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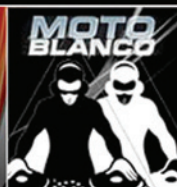
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It's the red (and hopefully read) issue



You'll probably notice something right off the bat when perusing this issue of *QVegas*: nearly everything's red! I promise that wasn't my original intent when planning our February issue, but it just kind of happened. It's my favorite color, but I'm getting a little burned out on it after days of working with it! I hope you won't.

The main reason for using that color so heavily this month is because February is when the Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence hold their annual Red Dress Event, now in its third year. The Sisters' biggest fund-raising event sees a cross-section of our LGBT community—male and female alike—donning so many different styles of red dresses (yes, they're required for the main event) all in the name of raising funds for the Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program. In honor of the Red Dress Event, we have devoted six pages in this issue to show a variety of Las Vegas in their crimson attire, hopefully to inspire the community to turn out and participate. See who's wearing red on page 24.

Perhaps the very first thing you noticed when you picked up this copy is the cutie on the cover. Which one, you ask? They're all quite beautiful, aren't they? The brunette in the middle is Christopher Hirmiz, the new creative director of the Belle Ange Salon,

Spa and Medi-Spa. Get to know him and what inspired him to join the Belle Ange team in our cover story on page 44.

But perhaps the most interesting things in this issue are the fine winners of our annual *QVegas* Readers' Choice Sexiest of Gay Vegas Awards. It amazes me how competitive they are, even moreso than the Qrific Awards, printed in our January issue. Many in the community actively campaign for votes in our 25 categories, and with so many people eager to win, we decided to also print the runners-up this year. Thanks to social networking outlets like Facebook and Twitter, it makes it much easier to encourage friends and colleagues to vote.

Speaking of which, we are quite pleased so many of you have become our friend on Facebook (www.facebook.com/qvegas)! By becoming our friend, you can be the first to know about our events and possibly participate in upcoming *QVegas* stories. We're also Tweeting now, so we'd love for you to follow us (@qvegas) and know what's going on, as well as be eligible to win exciting giveaways throughout the year.

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WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

Do you have something on your mind? Do you have something to say about an article in *QVegas* or any topic of interest to our readers? Do you have an idea for a future story? We want to hear from you! Simply send an e-mail to Editor@QVegas.com. Letters to the Editor may be printed in a future issue if signed.

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READER LETTERS

Although not surprised, I find it disappointing Krave has filed for bankruptcy. I have always felt the club's presence validated the local community. Gay and lesbian individuals have earned the right to be represented, and the Strip location did just that.

Krave often performed unique and potentially harmful business practices; during those times it seemed the methods were beneficial. It appears now that such practices lead to long-term financial loss.

Sia Amiri made many bold moves, from the very inception of a gay night club on Las Vegas Blvd. to the at-times-risqué theater acts and entertainment. It takes a certain amount of character to invest in an alternative lifestyle, and for courageous effort I thank him.

Adan David Callsen

Former Krave Office Manager

CORRECTIONS

In the QBA Member Directory in the past two issues of *QVegas*, we misprinted the Web site of Rustic Living, Inc. The correct site address is www.rusticliving.net. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused the business or its customers.

THE Q COVER

Pictured on the cover are Christopher Hirmiz, creative director, and Renee Reichert, owner, of Belle Ange Salon, Spa and Medi-Spa, along with the Belle Ange angels. Photography by Jon Carmichael (www.JonCarmichaelPhotography.com). Color and hair extensions by Master Artist Paul Juma; coiffures by Jorgen Nielsen; and makeup by Nicole Rispoli.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LGBT WEDDINGS & COMMITMENTS

If you are legally marrying in a state that allows it, or if you are becoming domestic partners and holding a commitment ceremony, we are interested in printing an announcement of the event along with a photograph in a future issue.

If you are registering for domestic partnership in Nevada and are not holding a commitment ceremony, please submit the first and last names of both parties, and you will be included in a congratulatory list of registered couples we'll print in each issue.

Send these materials to Editor@QVegas.com no later than the 15th of the month preceding the issue in which you want the announcement or names to appear. ●

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The Court announces three events to be held in February

The Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire is holding three fun-filled events during the month of February.

The first competition of the Court's 2010 Pageant season, the King and Queen of Hearts Pageant, will be at Badlands Saloon (953 E. Sahara Ave., Ste. 22) on Friday, February 5—the doors open at 8 p.m. and the pageant begins at 9 p.m. The Court annually hosts a series of pageants as fund-raisers for its general fund, the proceeds of which are distributed annually. The King and Queen of Hearts Pageant is the first of the series, which also includes the King and Queen of Clubs Pageant; the King and Queen of Diamonds Pageant; the King and Queen of Spades Pageant; the Mr. Big, Bold, & Bear and Miss Big, Bold, & Beautiful Pageant, the Mr. and Miss Firecracker Pageant, and the King Midas and Golden Goddess Pageant.

On Tuesday, February 16, the Imperial Court celebrates Fat Tuesday—otherwise known in

the southern climes as Mardi Gras. Come out to Badlands Saloon for King Cake, fun, and entertainment beginning at 8 p.m.

On Saturday, February 20, the Court hosts "The Broken Hearts Revue," with doors opening at 8 p.m. and the show beginning at 9 p.m. at the Spotlight Lounge (957 E. Sahara Ave.). The show and beer bust is the Court's monthly fund-raiser at Spotlight. Valentine's Day will be over, but the Court guys and girls will be celebrating love—lost or won—during the evening's show.

The Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire is a 501(c)(3) organization whose primary goal is to raise funds for other not-for-profits in the Southern Nevada area; part of the International Court system, the Court was designed for "camp" fun and fund-raising and to help those in the area in need of assistance. To learn more, visit www.desertempire.org. •



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Golden Rainbow holds 5th annual Naked Hearts event

Performers from Las Vegas' biggest shows will be getting "naked" this Valentine's Day to raise money for people with HIV/AIDS. The sexy, steamy, sultry event is the 5th Annual Naked Hearts, presented by Krave Nightclub and staged as a benefit for Las Vegas-based HIV/AIDS charity Golden Rainbow. This year's bare-as-you-dare event takes place (appropriately enough) on the Strip inside Krave. Doors open at 10:30 p.m.

The event is staged Valentine's Day night and is a fetish and fantasy-fueled feast for the senses. Dozens of dancers from many of the city's productions will perform throughout the night, in sexy interpretations of various fetishes. Krave's own DJ Morningstar and go-go boys will keep the music pumping and the bodies grinding all night long. It's a night that will leave audiences gasping. And panting. And sweating. In a very good way.

Tickets are available now at www.goldenrainbow.org or by calling (702) 384-2899 for \$10. Tickets will also be available at the door on the night of the show, \$20 for locals and \$30 for visitors. Money raised benefits Golden Rainbow's mission to provide housing and direct financial assistance to Southern Nevadans with HIV/AIDS and to fund prevention education programs. Event sponsors include Krave, QVegas and VegasAuditions.com.

Established in 1987, Golden Rainbow strives to provide housing and direct financial assistance to the men, women, children and families living with HIV/AIDS in Southern Nevada. Golden Rainbow also supports HIV/AIDS-related education, and is a recognized Nevada non-profit organization. For information, visit www.GoldenRainbow.org. •

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NGRA crowns Jensen and Foxx as its 2010 rodeo royalty

On January 15, the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association (NGRA) crowned its newest royalty team members, Mr. NGRA 2010 J.D. Jensen and Miss NGRA 2010 Kimberli Foxx. NGRA welcomes them to the rodeo royalty family!

In February, the Rodeo Runs Red in support of the Sin City Sisters Red Ribbon Awareness campaign.

On February 13 at 9 p.m., join NGRA for The Single Hearts Club, because being single can be fun, at Charlie's Las Vegas. NGRA is hosting a beer bust, entertainment, and Jell-o shots as a Valentine to all of southern

Nevada—single or partnered, come out and celebrate St. Valentine's Day.

On February 27, NGRA is hosting a Red Ribbon Wrap-Up Party, in honor of the Sin City Sisters Red Dress Event. The Red Ribbon Country Revue begins at 9 p.m. at Badlands Saloon with entertainment, beer bust and Jell-o shots.

Portions of the proceeds from each event in February will go to the Sin City Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program. To learn more about these events and NGRA, visit www.ngra.com. ●

AFAN to hold 20th AIDS Walk

Join Aid for AIDS of Nevada (AFAN) on Sunday, April 25 at the World Market Center downtown as the organization hosts its 20th annual AIDS Walk.

As in years past, there will be food, entertainment and everyone's favorite Grand Marshals, Penn & Teller.

Registration is easy. Go to www.afanlv.org, click on the AIDS Walk logo and follow the steps to register.

Join the fight against HIV/AIDS in our community and help us make a difference by

raising funds, raising awareness and walking. As AFAN always says, "together, we make a difference."

