos to your HDTV or even the brand new gadget of the century, the long-awaited iPhone (see below, right).

BARE ESSENTIALS

4029 W. SAHARA AVE.

702-247-4711

This little joint outfits all the strippers in town and is

famous for its line of thongs for men including the Super Whopper and Flopper Whopper to fit nearly any package.

BOULEVARD MALL

3528 S. MARYLAND PKWY.

702-732-8949

East Las Vegas' only mall off the Strip gives shoppers easy access to such staples as Gap, Express, Anchor Blue, Foot Locker, Suncoast and dozens more. Its food court offers several yummy options and is a frequent hangout for teens from the area.

DESIGN WITHIN REACH (DWR)

750 S. RAMPART BLVD., STE. 4

702-933-0998

Find the latest in contemporary furniture and accessories at this Summerlin hot spot in Boca Park. If you're in the area, stop by to test-drive the collection and receive personalized assistance from the friendly and knowledgeable staff.

ESPLANADE AT WYNN

702-770-7000

If you want high-end shopping, get your butt down to the Wynn and check out pricey favorites such as Chanel, Dior, Dior Homme, Manolo Blahnik, Cartier, Jean Paul Gaultier, Oscar de la Renta, Louis Vuitton and many more.

FASHION SHOW

LAS VEGAS BLVD. SOUTH

AT SPRING MOUNTAIN

702-369-0704

The name would perhaps imply a high fashion type of mall, but Fashion Show has stores for all budgets from Louis Vuitton to Hollister and several non-clothing stores as well. The center court actually has a runway that raises from the floor for periodic fashion shows, hence the name.

FORUM SHOPS AT CAESARS PALACE

702-893-4800

Ever ridden a spiraling escalator before? If not, step foot in the newest wing of the Forum Shops and check it out. This mall is as well known for its spectacle (including two animatronic shows and an aquarium) as it is for its high-class shopping and dining options.

FRY'S ELECTRONICS

6845 LAS VEGAS BLVD. SOUTH

702-932-1418

This store has it all, from home theater equipment, PCs and Mac computers to wireless phones, appliances, and batteries to fit all your favorite toys. The game, music and movie sections are massive as well.

GALLERIA AT SUNSET

1300 W. SUNSET RD., HENDERSON

702-434-0202

Henderson residents need a place to shop too, and Galleria at Sunset is another typical locals' mall with dozens of stores to choose from.

GET BOOKED

1300 W. SUNSET RD., HENDERSON

702-434-0202

Right in the middle of the Fruit Loop at the corner of Paradise and Naples sits Get Booked, the perfect source for gay movies, books, clothing, lube, novelties and more. After you meet that hottie at the club,

run over to Get Booked and pick up whatever it may take to make the night sizzle.

GRAND CANAL SHOPPES AT THE VENETIAN

702-414-1000

Take a ride in a gondola from one end of this mall to the other and enjoy the variety of expensive jewelry, clothing and accessory stores.

LAS VEGAS OUTLET CENTER

7400 LAS VEGAS BLVD. SOUTH

702-896-5599

South of the Strip, check out the Las Vegas Outlet Center to find some cheap clothes and housewares. And over in the annex, there's a Disney Character Store for those of you with a Mickey obsession.

LAS VEGAS PREMIUM OUTLETS

875 S. GRAND CENTRAL PKWY.

702-474-7500

Vegas' only outdoor outlet mall is home to Armani Exchange, Banana Republic Factory Store, Calvin Klein, Kenneth Cole, Polo Ralph Lauren Factory Store and many more. Stop by and save big.

THE MALE BAG VEGAS

610 E. SAHARA AVE., STE. 13

702-474-MALE (6253)

Are you bringing sexy back? The Male Bag has unique, sexy clothes for gay men including swimwear, underwear, clubwear and everyday wear. Check out the adult toy and video collection in the back room while you're there.

MANDALAY PLACE

BETWEEN MANDALAY BAY AND LUXOR

702-632-9333

Right between Luxor and Mandalay Bay, you'll find Mandalay Place, a small shopping complex with hip stores such as Urban Outfitters and Just Cavalli. If you're staying in the area, take a stroll through and stop at Burger Bar for dinner.