If you are able to display event registration and pledge forms at your business location, please contact Theresa Mayet at (702) 382-2326 or via e-mail at theresa@afanlv.org. Your business will be included in AFAN's comprehensive marketing campaign as a pick-up location for participation forms, driving a portion of more than 8,000 walkers and participants into your business. ●

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Oh What a Night! brings the Four Seasons sound to Suncoast

The extensive hit songbook of Rock and Roll Hall of Famers Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons comes to life in *Oh What A Night!* at the Suncoast Showroom, February 27 and 28.

Oh What A Night!, written and directed by independent Motown producer and creative consultant George Solomon and award-winning producer and director Michael Chapman, is an exciting tribute show that takes audiences on a musical journey through the hits of the famed group that formed in 1960.

Recognizable hits such as "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like A Man," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," "My Eyes Adored You," "Working My Way Back To You," "Let's Hang On," and "Who Loves You," along with several other top ten hits are a part of this exiting musical review. Frankie Valli's chart-topping recording "Grease," the title song from the hit 1978 film, is also a part of the review and is sure to thrill audiences.

Choreographed by Paul Holmquist, *Oh What A Night!* features four singers who stay true to the

classic songs of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, adding their own interpretation to the hits without impersonating the original group. The review has thrilled audiences in theaters, showrooms and cruise ships around the world, including its sold-out engagement at The Suncoast Showroom in January 2009.

Tickets are now available starting from \$19.95, plus tax. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 4 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Box Office at 702.636.7075, or by visiting www.suncoastcasino.com.

The Suncoast Showroom is a 500-seat venue featuring booth and table seating. Coast Casinos is a division of Boyd Gaming Corporation. Headquartered in Las Vegas, Boyd Gaming is a leading diversified owner and operator of 16 gaming entertainment properties located in Nevada, New Jersey, Mississippi, Illinois, Indiana and Louisiana. Additional news and information on Boyd Gaming can be found at www.boydgaming.com. ●

Trump International Hotel has special Valentine's Day offerings

Trump International Hotel Las Vegas is inviting you and your loved one to a romantic respite with the Enchanted Evening Package, available February 1–28, 2010.

From \$249 a night, guests will have the opportunity to unwind, take in the captivating views of the Las Vegas skyline, enjoy a bottle of premier champagne served with gourmet chocolates, and receive two monogrammed personalized signature Trump robes.

Additionally, DJT, the signature restaurant at Trump, is offering a four-course tasting menu for \$75 per person on Sunday, February 14 in honor of Valentine's Day.

Couples can also retreat to The Spa at Trump with two exclusive packages available February 1–28. The Luxury Romance Package for two is priced at \$279 and includes a 60-minute Couples Classic Trump Massage; two robes from The Spa at Trump; and the Tara "Lovin" Oil to take home. The Healing Hearts Package designed for one is priced at \$149 and features one 40-minute massage; a 40-minute facial; 30-minute scalp massage; 40-minute pedicure; and a special take home gift.

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Bellagio introduces special brunch

For the first time in the AAA Five Diamond resort's history, Bellagio offers an unrivaled brunch experience, featuring a bevy of gourmet and traditional cuisine, while enjoying sweeping views of its lake and world-renowned fountains. Fountains Brunch at Jasmine now redefines Sunday brunch in Las Vegas.

Upon arrival, guests are welcomed with a tempting Tableside Bakery Trio—a selection of miniature pastries, muffins and Danish—along with seasonal berries to tease the appetite as patrons decide which of the many bars and stations they should visit first.

From there, guests may be drawn to the Lakeside Shellfish Bar offering seafood indulgences such as freshly shucked Oysters on the Half Shell with a tasty mignonette sauce; Alaskan Red King Crab deliciously presented with creamy lemon aioli; Scottish Smoked Salmon or Dill- and Vodka-cured Lox, paired with traditional garnishes and mini-bagel chips; and American Caviar served with chive crème fraîche and buckwheat mini-waffles.

The sounds of cracking eggshells and sizzling hot pans may lead patrons to an Organic Egg Station where they can choose from Build-Your-Own Omelets and Eggs Benedict to scrambled or fried. Or perhaps the mouth-watering aroma of Peking-style Duck, Roasted Prime Tenderloin or house-made Sausage from the delectable Carving Station will tempt taste buds first.

"Between our extensive gourmet offerings, personal tableside touches and awe-inspiring

fountain views, Jasmine is the spot for Sunday brunch in Las Vegas," said Bellagio Vice President of Food & Beverage Ana Marie Mormando. "For anyone who appreciates great food in a beautiful setting, this experience is unparalleled on the Las Vegas Strip." For those who yearn for more choices, additional dining options abound. At the Cold Table, guests can partake in such distinctive dishes as Lemongrass Panna Cotta garnished with crystallized wasabi; Bocconcini and Cherry Tomato Spiedini with lemon basil; and Kobe Beef Roulade prepared with enoki mushrooms and miso-butterscotch dressing. At the Hot Table, savory Mini-Lamb Meatball Brochettes, Dungeness Crab Cakes and Crystal Prawns tantalize. Other choices such as Nigiri and Maki Sushi, Pan-fried Asian Chicken Buns and an Asian Noodle Soup Station satisfy guests' cravings for authentic Asian fare.

The meal's sweet end comes in the form of decadent desserts such as Chocolate Fondue, White and Dark Chocolate-dipped Strawberries, miniature French Pastries and an assortment of Truffles, Bon Bons and Tea Cookies.

Priced at \$55 per person excluding tax, an unrivaled array of culinary delights combined with the dramatic beauty of Bellagio makes the Fountains Brunch at Jasmine the premier Sunday brunch destination for Las Vegas visitors and locals alike. Service takes place every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Reservations are suggested. To secure seating, call Bellagio Restaurant Reservations at (866) 259-7111 or (702) 693-7223. ●

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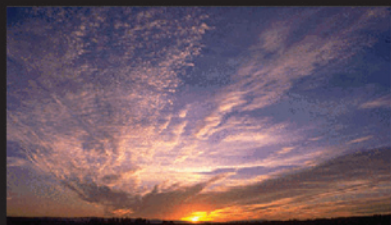
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BY J.SON

NAKED BOY NEWS



Know H8?

Do you know H8? It is so easy to jump on the No H8 bandwagon; however, I ask, do you really know H8? At times, and it seems often, as a community we shun members of our own community for one reason or another. Maybe a person is “too gay” or “not gay enough” so we ridicule them until they are “like us.” Aren’t we throwing stones in a glass house? We expect and even demand that people accept and respect us as LGBT Americans but do we accept ourselves? So many times I have heard LGBT people put others in the community down and yet get upset when the “mainstream” makes fun of the exact same people. I have the same feeling when rap artists use derogatory terms in their music and then get upset if someone else uses the same term. You can’t have your cake and eat it too.

In recent years it seems that everyone from gay to straight to transgendered to bisexual wants to live *naked*, and by that I mean freely express themselves and not have to hide behind a mask. However, is that getting us into more trouble? I firmly believe that everyone can and should have their own opinion. It’s what makes us all unique and the world would be a boring place if we all believed exactly the same. If you don’t like me because I’m a man or because I’m white or because I’m gay, go right on and hate me. I can’t stop you and, to be quite honest, I don’t want to. You are free to have your own opinion, just as I’m allowed to have mine. Remember one thing though, an opinion is just that—an opinion. It does not make it a truth

or a fact, and no one’s opinions should be allowed to harm another. The old saying, “sticks and stones may break my bones but words can never hurt me.” Go ahead and raise your voice for all to hear but don’t for one second think it’s ok to raise a stick.

With that said, a government that prides itself on freedom and justice for all has only one right thing to do. That is to honor its foundation and ensure that every citizen is treated equally under the law. Lawmakers can have all the opinions they want, but when it comes to the citizens of this great country they have to be treated equally. If something is right for one it has to be right for all. That is how and why America is such a great country. But when we separate people, based on our opinions, that’s when we get into trouble. Our forefathers where smart men and gave us the golden rule that we seem to never remember... we are ALL created equal. When and only when we remember that golden rule will we truly experience *no hate!*

Equality is not about forcing your beliefs on others, no matter what side of the debate you’re on. It’s about understanding that everyone has the right to believe as they do and live their life as they choose. A community group, a church, any organization for that matter can condone or condemn any behavior they want. As I said earlier, you can hate me all you want, I can’t stop you. However, you can’t stop me from living the life I want, either. I’m sure if you or your group makes your voice loud enough that those you don’t agree with won’t try to join your group. I’m smart and educated; I’ll find a group, church or organization that is accepting of me. Isn’t that human nature anyways? People gravitate towards those who are similar to themselves, from similar backgrounds to cultures to beliefs. We like to believe we are a melting pot, but I question if that is true. Go to any elementary or high school at lunch time and tell me who you see sitting together. Go to any large city in America; why do they all have a Chinatown and a Little Italy and a “gayborhood”?

Before you ask me to say *no* to H8, I ask you to look in the mirror and ask yourself, “do I really know hate?”

And that’s my *naked* truth! ●

To see my corresponding video episode for this column please go to www.NakedBoyNews.com

J.Son is the host of the popular web series *Naked Boy News* and has been seen on CNN, A&E and MTV. For the latest *Naked Boy News* visit www.NakedBoyNews.com

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Fri, Feb 12 – 7pm – Christ the King Chapel

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SUPER BOWL-ING & DINNER

Sunday, Feb. 7 – 2pm

Gold Coast Casino Bowling Alley

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Dinner will be determined by those in attendance.

ASH WEDNESDAY – LENT BEGINS

Wednesday, Feb. 17

IMAGO DEI 10TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET ON OSCAR NIGHT

Sun, Mar. 7 – 4pm – Guardian Angel
Cathedral Hall (tentatively)

Join us as we celebrate 10 years of ministry!

2010 WEEKEND SPRING RETREAT

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CONTACT INFORMATION

702-354-2294

www.ImagoDeiLV.org

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Se Habla Español

Gustavo, 323-879-1392 (cell in Las Vegas)

Krave, Harmon and you:

What’s the next step for the bankrupt venue?



BY LEO MURRIETA

The Internet went wild with rumors that Krave was shutting down after filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy! After speaking with the President of Krave Entertainment, Sia Amiri, *QVegas* was given the scoop on what’s in store for the popular nightclub and Harmon Theater.

The first thing that we wanted to know was what happened to put Krave Entertainment in this position in the first place. Amiri said in a phone interview, “The construction throughout Harmon Avenue and the closure of the intersection to the Strip hurt business drastically. We had entertainers at Harmon leave because business was hurting so bad.” *The Amazing Johnathan* and *Naughty Boy Hypnosis* were the only shows to stay once the construction closed Harmon Avenue from the Strip.

Those of us who frequent the nightclub or the theater know that Krave’s the only dedicated LGBT venue on the Strip, so we asked Amiri if there were going to be any drastic changes to either. He paused for a moment, then said, “I want people to know that we are still open and operational; nothing is changing for Krave or Harmon Theater.” He explained further, “What people don’t understand is that under a bankruptcy, a business is given a certain amount of time to reorganize in order to pay off their debts, and that’s exactly what we’re doing. We are not closing down.” He was quite adamant in stressing this point.

We know what’s most important to you, so we asked if we should expect any layoffs of our favorite bartenders or go-go dancers. Thankfully he told us that he would not consider laying off anyone in an attempt to pay down Krave Entertainment’s debts. Now that construction is finished and CityCenter is open, we asked if he expected business to bounce back. Without hesitation, he said, “Harmon Theater was hurt badly by the construction, there’s no doubt, but we’ve even added another show! Even though the nightclub saw only a small effect from it, I expect business to improve for both now.”

Our next question to Amiri was a little

deeper: “As you may have seen on other news outlets, there is an individual who goes by the name of ‘Simon’ who has been saying that your CFO, Kelly Murphy, might be behind your financial troubles. Would you care to set the record straight or share any comments?”

Chuckling slightly, he said, “Rumors will be put out there, we can’t do anything about that. Our steps under the bankruptcy will be transparent. If there are facts out there, then there are facts, but our bankruptcy is being monitored by the government, so if what he says is true, then the government would’ve known already.”

He then said, “Another rumor that I heard was that Sia can’t afford his go-go’s, but that’s also not true. I’ve learned that you don’t worry about what people say, you just keep doing what you do.”

According to Amiri, 2010 is going to be a great year for Krave and Harmon Theater. The doors will remain open for Krave Entertainment, the hot guys will continue to serve you drinks and dance for your lust-filled eyes, while the great talent at Harmon Theater will welcome you back for another night of entertainment.

As long as the sexy dancers at Krave don’t go anywhere, we locals will continue to walk through their doors!

Krave and the Harmon Theater are located 3663 S. Las Vegas Blvd., on the outer edge of the Miracle Mile Shops at Planet Hollywood Hotel Casino. To learn more, visit www.krave-lasvegas.com and www.harmontheater.com. ●

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

Are you a patron or employee, past or present, of Krave or Harmon Theater? We’d love to hear your comments and concerns regarding the bankruptcy filing by Krave Entertainment. E-mail your thoughts to editor@qvegas.com.

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Every year, our loyal readers vote for their favorites in the 25 following categories, and every year it's a fierce battle as many in our community actively campaign for votes. Because it was such a tight race this year, we decided to also announce the runners-up who came so close to grabbing the title of Sexiest of Gay Vegas.



SEXIEST COUPLE
TRAVIS WINSHIP & ERIC TRAVIS
Runners-up: Dallas Augustine & Jessie McCaskill

QVEGAS *Readers' Choice* **Sexiest** **of GAY VEGAS**



SEXIEST NON-PROFIT BD. MBR.
JEFFREY NEAL
Runner-up: James Healey



SEXIEST VOLUNTEER
DOUG GRAFF
Runner-up: Jake Naylor



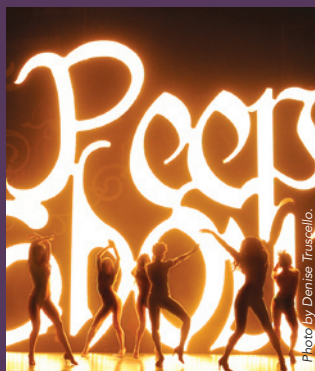
SEXIEST MALE BARTENDER
BRANDON JOHNSON
Runner-up: Mike Judkins



SEXIEST FEMALE BARTENDER
FLO LEE
Runner-up: Brandon Johnson (crazy voters!)



SEXIEST DJ
BRIAN GARZONIO
Runner-up: Pooch



SEXIEST DANCER(S)
THE CAST OF PEEPSHOW
Runner-up: Curtis Goodman



SEXIEST SHOWBOY
JOSH STRICKLAND
Runner-up: Ryan Lyons



SEXIEST SHOWGIRL
HOLLY MADISON
Runner-up: JewDi Vine



SEXIEST SMILE
JOEL CASTILLO
Runner-up: Scott Fieux



SEXIEST EYES
ALLEN MERRITT
Runner-up: Brandon Johnson



SEXIEST BUTT
AMANDA MIRJANIAN
Runner-up: J.Son Dinant



SEXIEST ABS
ANDY CITINO
Runner-up: J.Son Dinant



SEXIEST LEGS
JEFF BRICK
Runner-up: Brandon Johnson



SEXIEST LEATHER GUY
JOSHUA BROCKWELL
Runner-up: Nick Tancretti



SEXIEST LEATHER GAL
JESSIE MCCASKILL
Runner-up: Dallas Augustine



SEXIEST BEAR OR CUB
CHRISTOPHER TREVINO
Runner-up: Marcus Grissom (Kitty Litter)



SEXIEST BUSINESS OWNER
ROD KEREZSI
Runner-up: Dean Coxxx



SEXIEST COWBOY
CHRIS DUE
Runner-up: Brandon Johnson



SEXIEST COWGIRL
LAURA SCOTT
Runner-up: Dallas Augustine



SEXIEST COMM. SUPPORTER
TERRY HERNANDEZ
Runner-up: Kelly McFarlane Smith



SEXIEST DRAG QUEEN
KITTEN CABOODLE
Runner-up: Syren Vaughn



SEXIEST TV PERSONALITY
SEAN MCALLISTER (FOX 5)
Runner-up: Chris Saldaña



SEXIEST GAY CELEBRITY
ADAM LAMBERT
Runner-up: J.Son Dinant



SEXIEST GAY-FRIENDLY CELEB
CHELSEA HANDLER
Runner-up: Kathy Griffin

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BRINGING THE BOY BAND BACK *...with a hint of Christianity*

Have no fear; Las Vegas souls will soon be saved.

On February 4, *Altar Boyz*, a Christian boy-band spoof, will open at the Onyx Theatre, with tongue-and-cheek songs like "Jesus Called Me on My Cell Phone" and "Something About You ...makes me want to wait" in an attempt to save the souls of the audience members.

The Altar Boyz are a five-member boy band, comprised of characters Matthew, Mark, Luke, Juan and Abraham. With the help of their Soul Sensor DX-12, which gauges the audience's spirituality level, the Altar Boyz are determined to save all souls through their poppy lyrical messages and coordinated dance moves.

The show is fun, witty and will likely have audiences humming the songs for days.

Originally written for a Catholic youth group, the show is not meant to offend, and it has done remarkably well around the world, with performances spanning across the United States to Japan.

But the cast and crew hope the Vegas shows will be special. "It's kind of ironic in Sin City to have this show come and perform in a typically gay theater," said Mike Sheneman, artistic director.

The Las Vegas show has cast all Las Vegas locals, who are currently volunteering countless hours to perform nothing less than boy-band precision in both their live singing and dancing. Mark White, Nolan Christopher (also the choreographer), Aron Shanley, Christopher Atup and Taylor Hendricks are currently practicing four to five hours a day, sometimes doing doubles, to make sure the show is flawless.