MIRACLE MILE SHOPS AT PLANET HOLLYWOOD

702-866-0710 / 888-800-8284

Formerly known as Desert Passage, the storefronts and public areas are being redesigned with a sexy, modern new look to mesh with the revamped Planet Hollywood style. Miracle Mile is home to fabulous home décor store Z Gallerie, numerous art galleries, famous Hawaiian store Hilo Hattie with the world's largest aloha shirt and much more, 170 stores and 15 restaurants total.

THE RACK OF LAS VEGAS

953 E. SAHARA AVE., STE. 101

702-732-7225

This is the premiere leather store for gays and straights alike, and I'm not talking about your standard leather coat for winter. If this is your fetish or lifestyle, The Rack has exactly what you need from clothing to masks, whips and more.

TENO

MANDALAY PLACE, 702-259-0565

GRAND CANAL SHOPPES, 702-369-2736

MIRACLE MILE SHOPS, 702-735-TENO (8366)

TeNo is known worldwide for its amazing stainless steel jewelry designs, including earrings, rings, bracelets, watches and more, often featuring ceramic, rubber and diamond accents.



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Chris Marquez is a Certified Reiki Master/ Teacher Certified Theta Healer, I-act Nationally Certified Colon Therapist and instructor and is the owner of Health/Works Wellness Center and the director of the Nevada School of Colon Hydrotherapy

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the center

NOV 1 1:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 2 7:00 PM 8:00 PM NOV 4 11:00 AM 5:00 PM NOV 5 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM NOV 6 6:00 PM 7:30 PM 8:30 PM NOV 7 12:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM NOV 8 1:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 9 7:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 11 11:00 AM 2:00 PM NOV 12 6:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 13 6:00 PM NOV 14 11:30 AM 12:00 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM NOV 15 1:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 16 7:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 18 11:00 AM NOV 19 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM NOV 20 6:00 PM 8:30 PM NOV 21 12:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM NOV 22 1:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 23 7:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 24 5:00 PM NOV 25 11:00 AM 11:00 AM NOV 26 5:30 PM 6:00 PM 7:30 PM 7:00 PM 8:30 PM NOV 27 6:00 PM 6:30 PM NOV 28 12:00 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 29 1:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM NOV 30 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	THURS HIV TESTING 17/24 YOUTH GROUP FRI VEGAS MPOWERMENT G-MEN, L-GROUP SUN AA BRENDEZOUS OPEN MIC MON NAP POSITIVE LIVING WORKSHOP NGRA VEGAS MPOWERMENT TUE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE - HONORARIUM IMPERIAL COURT BOARD MEETING SIN CITY SISTERS WED WISE WOMYN AA VEGAS MPOWERMENT THURS HIV TESTING YOUTH GROUP 17/24 FRI G-MEN, L-GROUP VEGAS MPOWERMENT SUN AA SENIOR CONNECTIONS MON NAP POSITIVE LIVING WORKSHOP VEGAS MPOWERMENT TUES FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE - HONORARIUM WED LAMBDA BUS ASSOC. WISE WOMYN AA NGRA VEGAS MPOWERMENT LUC THURS HIV TESTING YOUTH GROUP, YOUTH CLINIC 17/24 FRI G-MEN, L-GROUP VEGAS MPOWERMENT SAT AA MON NAP POSITIVE LIVING WORKSHOP NGRA VEGAS MPOWERMENT L-GROUP, G-MEN TUE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE - HONORARIUM SIN CITY SISTERS WED WISE WOMYN AA FINANCIAL CLUB VEGAS MPOWERMENT THURS HIV TESTING YOUTH GROUP, YOUTH CLINIC 17/24 FRI G-MEN, L-GROUP VEGAS MPOWERMENT SAT LV PRIME TIMERS SUN AA MONARCH ELECTIONS MON MEMBERSHIP MEETING NAP POSITIVE LIVING WORKSHOP SCI-FI CLUB VEGAS MPOWERMENT IMPERIAL COURT BOARD MEETING TUE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE - HONORARIUM SNAPI MEETING WED WISE WOMYN AA MEETING STONEWALL DEMOCRATS NEVADA OUTDOORS VEGAS MPOWERMENT THURS HIV TESTING YOUTH GROUP, YOUTH CLINIC 17/24 FRI G-MEN, L-GROUP VEGAS MPOWERMENT
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Gay/Lesbian Catholic Ministries of Las Vegas

We are a Roman Catholic Ministry by/for Gays, Lesbians & the Parents, Families and Friends of Gays/Lesbians – providing support with Spiritual Social, and Service activities.

BIBLE STUDY

Sundays – 6:30-8:00pm

Anderson Hall at Guardian Angel Cathedral

336 Cathedral Way, next to the Wynn.

The hall is in the building behind the church. Join us as we take time for Scripture reading, personal reflection, discussion and fellowship.

Sundays: Nov. 11, 18, 25 (No Bible Study on Nov. 4 – Charles will be out of town.)

MONTHLY MASS & SOCIAL

Friday Nov. 9 – 7:00pm

Anderson Hall at Guardian Angel Cathedral

Join us for the celebration of the Eucharist in the Chapel. Come Home to the Table of the Lord!

AFTER-MASS: Suede: Restaurant/Lounge.

Have some good food, a drink and possibly sing karaoke in this wonderful smoke-free environment.

MASS & MEAL WEEKEND

Sunday Nov. 18 – 11:30am

Christ the King Catholic Community

Celebrate Mass with us at Christ the King (corner of W. Tropicana & Torrey Pines) followed by **Brunch at The Orleans.**

ST. THERESE CENTER CLIENT RETREAT

Sunday Dec. 2 – Lake Mead Lodge

For the 4th year in a row, we will supply and deliver the sack lunches for the retreat.

We head up early enough to join them for Sunday Mass and then for lunch. We need people to provide lunches, put them together and/or serve them. Contact me on how you can help.

6TH ANNUAL WEEKEND RETREAT

March 28-30, 2008 – Lake Mead Lodge

For registration information, go to our web site or contact me to have a retreat brochure sent.

CONTACT INFORMATION

336 Cathedral Way
Las Vegas, NV 89109
702-354-2294

www.ImagoDeiLV.org
ImagoDeiLV@aol.com
Charles O'Neill (Director)

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■ QHAPPENINGS >> LAS VEGAS COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDAR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

HIV TESTING

THE CENTER, 1:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

NGRA APPRECIATION NIGHT AT CHARLIE'S

CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS

www.ngra.com

VEGAS MPOWERMENT

THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

EMPEROR & EMPRESS CANDIDATE SHOW HOSTED CHRIS REYNOLDS

CHARLIE'S

www.charlieslasvegas.com

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

THE CENTER'S

13TH ANNUAL HONORARIUM

GOLD COAST, 6:00 PM.

www.thecenterlv.com

Our own managing director, Earl Shelton, has been chosen as this year's Man of the Year. We'd love to see each of you at the Honorarium this year supporting QVegas, The Center and this community as a whole. Tickets will still be on sale until the day of the event.

ELTON JOHN THE RED PIANO

CAESARS PALACE, 8:00 P.M.

www.ticketmaster.com

MR CHARLIE'S CONTEST

CHARLIE'S, 10:00 P.M.

www.charlieslasvegas.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

PG-12 BINGO W/ SIN CITY SISTERS

ALEXIS PARK, 5:00 P.M.

www.desertempire.org

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

NGRA BOARD MEETING

THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.

www.ngra.com

ELTON JOHN THE RED PIANO

CAESARS PALACE, 8:00 P.M.

www.ticketmaster.com

NAP POSITIVE LIVING WORKSHOP

THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

IRSCDE MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOLLOWED BY CORONATION MEETING

THE CENTER, 7:30 P.M.

www.desertempire.org

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE HONORARIUM

THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.

www.ngra.com

IMPERIAL COURT BOARD MEETING

THE CENTER, 7:30 P.M.

www.desertempire.org

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

WISE WOMYN

THE CENTER, 12:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

AA MEETING

THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

LATIN GRAMMY AWARDS

MANDALAY BAY, 5:00 P.M.

www.ticketmaster.com

Why wait and watch them on television when you can see all these hot and sassy Latin music stars live?