"I've been very fortunate to have a cast that wants this to succeed as much or more than me. They are all volunteering their time at this point, and they all have other jobs and responsibilities outside rehearsing for *Altar Boyz*," Sheneman said.

Although the cast and crew are tired trying to balance multiple jobs—and school in Hendricks' case—with grueling rehearsals, the environment remains upbeat. Upon meeting the cast and crew, it's one of the rare times that everyone was relaxed, could sit down for a few minutes and rub Bengay on their overworked muscles.

The boys have seamlessly fallen into their characters—a few of them admitting they dreamed about being in a boy band when they were younger—and they have that boy-band repartee

down. They joke about age—Hendricks is just 20 years old while others in the group (we won't name names) are in their 30s. "We put in long hours together, but at the end of the night, we'll all go out and get a drink," Sheneman said. "This cast has been the very best."

And Sheneman has room to compare. Before moving here in September, he was directing this play in Wyoming. His production went on tour and performed around the country, closing the show in March 2009. But the show never came to Las Vegas, so when Sheneman moved here, he pitched the possibility of launching the show at the Onyx Theatre to Off-Strip Productions.

"We've been reluctant to announce our 2010 season," said Michael Morse, executive director, co-owner and founder of Off-Strip Productions. "But *Altar Boyz* was the perfect way to start 2010 ... *Altar Boyz* is probably going to be our crowning achievement thus far."

"We felt [*Altar Boyz*] was a good fit with our other shows," continued Randy Lange, the other half of Off-Strip Productions. "*Naked Boys Singing* and *Altar Boyz* will share the same stage, which is what happened when *Altar Boyz* was in New York."

Altar Boyz will join resident Onyx Theatre shows: *Naked Boy Singing*, *Karnival*, *Vegas Improv* and *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Due to its musical theater roots and some harbored sexual tension between two characters, *Altar Boyz* has typically done well among a gay crowd, Sheneman explained. But the show is not targeted to any one audience.

"Unless a person is ultra religious and serious and can't laugh at it, everyone can enjoy this show," Sheneman said. ● BY KATHERINE FERNELIUS

Altar Boyz will premiere February 4 at 7 p.m. at the Onyx Theatre inside The Rack located at 953 E. Sahara Ave., Ste. 16. Tickets prices are \$30 and can be purchased through Ticketmaster or www.onyxtheatre.com.

Rough Tough & RED All Over



All proceeds benefit the Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program (SADAP)



RED DRESS EVENT • February 27, 2010

VIP Red Event
Downtown Lounge, 7:30pm
\$40 Pre-Sale / \$50 Door
(Includes Rough, Tough & Red All Over)

Rough, Tough & Red All Over
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WIT ENVY
Founding Member

MOOTHER LOOSY
LUST BEA LADY
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Rockin' the RED DRESSES

PHOTOS BY MARC GARCIA

If you've not yet participated in the Sin City Sisters' annual Red Dress Event, this is definitely the year to begin. In fact, there are two events from which to choose.

The Sisters are a group devoted to promoting freedom of expression, diversity, social activism, social service and spiritual development. Their VIP Red Event and Rough, Tough and Red All Over party benefit the Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program (SADAP).

The VIP Red Event, taking place inside the Downtown Cocktail Room at 7:30 p.m.

on Saturday, February 27, features a live DJ, dancing, silent auction, an art display by the Erotic Heritage Museum, Sister SINTinis and more. Guests must wear the color red to attend.

Rough, Tough and Red All Over begins at 10 p.m. the same evening at Beauty Bar (517 Fremont St.). DJ Axis will spin. This event requires all attendees to wear a red "dress" to reflect the community support for those living with HIV/AIDS and the fight against the spread of the disease. Guests should have fun and be creative

with their red "dress"—anything from traditional dresses to sarongs, togas and kilts. A costume contest will recognize the most creative and inspired outfits of the evening with cash and prizes awarded.

Tickets for the VIP Red Event are \$40 pre-sale/\$50 at the door and also include entrance to Rough, Tough and Red All Over). Tickets to the later party are \$20 pre-sale/\$25 at the door.

Visit www.sinsitysisters.org for more information and to buy your tickets online. See you there! ●

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MAKING IT WORK

COUPLES COMMENT ON THE KEYS TO SUCCESS

With the movement of comprehensive social equality in full swing, the personal lives of LGBTQ Americans are constantly in the public eye. Maine, Massachusetts, Iowa, California (for a hot minute, at the very least). These are all examples showing that progress is here and it is in demand.



This past October the Silver State jumped on this equality bandwagon by legalizing domestic partnerships. This does not guarantee the citizens who file the paperwork the same rights as married Nevadans.

However, some members of the community view this legislation as a step forward.

"It's a step in the right direction. I think eventually it will be used as a wedge towards getting marriage passed," stated Scott Arias, vice moderator for the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of Las Vegas.

Scott and his husband, Tony Arias (of the singing and comedy duo Tony & Lloyd), filed for their domestic partnership in Nevada shortly after getting married in Lancaster, Calif. Planning on being witnesses to their friends' unions, the couple admitted their wedding was completely impromptu.

"Not that we're against getting married," Tony Arias stated. "We just wanted to do it in our own state."

The Ariases will have been happily married for two years this August. The date follows another day special to them: their 16th anniversary together.

And together, they have been. They confirmed their relationship has never been open.



"Most of the people that we know who have opened their relationship have ended up splitting up," Tony Arias commented, being sure to put emphasis on "most."

What then makes relationships, both open and closed alike, work?

"Lots and lots of intimacy," Tony Arias jested.

The two men stated they are very involved with MCC. They agreed that their faith and whole-heartedly deciding to commit to each other is one of the many reasons for their success.

"Knowing you have to find a way to get through it," Scott Arias said, "you get through it."

Las Vegans Carline Banegas and Jodie Dearborn made a similar commitment. The lesbian couple has been together for 10 years now and is currently in the midst of raising three teenagers.

"From the beginning we made a commitment to stay together and just tough it out," Banegas commented, also mentioning that a sense of humor wouldn't hurt.

Dearborn agreed, stating "being able to laugh it off, no matter what," helps make their relationship work.

Banegas and Dearborn were married in California in September 2008 and filed for their domestic partnership this past fall.

"We got married on the beach, just the two of

us. It was very romantic," Dearborn said.

The couple stated their motive for a more intimate ceremony was due to their very busy schedules back home. They admitted they later on had a reception in Las Vegas.

"We don't get to spend a whole lot of time together alone. A lot of our friends were disappointed, but we wanted it to be just us," Banegas commented.

And with three teenagers in the house, who could blame them? The couple also shared they spend time together whenever possible to keep their healthy love life alive.

Banegas admits that although it is not very glamorous, the two will often go grocery shopping to get that necessary alone time in. Though the two do admit that what works for them is not everyone's cup of tea.

"If you want to be in a relationship with 10 different people or not be in a committed relationship, then that works for you," Banegas commented. She added, "I think we need to have more understanding in our community."

Community member Rich Mills shares this sentiment with Banegas.

"Everyone is different, so what works for one person, may not work for another," he stated.

Mills and his partner Travis DePue have been in a relationship with each other for a year now and have a date set for their commitment ceremony this April.

"We wanted to share with friends and family the love we have for each other. And we're excited about it," Mills commented.

The couple shared that they have intentions to make the act official in one of the states who have legalized gay marriage.

"I can see us going to Iowa and doing it afterwards," DePue stated, adding that his parents live in the progressive state.

The couple stated their commitment ceremony will be at MCC. They also commented the sanctuary is where many of their friends have met their significant others.

Like Tony and Scott Arias, DePue commented that their shared involvement with MCC strengthened their relationship.

"We go to church every Sunday and that became a strong part of us," stated DePue. "Our spiritual beings keep us together."

Mills stated that both the commonality of their faith and a positive social atmosphere empowers their relationship.

"We also surround ourselves with positive people. It supports us," said Mills. He jested, "Some people drink their hater-ade."

It is evident that finding love in Sin City, of all places, is possible. Knowing where to look and having the right attitude is a good place to start.

After all, Las Vegas is said to be the marriage capital of the world. Is it not?

Single and ready to mingle? Get out there and do it. Just forget that hater-ade! ● BY MARK ADAMS

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What to See and Do

Gay Nightlife

Much like Las Vegas, Palm Springs offers several different types of nightclubs, bars and lounges catering to the LGBT community. Blame It on Mid-night is a bar and grill offering nightly entertainment, including The Judy Show. Toucans Tiki Lounge is the place to drink and dance in a faux tropical paradise. Hunter's Video Bar is one of the most popular nightclubs in town among those who love to dance. Streetbar is located in the heart of the town and is frequented by a slightly older crowd. Confession Nightclub and Lounge is a relatively new nightspot boasting the largest dance floor in the area plus exciting strip shows and a monthly hip hop and R&B night. Spurline plays showtunes several nights a week and holds karaoke on Thursday nights.