HANSON

HOUSE OF BLUES,, 7:00 P.M.

www.ticketmaster.com

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HIV TESTING

THE CENTER, 1:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

YOUTH GROUP

THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

17/24

THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

If you're on the verge of being too old for the youth group but would like to hang out with the older crowd, check out The Center's new group for 17-24 year olds.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

NGRA APPRECIATION NIGHT AT CHARLIE'S

CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS

www.ngra.com

VEGAS MPOWERMENT L-GROUP, G-MEN

THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

FLEX GRAND REOPENING

FLEX, 9:00 P.M.

www.flexvegas.com

In keeping with the stylish flavor of most Las Vegas nightspots, Flex has done a full remodel from floor to ceiling and even added a new Dance Dance Revolution game! Check it out and now score points for your dancing skills.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

NGRA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

CHARLIE'S, 8:00 P.M.

www.ngra.com

NGRA'S FALL FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER

CHARLIE'S, 9:30 P.M.

www.charlieslasvegas.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

VETERAN'S DAY

AA MEETING

THE CENTER, 11:00 A.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

SENIOR CONNECTION

THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

VEGAS MPOWERMENT

THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

NAP POSITIVE LIVING WORKSHOP

THE CENTER, 2:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

CORONATION X MEETING

THE CENTER, 7:00 PM.

www.desertempire.org

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE HONORARIUM

THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

SIN CITY Q SOCIALS PROMO EVENT

FLEX, 8:00 P.M.

www.sincityqsocials.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

LAMBDA NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

LAS PALMAS RESTAURANT, 11:30 A.M.

www.lambdalv.com

WISE WOMYN

THE CENTER, 12:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

AA MEETING

THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

VEGAS MPOWERMENT

THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

HBO'S COMEDY FESTIVAL

CAESARS PALACE

www.ticketmaster.com

www.hbocomedyfestival.com

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

HRC THIRD THURSDAY

www.hrc.org/lasvegas

HIV TESTING

THE CENTER, 1:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

17/24

THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.

www.thecenterlv.com

HBO'S COMEDY FESTIVAL

CAESARS PALACE

www.ticketmaster.com

www.hbocomedyfestival.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

NGRA APPRECIATION NIGHT AT CHARLIE'S

CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS

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DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES
IS NOVEMBER 15

RESULTS WILL APPEAR
IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE

■ QHAPPENINGS >> LAS VEGAS COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDAR

WINGED DRAGON SOCIETY SHOW
SPOTLIGHT, 9:00 P.M.
www.desertempire.org

G-MEN, L-GROUP, MPOWERMENT
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

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CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS
www.charlieslasvegas.com

HBO'S COMEDY FESTIVAL
CAESARS PALACE
www.ticketmaster.com
www.hbocomedyfestival.com

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

HBO'S COMEDY FESTIVAL
CAESARS PALACE
www.ticketmaster.com
www.hbocomedyfestival.com

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

SNAPI MEETING
THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

NAP POSITIVE LIVING WORKSHOP
THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

NGRA MEETING
THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.
www.ngra.com

VEGAS MPOWERMENT
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

CORONATION X MEETING
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.desertempire.org

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE
HONORARIUM
THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

SIN SITY SISTERS
THE CENTER, 8:30 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

IMPERIAL JEWELS & DELICIOUS DELIGHTS
YAYO TACOS, 6:30 P.M.
www.desertempire.org

WISE WOMYN
THE CENTER, 12:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

AA MEETING
THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

FINANCIAL CLUB, MPOWERMENT
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

THANKSGIVING DAY

THANKSGIVING FEAST
AT BACKDOOR
BACKDOOR, 12:00 P.M.

HIV TESTING
THE CENTER, 1:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

YOUTH GROUP, YOUTH CLINIC
THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

17/24
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

NGRA APPRECIATION NIGHT
AT CHARLIE'S
CHARLIE'S
www.ngra.com

EMPEROR & EMPRESS
CANDIDATE SHOW
HOSTED BY GINGER GRANT
CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS
www.desertempire.org

G-MEN, L-GROUP, MPOWERMENT
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

MISS IGRA BENEFIT SHOW
FOR MISS ROXY HEART
CHARLIE'S
www.charlieslasvegas.com

LV PRIME TIMERS
THE CENTER, 5:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

VOTING FOR REIGN X MONARCHS
THE CENTER, 12:00 P.M.
www.desertempire.org

AA MEETING
THE CENTER, 11:00 A.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26

IRSCDEI BOARD MEETING FINAL
CORONATION MEETING
7:30 PM
www.desertempire.org

MANHUNT.NET PARTY @ FLEX
FLEX, 9:00 P.M.
www.flexvegas.com

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THE CENTER, 5:30 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

NAP POSITIVE LIVING WORKSHOP
THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

SCI-FI CLUB
THE CENTER, 7:30 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

VEGAS MPOWERMENT
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

IMPERIAL COURT BOARD MEETING
THE CENTER, 8:30 P.M.
www.desertempire.org

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE
HONORARIUM
THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

SNAPI MEETING
THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.
www.lasvegaspride.org

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

NEVADA OUTDOORS MEETING
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.nevadaoutdoors.org

CORONATION IN TOWN SHOW
CHARLIE'S
www.desertempire.org

WISE WOMYN
THE CENTER, 12:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

AA MEETING
THE CENTER, 6:30 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

NEVADA OUTDOORS
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.nevadaoutdoors.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

EMBRACE THE DARKNESS
GOODTIMES, 9:00 P.M.
www.desertempire.org

HIV TESTING
THE CENTER, 1:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

YOUTH GROUP, YOUTH CLINIC
THE CENTER, 6:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

17/24
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

NGRA APPRECIATION NIGHT
AT CHARLIE'S
CHARLIE'S
www.ngra.com

CORONATION WEEKEND
ALL DAY EVENT
www.desertempire.org

OUT OF TOWN SHOW
TUSCANY BALLROOM, 6:00 P.M.
www.desertempire.org

G-MEN, L-GROUP, MPOWERMENT
THE CENTER, 7:00 P.M.
www.thecenterlv.com

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EMPLOYMENT

Let QVegas Classifieds work for you. If you have a job opening, hire qualified Family. To place your ad and info call 702-650-0636 ext 111.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT – Seeking male 25 or over, responsible, totally without obligations elsewhere; free to travel; to work as Assistant, Driver, Secretary, all around right-hand man. Computer skills and typing a must and must be presentable in representing his employer on many occasions. Current driver's license required. In addition to small salary to start, percentages on all projects will be paid. Must have own car. Tremendous room for growth for the right person as assistant to this Producer/Director. No actors, smokers, drugees – References required; send letter, resume and picture and contact number to: GG Enterprises – 6170 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Suite 360 – Las Vegas, NV 89108.

PART TIME HELP WANTED. Need house/apt/ business cleaners for our growing business. Must be willing to work all day, great pay. For more info & to schedule an interview, contact 702-598-4484 or 702-281-9195.

FREEZONE is Now Hiring for Doorman, Tooter sales and Go-Go dancers. Call 682-7515 for interview.

Strippers Wanted. Apply in person at FLEX Nightclub 4371 W. Charleston or call 385-3539 to make an appointment.

BUSINESS SERVICES

NOTICE: QVegas documents all customer complaints regarding classified advertisements. It reserves the right to refuse advertisements from individuals or companies who misrepresent themselves and/or advertising claims. Advertisers and clients are kindly asked to conduct their dealings in a moral, humanitarian and mutually respectful manner. All complaints should be made to QVegas Attn.: Classifieds Director 2408 Pardee Place, Las Vegas, NV. 89104

COLLECTOR WILL BUY your old Gay Porn magazines, photos, 8mm films, etc. Call Philip 702-369-9545.