Desert Arts Festival

Celebrating its 25th year is the West Coast Artists Desert Art Festival to be held February 13-15, 2010. The festival has a series of six art festivals held at the Downtown Frances Stevens Park and it benefits local non-profit organizations.

Certified Farmers Market

Local farmers and vendors gather every Saturday morning with fresh California produce and food. The market also caters to organic prepared and grown foods and produce. A Market Chef booth features recipes, and educational material from chefs catering to the Coachella Valley. Along with nuts, cut flowers, orchids, plants, eggs, olive oil, lavender, honey, bread and cheese, they also offer music and free dog sitting.

Jeffrey Sanker's White Party 2010

White Party Palm Springs, which has evolved into the most widely recognized gay celebration on the planet and attracts more than 30,000 attendees from every corner of the globe, will be held April 9-12. An electric surge of power will be fueled by an international DJ roster from all over the globe, including the west-coast debut of chart-topping DJ/producer/remix duo, Freemasons, along with Spain's Chus+Ceballos, the UK's Moto Blanco, as well as Wayne G, Manny Lehman, Abel, Tony Moran, Brett Henrichsen, Joe Gauthreaux, Chi Chi LaRue, Scotty Thomson and Luke Johnstone.



Girl Bar Dinah Shore Week 2010

Heralded as the largest lesbian event in the world, Girl Bar Dinah Shore Week (founded by Sandy Sachs and Dr. Robin Gans) takes place every year in late March/early April, bringing together thousands of lesbians and bisexual women from around the globe for several days of pool, dance and cocktail parties. This year's festivities take place March 31-April 4. This year's talent line-up will be announced soon, but if it's anything like last year's, it will be utterly amazing!



Palm Springs Aerial Tramway

The view of the vistas and the valley below is breathtaking, and once you reach the peak of the snow-capped Mt. San Jacinto at 10,804 feet (2.5 miles) above Palms Springs, fun, adventure and dining await. Take a hike, camp, cross-country ski, snowshoe or go on a guided nature walk while visiting. Hungry? Dine at two restaurants and a bar. Lookout Lounge, a cocktail bar offering appetizers, is the best place to start and end your tram journey. Pines Cafe is a cafeteria style restaurant, and the Peaks Restaurant is a fine dining restaurant offering contemporary California cuisine. Check out the Valentine's Day menu at Peaks.

Palm Springs Walk of Stars

The best part of the Walk of Stars along Palm Canyon Drive is the shopping. When arriving in Palm Springs, don't be the one driving, because you'll want to keep track of all the cool shops and restaurants that need to be visited during the stay. Wear your good walking shoes; it stretches for miles.

Horseback Riding

If an adventure is what you seek, explore the Agua Caliente Indian reservation of Palm Canyon on horseback. Traverse the streams, fan palms and lush surroundings on a guided trip with Smoke Tree Stables.

The Show

The four-Diamond Agua Caliente Casino Resort (see details at right) is all a glitter when boasting its 2,028 seat concert theater, The Show. Ultra-modern and built for comfort with spacious seating, perfect sight lines and incredible acoustics, this concert theater—which is similar to Pearl at the Palms here in Vegas—offers excellence in VIP entertainment as well as a concert line-up that features artists Martin Short (March 12), Melissa Etheridge (April 1), Cindi Lauper (April 9) and Reba McEntire (June 4).



Where to Stay and Eat



Spa Resort Casino

This historic hotel, famous for its hot springs and majestic views of the mountains, features 228 rooms, a large pool and two smaller pools overflowing with the legendary mineral waters for which the Agua Caliente tribe is known. No visit to the Spa (or to Palm Springs for that matter) is complete without the Spa's signature experience: the "Taking of the Waters." The relaxing therapy combines steam, sauna, eucalyptus inhalation and the power of their very own mineral waters to help remove toxins, increase circulation and reduce muscle tension. This is the contemporary take on what has drawn people from far and wide to this particular hot spring since the late 1800s.

Agua Caliente

The new sister property to the famous Spa Resort Casino of Palm Springs is the 16-story, four-Diamond Agua Caliente Casino Resort and Spa just seven miles from Palm Springs in Rancho Mirage. The casino is open, modern and compares nicely to Las Vegas with fun slots, a poker room, table games, high-limit room and a rewards program for dining, slot play, merchandise, spa, golf and hotel rooms. The resort is cosmopolitan and deserving of its four-Diamond status with well-appointed deluxe guest rooms that boast comfort and modern amenities with spectacular room views of the mountain ranges, pool, jetted spa, cabanas and lush grounds. Sunstone is Agua Caliente's full-service spa and fitness center with a sauna, spa tub and steam room offering exclusive body treatments, massage, skin care, mani/pedis and hair styling. Dine at the WatersCafe on the patio overlooking the pool or stay inside and enjoy the refreshing design and mix of American classic and light California cuisine. No shoes, no shirt necessary at Wet Bar, the poolside bar and grill. Or if you're really hungry, you could go Vegas style and eat at the Grand Buffet.



The Steakhouse

Palm Springs dining is much like Las Vegas—incredible! The Steakhouse at Agua Caliente Casino Resort is among the best the Palm Springs area has to offer with its gourmet menu and award-winning wine selections while boasting a warm, relaxing atmosphere. Our picks: escargot, lobster bisque with puff pastry and crème fraîche, Heart of Palm Springs, New York Steak with Stilton bleu cheese crust with a twice baked potato and the Free Range Airline Chicken Breast (pine nuts, spinach, sun-dried tomatoes and pesto cream).



Gay and Lesbian Resorts

Palm Springs has more resorts dedicated solely to the gay community than any other city we've ever seen, and many of them are clothing-optional! For gay men, the Palm Springs area offers INNdule, Century Palm Springs, Triangle Inn and East Canyon Hotel & Spa. The largest clothing-optional gay men's resort in the area is the CCBC Resort Hotel, the site of many big parties. There's even a very lesbian-friendly resort called Queen of Hearts, formerly known as The Desert Knight, originally established in 1969.

Hamburger Mary's Bar & Grille

For those of you who miss the good times spent at our own Hamburger Mary's restaurant in the Fruit Loop, check out the still-thriving one in Palm Springs. It's a fun, open-air restaurant right on Palm Canyon Drive, the place to both see and be seen.

Want to win a trip for two?

The Palm Springs Bureaus of Tourism is giving away a 5-night, 6-day trip to Palm Springs, California. Simply visit www.QVegas.com and click on the Palm Springs banner on the right side for your chance to win a trip, airfare included.

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CES 2010:

ON WITH THE SHOW

BY WILLIAM BESSETTE

For the past three years, I have had the pleasure of covering the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) for *QVegas*. Held every January here in Las Vegas, CES is the largest such show in the world. Though it isn't typically an LGBT interest piece, I believe the content still lends itself to this demographic of reader, as most gay men are naturally interested in technology and design. Being a publication that caters to Las Vegas also adds relevance, as CES contributes around \$200 million in non-gaming revenue into the local economy. It is one of the largest conventions in town, with almost 200,000 attendees and media hitting the show floor.

As reported last year, the 2009 show was a very sad shadow of its former self. Strapped by the worst economic situation since the Great Depression, it was scaled back to the point that there was speculation over whether it would ever regain the prominence it has held in years past. Though the chatter leading up to this year's show spoke to a rebound, with an increase an exhibitors—totaling 2,500—the question over whether this year was different had to come from the front line. First, I wanted to start with the little guy.

Dynaflex International is a small company that specializes in gyroscopic-resistance trainers and fitness gear. Having gotten into a terrible car accident last year that almost left my right hand maimed and scarred, I was attracted to the sign that mentioned products that were great for physical therapy. Where Sony's exhibit was the largest on the show floor, many hundreds of square feet, with a full theater, hundreds of TVs, consoles, and displays, Dynaflex occupied a tiny 4 feet by 30 feet space with room for just a few people.

"I would compare this with the heyday years," Dynaflex spokesperson Tom Smith enthusiastically reports.

"Things are happening, it's coming alive. People are interested, they are spending money... this show is seeing a 40 percent increase over last year, we're busy every day, not just the first day of the run, but every day. It's not like it used to be, things are changing, but maybe it's the big slam before the crash," he concludes. If the crash hasn't already happened, I deadpan in reply.

Dynaflex is by no means a large company, but they have been attending the show for 10 years, and though part of me wants to believe Smith's enthusiasm, I have to wonder if it isn't a little bluster. After moving on from Dynaflex I come across one of the larger booths on the main show floor, Canon. I run into one of the guys working at this impressive booth, Mike Anderson, who helps set up and tear down these giant creations. Though he is hesitant to speak to me at first, he opens up after we begin talking.

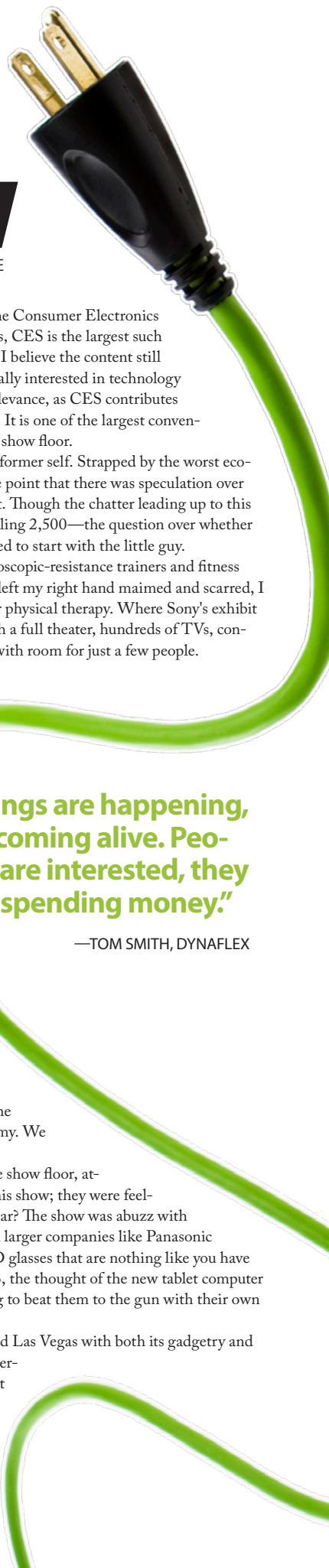
"Attendance was definitely better," he says over the din of the crowd. "Just by the crowd size here, you can see this year is better. The only reason attendance was down last year was because of the economy. We are seeing a lot more people this year than we did last year."

Sounds like a reason to be optimistic. Even people I passed on the show floor, attendees, were commenting on how something was different about this show; they were feeling positive about the future. So, what was drawing them this year? The show was abuzz with new e-book readers from several different groups, while other, much larger companies like Panasonic and Sony displayed new 3D TV technology with fancy electronic 3D glasses that are nothing like you have seen in the movie theater. And although Apple does not attend CES, the thought of the new tablet computer had the likes of Hewlett-Packard and several other companies trying to beat them to the gun with their own tablet PC prototypes.

For over three decades the Consumer Electronics Show has graced Las Vegas with both its gadgetry and boost to the local economy. It has weathered talks of leaving and faltering, yet it has remained, continuing to be a harbinger for what is next in the ever-evolving world of consumer electronics. "Let's hope this isn't just the calm before the storm," Smith concludes. "Either way you look at it though, it is definitely a good sign that things are turning around." ●

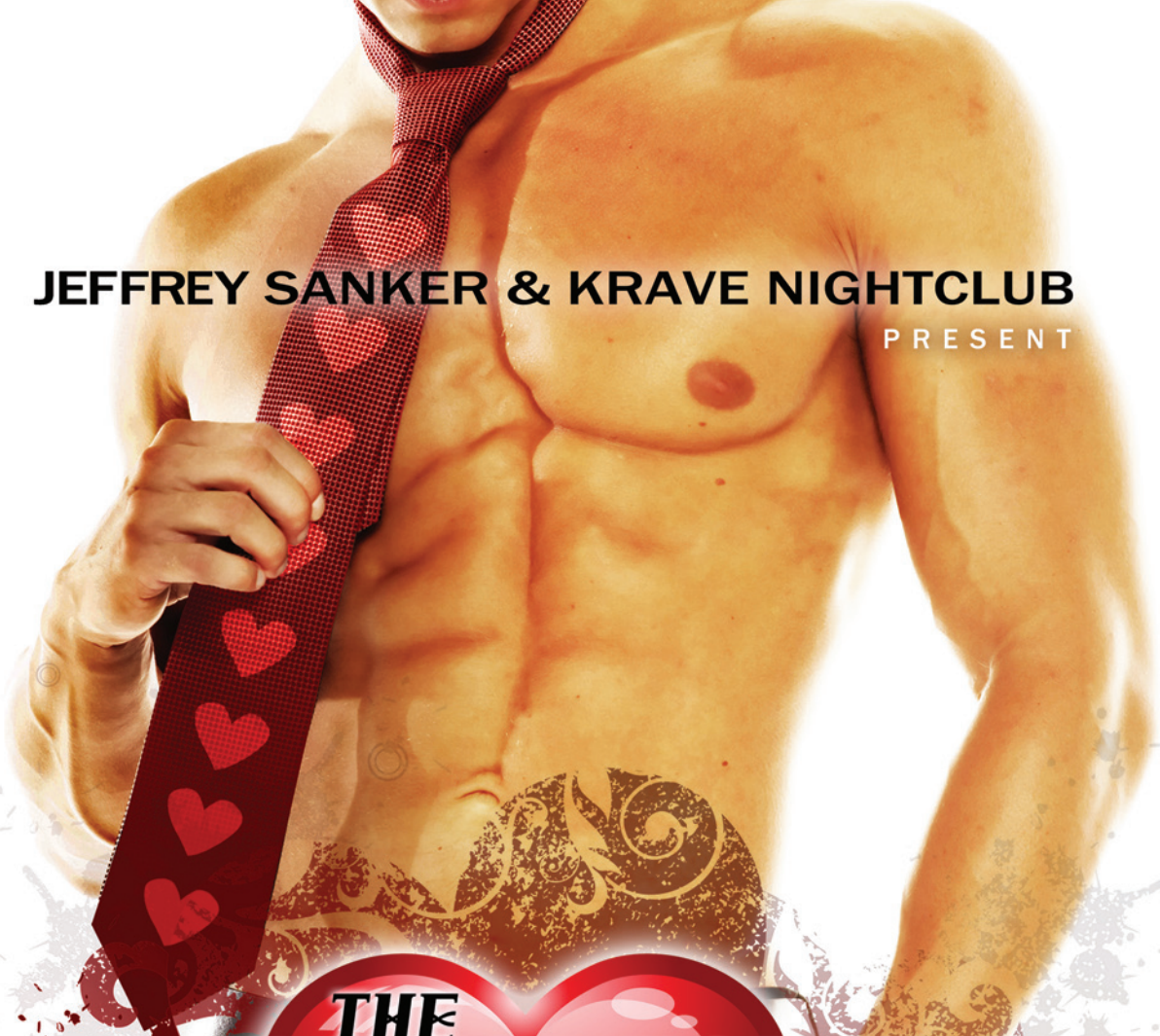
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The Paris Resort and Casino in Las Vegas whisks its guests off into a magnificent culture clash, where the Las Vegas nightlife collides with the charm of Paris. FamilyFest, to be held at the resort, is the brainchild of Glenn Alexander and MacArthur Flournoy and hopes to play to the wonder of Sin City.

"The city has so much energy, and so much going on," said Alexander. "It's the kind of city where it kind of stands on its own."

The first national FamilyFest will commence on August 6, for a three day run. It will be a whirlwind of activities that will dive into an assortment of the communities' life challenges.

"I'm looking for something new for our community. It's not just another event, but it's a movement that we can tap into. That we need to come together and support each other," Alexander said.

Alexander is passionate about the purpose of FamilyFest, and that is why the theme of this event is "A Celebration of Life."

"My hope and prayer is that people will come to FamilyFest expecting one thing, an opportunity to reconnect," Alexander said. "I want them to leave knowing that we need to stand together and lift each other up and be there and be in support of each other."

Sometimes the seams of life can come undone. In times like that, friends are the ones that can pull the stitches tight again. FamilyFest will act as the thread.

Strengthening bonds and supporting each other is the central focus of the fest.

Motivational speaker Angela Harvey and keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Yvette Flunder will speak on the topics that affect the LGBT community. Spirituality, camaraderie and self-empowerment will lace their rhetoric.

"We'll talk about health care, and how that affects us as a people, and how we need to move to the next level as a people. We're also going to talk about marriage equality, and what that means for this community," Alexander said.

On-top of the festival reuniting friends, and spurring on budding friendships, this will also be a place where business owners can talk shop. The second day of the event will be a business to business expo that will be open to the public.

"I want to pull together LGBT businesses, and businesses that are in support of the LGBT market. My hope is that this will create new business, and will strengthen existing business," Alexander said.

But don't think the weekend won't be infused with night life. Vegas will definitely live up to its off-the-wall shenanigans and deliver outlandish parties.

FamilyFest will have an "Everything is sexier in Paris" theme that will set the scene opening night. Following suit, on Saturday the "Fire and Ice" party takes it to a whole other level, literally, with a pool party on the rooftop of the Paris. With the exploding fountains of the Bellagio as the back-

Celebrate Life

**FAMILYFEST AIMS
TO LEAD OUR
COMMUNITY
TO STAND AS
ONE AND LIFT
EACH OTHER UP**



BY ANI BIESIADA

drop, it will be nothing short of spectacular.

It's important to Alexander to let the local pride community know that they are trying to become a part of the gay pride landscape in Las Vegas, not overrun it.