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ROOMMATES & RENTALS

ROOM for RENT (Gay Male) Southeast Las Vegas near Pecos & Tropicana. Lg 4 bedroom house with swimming pool, Jacuzzi, pool table, cable and wireless internet. Have access to entire house. \$625 a month includes all utilities except phone. Move-in immediately. Call 439-6389 before 8 pm.

Single Story 3BR, 2BA home with 2 car garage and in-ground Jacuzzi for rent (\$1,350) in Rancho Alta Mira subdivision (NW). Don @ 281-0012 or Keith @ 353-7387.

SW/Rainbow-215 \$1100/month + deposit. 3 bed/2.5 bath – 1 car home. No pets, no smoke. Brand new never lived in. Call Robert 702-561-7516.

Beautiful 2 BR (both masters), 2 BA located in a gated community on the east side. Unit is on the second floor and very clean. Unit comes with a private garage as well as guest parking. Has all major appliances and a private balcony. Amenities include swimming pool, recreation room, and a clubhouse. Near shopping, restaurants, and public transportation. Sorry, no smoking and no pets, please. \$895/month Call 510-701-3677.

ROOM FOR RENT!–Pecos and D.I. Beautiful 2-story home. \$450 per month, includes utilities, private bath and full privileges. Call Gary 702-699-9698.

ROOM FOR RENT! Dual Master Bedroom Townhouse w/Private Bath. \$525 plus 1/3 Utilities. Available Now! Las Vegas Blvd. & Silverado Ranch. Call 702-204-3483

ROOMMATE WANTED! Male. Full house privileges - \$400 per month plus 1/2 utilities. Call til10pm or all day Tues. & Wed. NW area. Contact Cliff - Home 228-2361 - Cell 358-9515.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Alexis Park Resort & Spa. All-suite resort, rooftop venue, dining & bar on site, pets welcomed. 702-796-3300 or 800-582-2228. www.alexispark.com

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

QVegas is always happy to announce your special

events. Weddings, commitment ceremonies, births, adoptions, and more. Contact Classifieds Department at 702-650-0636 ext 111 for details.

MCC Now Offers a Football Season Friendly Worship Schedule! Metropolitan Community Church, Las Vegas’ GLBT celebrating congregation now has a Saturday evening service. The Saturday Rainbow Service is at 5:30 p.m. A dinner fellowship follows. Come join us!! We are at 1140 Almond Tree Lane, NW corner of Sahara and Maryland Parkway. Contact person: Rev. George Balgan 369-4380. MCC-LV also offers Sunday services at 9:45 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

LV GAY SQUARE DANCING is a high-energy activity, mentally challenging and lots of fun. If you'd like to enjoy making new friends, learn a new skill and exercising at the same time, square dancing is a good choice. We begin our second year of GLBT dancing this fall. There's no dress code, no experience needed and you don't need a partner. It's an inexpensive way to have great fun and to do something different. We will be having two free introductory sessions on October 3rd and 10th, both on Wednesday nights. Contact Ed at 898-0922 or email LVGaySquareDancing@yahoo.com

Pool Association of Nevada needs members to shoot pool or billiards. Fun-Fun-Fun! For more info, call Genie at 702-734-2579 or Dave at 702-429-6277.

A Gallery of Fine Furniture and Original Artworks presented at affordable prices. All proceeds from the *Artspace Gallery* benefit the Nevada AIDS Project; so if you're considering a purchase, buy where your money can do the most good! We are located in the Las Vegas Arts District at 1400 S. 3rd St., next to Snick's Place (702) 636-1800.

Vegas Mpowerment Project a social gathering for young gay/bisexual men 20-29 years of age. Meet at The Center every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7pm. Another option of meeting other guys your age in a safe environment, we have movie nights, game nights, guest speakers and HIV prevention education. It's a fun time. For more info, call Joshua Montgomery at 733-9800.