"We're hoping to get huge support from the local LGBT market. This is their party and our party, nationally and locally. We hope to open the doors for a big blow out with house music, and eye candy for everyone," Alexander said.

Las Vegas' gay nightlife hotspot, Krave, is partnering in support of FamilyFest. Krave is rolling out the red carpet for FamilyFest guests, giving them the V.I.P. treatment.

"We'll be a special guest for Krave," Alexander said. "It will be a huge blast."

Recovery from this all-nighter will be offered at a gospel brunch on Sunday. The brunch will leave the group on a spiritual high as they once again come together to cherish each other, and feel whole as they depart to their respective homes.

"We want to leave on the note that we made a commitment to support each other, stay in unity for each other," Alexander said. "We need to realize that we are in this fight together and that we need to stand together as a people and as a family."

To learn more about the inaugural FamilyFest, visit www.familyfestlasvegas.com. Attendance registration and hotel reservations are available through the site. ●

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Beautiful ANGEL

Introducing Christopher Hirmiz, sexy stylist and new creative director of Belle Ange Salon & Spa

BY WILLIAM BESSETTE

"Let's focus on what is going on in here with your look, with your style, with your life. Once you feel great about yourself, everything starts falling into place."

Christopher Hirmiz knew what he wanted to do from the very beginning. Like many others who excel in their professions and blossom into something more than they expected, Hirmiz has gone from cutting hair at home to being the creative director for one of the most opulent salons and spas in town. He has learned much along the way and has come to love Las Vegas.

"My inspiration, since I can remember," he begins, "has been watching my mom's transformation every day from waking up in the morning to before she left to go to work. I would be so obsessed with watching her, she would be like 'do you want to do this for me?' And I'm like 'yeah mom, change your hair around a little bit.' When I was twelve years old I would style my mom's hair and help her pick out clothes. It was embedded in me. Then I started doing my sister's hair and before I got out of high school, I was pretty much a hair dresser."

Determined to continue his education, Christopher knew he would take the exciting route, ending up halfway around the world in his search for knowledge. "I did go to beauty school, David Pressley in Royal Oak," he explains. "I got involved with Fox News and did work with them on their morning shows, tons of bridal shows and traveling all around town in Chicago and New York. I went to Europe because I wanted to study fashion, because I know that fashion and hair are like brother and sister. I brought my scissors and blow dryer and was like, what the hell, you never know what's gonna happen. Me just doing that and putting that out there, that's how I got to do fashion shows and runway shows and at one point was even offered a job at the Tony & Guy salon in Milan.

"America is my home though, so I came home. I didn't want to go back to Michigan, but I didn't want to go to New York or Chicago or Miami. I wanted to go somewhere completely different, so I came here to Vegas, and I had never even been here before. Until I came to work for Renee [Reichert, owner of Belle Ange Salon, Spa and Medi-Spa], I was at the Canyon Ranch spa at the Venetian," Hirmiz concludes.

Often the pace and culture—or lack thereof—of Las Vegas can weigh heavily on newcomers, especially in this economic climate. It is, however, good to remember what the important things in life are all about.

"Forget about what's going on outside," Hirmiz says. "Let's focus on what is going on in here with your look, with your style, with

your life. Once you feel great about yourself, everything starts falling into place. I love Vegas. As far as Vegas goes it has been nothing but positive outlooks. I know a lot of people say 'Oh my God, I don't meet anyone cool. This place sucks!' I can't tell you how blessed I've been meeting some amazing friends that are probably going to be my lifelong friends, like Renee."

Belle Ange, French for beautiful angel, is a phrase that itself imparts a certain calm serenity and relaxed mood, for one can only think something good when thinking of a beautiful angel. This is the mindset that Reichert and Hirmiz want to replicate when you



Christopher and Renee

step through Belle Ange's doors. Stepping into the lobby—with its shiny floors, immaculate displays, unique chandeliers and fancy furniture—is like stepping into the lobby of a five star hotel. The smells of mint and oils and the sounds of calming music immediately set a relaxing tone, especially after a long day at work.

Reichert, a surgeon by trade, decided last year that she was done with Chicago and wanted a new and exciting challenge.

"I've been coming out to Vegas for 20 years," she begins. "The last couple years I've been out here almost every single weekend. I love the weather. I can't say I don't love Chicago; it's a beautiful town, lots of culture, amazing architecture, amazing people, but the weather out here is fabulous... I thought to myself, what a great challenge to try to build this amazing complex of one-stop shopping luxury services. Kind of like out here there are casinos, then there's the Wynn. Well now there's salons, then there's Belle Ange."

Walk through the doors and that is quite

apparent. There is a feeling that sets this place apart. From the atmosphere to the people, one definitely gets the feeling that they are somewhere special when they enter Belle Ange.

"In fact, the marble guys are in there right now," Reichert says. "We built a customer manicure, pedicure sector from scratch. We took the pedicure chairs and we wanted them built in with a marble base and cabinets and drawers and curtains and chandeliers. We want you to come in and get lost. Nothing ordinary, everything extraordinary."

Even so, the country is still gripped in an economic crisis and there are luxury casinos on the Strip to contend with; how is Belle Ange surviving in this atmosphere?

"I think because of the clientèle we are marketing to, we haven't really felt it," Reichert explains. A big part of our clientèle comes from the fact that we cater to the gay community. Part of what we love about the gay community is that they seem to shift their own paradigm. They never seem to be truly swayed by what is going on in the world itself, they don't seem to run scared from the economic disadvantage or break trend or cycle in their beauty or health care. That's what we love."

The services Belle Ange offers are truly second to none, from exotic facials to entire packages that encompass multiple services. The Lady's Package packs so much into your look that you are there for six—yes, six—hours. Reichert and Hirmiz are trying to create that one place that every major city has, the *it* place. From the extensive services they offer, to the one of a kind "wow" experience, they are well on their way.

"We really want this to be an experience that will effect you not just physically, but emotionally as well," Reichert says.

"Our standard is the best," Hirmiz interjects. And for all you boys out there wondering if he is available, he answers to another power.

"He is single, but actually he is in a relationship with every client that walks through that door," Reichert says with a laugh.

"Yeah, sorry," Hirmiz replies with a wink. "I'm in a relationship with Belle Ange; basically, we're married." If that's the case, then here is to a long and prosperous partnership! ●

Belle Ange Salon, Spa and Medi-Spa is located at 8630 S. Eastern Ave. (between Wigwam and Pebble). To learn more about Belle Ange's services, visit www.belleange.com. To make an appointment, call (702) 307-0173.

Photos of Christopher, Renee and the Belle Ange angels on these pages and the cover by Jon Carmichael (www.JonCarmichaelPhotography.com). Color and hair extensions by Master Artist Paul Juma. Coiffures by Jorgen Nielsen. Makeup by Nicole Rispoli.

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QVEGAS BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

BRANDONSCOTT WILLIAMS Nevada Public Radio

BrandonScott Williams (BS, to his friends and colleagues) has been working in radio since 1992. Originally from Chicago, Williams worked in radio in Minnesota and Washington DC before moving to Las Vegas. He spent six years in commercial radio in the Las Vegas Valley before joining the corporate support team at Nevada Public Radio.

Though he is still touted for his great on-air voice, he found that the stability of sales and marketing is much more consistent than the highs and lows of programming—not to mention, it gives him opportunity to maximize his people skills. "In sales, you can usually help create a campaign that will benefit your client, and I enjoy that process." In his spare time, Williams enjoys movies and motorcycles. He



hopes that the partnership between QVegas and Nevada Public Radio will be the basis for many successful campaigns in the future. ●

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Las Vegas competed among 114 teams in Sin City Shootout softball tournament

The results are in and Las Vegas had a record number of softball teams who turned out for the 3rd Annual Sin City Shootout. With 114 teams of both men and women, locals were able to enjoy games being played from Shadow Rock Park on Sunrise Mountain to Desert Breeze Park off Durango and Spring Mountain. Las Vegas entered three teams into the tournament: Fun Hog Ranch, Cedar Pharmacy and The Rat Pack.

In D Division, Cedar Pharmacy started out great on Saturday at 9 a.m. with a win over LA Spartans and another win at 1 p.m. over the SF Inferno, placing them 4th out of 27 teams in pool play. Fun Hog Ranch lost their first game by one run in the last inning but won their 2nd game putting them in 9th place out of 27 teams in pool play. The afternoon was not kind to Cedar Pharmacy as they faced a team from New York who defeated them 12 to 5 sending them home for the day and into the losers bracket Sunday morning.

Fun Hog went on to win their next two games Saturday afternoon placing them in a great position to play at 11 a.m. on Sunday morning with only needing to win four games to make it into the finals. Their first game was against the LA Spartans and they came ready to play. After the Spartans were defeated 12 to 5 by Cedar the day before, they knew Fun Hog Ranch was not to be overlooked. After a nail biting 50 minutes of play, the Spartans defeated Fun Hog and sent them into the losers bracket where they would play the Vancouver Heat that handed them their first lose of the tournament on Saturday morning. Fun Hog Ranch was off

to a great start and was up most of the game.