Las Vegas Silver Daddies Social at Snick's Place, 1402 S. Third St., 385-9298. Socials are 2nd Wednesday of each month at 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

The Leather Uniform Club of Las Vegas general meeting is at 8pm sharp at the GLBT Center in Commercial Center. Anyone involved or interested in or even curious about leather, rubber, uniforms or a fetish. We are a pan-sexual group and Welcome everyone no matter what level you think you might be. There is also a Fetish and Friendship dinner at the Black Bear Diner on the 1st Thursday night of each month. They start at 7pm. We normally order by 715 to 730pm. The diner is on Tropicana and Jones on the West side of town. All are invited to attend both dinner and meetings. WWW.LUCOFLV.COM or call the LUC of LV number (702) 362-1485 (between 10am & 10pm ONLY) Leave a message and a member will call you back.

The Senior Social Connection meets 2pm every 2nd Sunday of the month at the Gay & Lesbian Community Center #B31, Commercial Center, 953 E Sahara Ave. west of Maryland Parkway (Call 702-733-9800). We are a social and support group for the senior men and women of the Southern Nevada GLBT community. Hope to see you there!

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PERSONALS: MEN SEEKING MEN

WARNING: QVegas remind readers to use common sense when placing or answering an advertisement. Meeting people for the first time in a public environment is recommended and letting a friend know your whereabouts and destination is advisable

Looking for love, sex, company, advice or just want to make an announcement. QVegas classifieds are here for you! For info on how to place an ad see the form on the last page of the classifieds section or call 702-650-0636 ext 111.

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SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

Your physical vitality shall be sky high up to the 7th. New Moon in your sign on the 9th may forbode the end of a relationship. A career victory is on the 17th is sweet and very well deserved. Don't host a turkey day bash this year. Let others do the hard work. Don't list any properties until after the 28th for optimum returns.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

The month begins with extra cash to spend. Save some for that romantic getaway from the 9th-11th. A short term extra source of income will make the holiday season grand. New Moon on the 24th makes you a popular social butterfly. As the month closes, you're in control and loving it. Quite a change, ay Sag?

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 19

As November begins, you'll hit the ground running, Cappy. Nothing can stand in the way of achieving those long held goals. Avoid socializing on the 13th and 14th. You may need to crack the whip at work on the 21st. Attention to details is vital on the 26th. A last minute invite on the 30th turns out to be a sheer delight.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 20-FEBRUARY 18

You'll shine just like a blazing comet all month long. But, remember that they can burn out, so pace yourself. The 10th and 14th look to be especially stressful days. Keep a smile on your face so no one can see it. Take your time shopping for a new home. The best days for this are the 23rd and 24th. A gem will catch your eye.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Watch that impulse buying this month so you can splurge in December. Physical energies are likely to be low on the 5th and 6th. Surprise investment opportunity could really float your boat around the 15th. The 22nd holds in store a Thanksgiving you'll never forget. Be available for blind dates and such on the 28th and 29th, okay?

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Make no mistake, this month is a decidedly mixed bag of tricks/goodies. It may be tough at times to tell one from the other. Don't be in a rush to get things done on the 11th. A loved one at a distance calls with great news on the 20th. Try flirting back at the office lothario. The 23rd-25th provide a brief but lovely respite from pressures.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Scorpio New Moon on the 9th will have you flying sky high. Like Cappy, nothing & no one can possibly get in your way. You'll be the cool, calm center amid chaos on the 16th and 17th. Be gentle with a troubled sibling on the 21st. Don't take on other people's problems on the 25th. The 30th looks best for new car shopping.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 21

This looks to be a fast paced month in all areas of life. Just the way you like it, right Gemmy? Keep out of the boss's warpath on the 12th. Extra money made on the 18th and 19th should go toward hoiday shopping. Subtlety, not volume shall get your points made on the 23rd. Leave those tempting credit cards at home on the 29th.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22

Plans go best between the 1st-7th and the 23rd to 30th of the month. In between looks like a 15 day roller coaster ride. Not that a lot won't get accomplished, it's just that most of it will be ass backwards. Look to the 16th for financial salvation of sorts. A special anniversary around the 20th helps put your priorities in order.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Unlike Cancer, you'll have rather an even keeled month for a change. Shy away from quirky investments from the 4th-6th. Make the most of a sizzling romantic weekend on the 17th and 18th. People will rely on you greatly on the 23rd. The boss brings you good news on the 26th. Stay close to home on the night of the 30th, Leo!

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

That quiet strength of yours saves the day on the 5th. New Moon on the 9th gives you tenacity to complete a difficult project. Don't hesitate to ask for advice on the 15th. A new love interest makes an appearance around the 21st, so hold on to your hat, Virgo. Finalize arrangements for that Christmas getaway before the 30th.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

Your sign rules balance and most of November shall be fairly balanced. Avoid jealous people on the 7th. Home improvement projects move along nicely. Keep up that work-out routine and you'll get even more wolf whistles. Romance blossoms on the 20th and 21st. Lend a helping hand to a buddy in need on the 28th.

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HOW I CAME TO OPPOSE BARNEY FRANK'S ENDA

One of my favorite quotes from Martin Luther King, Jr. says, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Those are words I have tried to live by over my 10 years as a queer activist, and rarely have they rung more true than in recent weeks.

I consider nondiscrimination legislation to be the most important issue facing our community today. More important than marriage equality, more important than hate crime legislation, more important than military service. Why? Because I think that only a society that says—as a matter of law and as a general cultural value—it's not okay to discriminate against someone based on their sexual orientation or gender identity can achieve those other goals.

Earlier this year, Barney Frank and other congressional leaders introduced the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2007. Although the newest version of legislation was weaker in some respects than past versions (this one didn't include non-discrimination in housing, for example), it also took a huge step forward by including gender identity for the first time. ENDA, as introduced this year, would have protected transgender people from discrimination.

I was overjoyed. Throughout my career as an activist, I have always done my best to reach out to the transgender community, to be inclusive and supportive. I know I

haven't been perfect in that regard, but I've learned a lot along the way. I began lobbying my elected officials to support the bill and begged my friends and family who don't live in San Francisco to do the same in their districts.

At the end of September, as I was involved in producing the annual Out & Equal Workplace Summit, a conference all about LGBT equality in the workplace, we got word that Barney Frank and other congressional leaders wanted to remove gender identity from ENDA because there were not enough votes to support passage of the fully inclusive version. I was devastated, as were my colleagues and many of the 2400 other professionals attending the Summit.

What, I wondered, would I say to my co-worker Zander if I continued to support ENDA without protections for transgender people? How could I sit in board meetings with Amanda, or committee meetings with Lori or Breanna, and look them in the eye? What apology could I make to my former pastor, Rev. Sean? And how could I respect myself when I went back to my professional and volunteer efforts and told the hundreds of transgender people I have interacted with over the years that I'm sorry, sticking up for them wasn't politically convenient?

No, the choice was simple. Like many of the so-called "ideological purists" that joined

the United ENDA coalition, I could no longer support anything less than a fully inclusive bill. Since taking that stand, and lobbying congress for nothing less than a transgender inclusive ENDA, I've been called a "liberal elite" "unrealistic" "a sheltered activist" and "a sell-out." I've been called those things by friends and colleagues in the movement and by anonymous internet trolls.

I don't disrespect those who take a more pragmatic view and say we should take what we can get. I very much respect Congressman Barney Frank for his history and leadership, even though we disagree on this issue.

By the time this article sees print, we'll know whether or not the Baldwin Amendment to H.R. 3685 has restored gender identity to the bill. I hope we'll win this fight, but we might not.

Either way, maybe I have some starry-eyed idealism about equality. So what? The next time I, or hundreds of other LGBT community leaders, write "transgender" in our mission statements or talk about diversity and respect for all people, we'll know that our actions speak as loud as our words. **Q**

Jere Keys, former editor of Las Vegas Bugle and QVegas, works for Out & Equal Workplace Advocates and currently lives in San Francisco. Find him online at www.jerekeys.com.

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