Vancouver turned up the heat and came back to win the game in the last two innings, sending the boys of Fun Hog Ranch home early on Sunday afternoon.

In C Division, The Rat Pack won their first several games in pool play placing them in the top 10 of their division. They went on to win several games in the afternoon before losing their 6:20 p.m. game and moving them over to the losers bracket. The Rat Pack kept the winning strike alive all day on Sunday until they met the Los Angeles Cause Force, which ended their chase for 1st place. Rat Pack finished 4th place overall in C Division. Way To Go Rat Pack! As a player, I am very proud of the players who came out to play in the Sin City Shootout and put Las Vegas gay softball on the map. We would like to thank all the fans who came out to show us support at all the parks. For more information on teams who won 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in all divisions, please visit www.sincityshootout.com.

The LVGA³ Softball League will start hosting clinics for new players and refresher clinics starting January 31 at Doc Romeo Park, located at West Cheyenne Avenue and Ronemus Drive. Take I-95 north and exit Cheyenne. Ronemus is just before Buffalo on the left. Come out and meet all the new people like yourself, who have not played for years. You will be surprised at how fast you will be hitting the ball and catching grounders. It is all for fun and we need everyone who is interested to come out and play and help us continue to grow our LVGA³ Softball League. Joel Sanchez and I will be hosting

ABOUT LVGA³

LVGA³ stands for Las Vegas Gay Arts, Athletics & Activities. LVGA³ is an initiative to build community through social programming. It's one of the newest community resources in Las Vegas, specifically aimed at improving the quality of Gay life in Nevada. www.lvga3.com.



the softball clinics. Dates will be every Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. except for February 7. The last day of clinics will be on Sunday, February 28. For more information on signing up and playing softball, please contact Larry O'Halloran at (702) 362-6647, e-mail lohalloran@lvga3.com, or visit www.lvga3softball.com. If you have



a business and would like to sponsor a team or donate money to LVGA³ to help assist those who might need their players fees paid, please contact O'Halloran to make your donations. We would like to thank all the sponsors who continue to make it possible for all of us to play and participate in softball. ●

Volleyball Openings

Volleyball is off and running at Whitney Rec Center at

5712 East Missouri Ave. off Boulder Highway and Tropicana Avenue. Come out and support the teams as they play on Monday nights. For more info on game times and

directions, visit www.lvga3.com. If you are interested in playing we have openings on several teams. For more information, please contact Larry O'Halloran at (702) 362-6647 or lohalloran@lvga3.com.



Basketball League

The Fun Hog Ranch basketball team won their first scrimmage against Panda Express, delivering a pounding 121 to 47. League play is schedule to start in March. If you are interested in coming out and conditioning, we play on Wednesday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. At the Cambridge Rec Center. We would like to enter two teams in the league.

For more information about playing, please contact me at tbogle@lvga3.com. The Cambridge Rec Center is located at 3930 Cambridge St. For a list of game times, please visit www.lvga3.com.



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SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

The "family" law firm

Las Vegas Defense Group is your "family" owned, operated and accepting law firm here in the Vegas valley. The staff treats each person and case with the sensitivity you expect and the personalized attention it deserves. With over sixteen years experience in criminal defense, attorney Michael L. Becker aggressively negotiates with prosecutors to reduce or dismiss your charges and minimize the consequences. This experience allows the firm to handle such cases as DUIs, trespassing, drug charges, larceny, traffic violations and so much more. If you wish to take your case before a judge, Becker has more than 50 jury trials under his belt, most of which ended in full acquittals or hung juries. His open and honest approach to each client is a welcome and refreshing change.

Nevada criminal defense attorney Becker is an alumnus of the University Of Miami School Of Law and the University of Southern California. He is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Clark County Bar Association.

Christopher Penland, office manager and paralegal to the firm, is a local Las Vegas since 1986, graduate of Western High School, a student at the College of Southern Nevada and has been with his partner for over 13 years and raise two beautiful girls, Cheyenne and Kaela. Penland has worked his way up in the food and beverage industry on the Strip and understands the inner workings of the hotels and unions.



His knowledge of Las Vegas area as well as his outgoing personality makes Penland an easy person to talk to. ●

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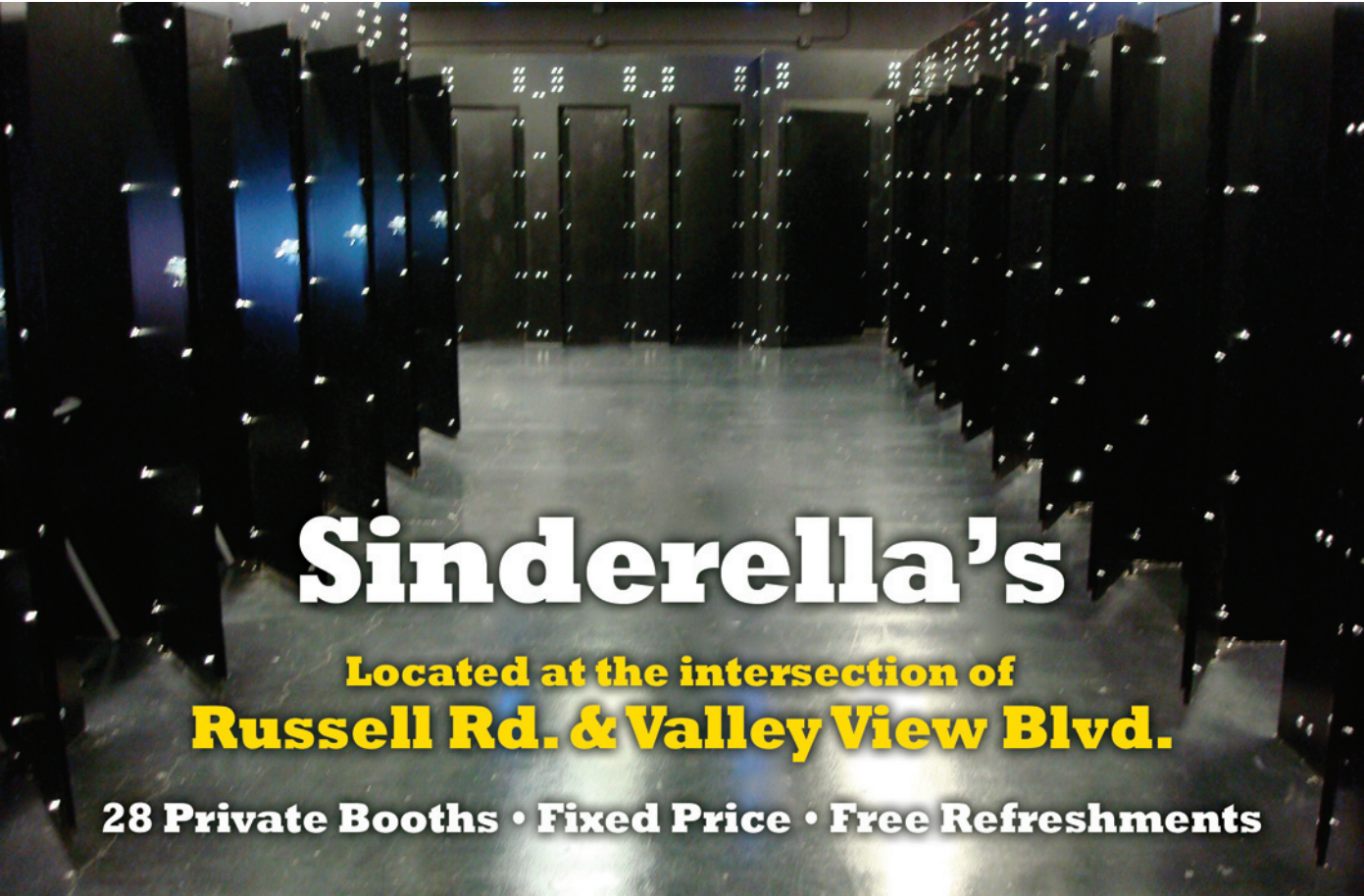
While enjoying your pre-luncheon or dinner cocktails, an assortment of appetizer meats will be served. Next comes the Rodizio, a tantalizing variety of meats. Prepared by a famous Brazilian chef, succulent meats will be sliced from the skewer onto your plate continuously by your waiter. The delicate flavor you will experience

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Tell me about the best Valentine you ever received. AYS had a chef come to the house and prepare dinner and dessert for us! I 'loved-ed' her!

Which do you prefer to receive, chocolates or flowers? I think I have had three women send me flowers in my life. It's cute and embarrassing especially when it is unexpected!

What was the first New Year's resolution you broke? How many days before you broke it? I haven't broken a resolution for this year yet, only because I have until the end of the month to begin working out.

When going to a party, are you a person who is punctual, fashionably late, or arriving as others are leaving? It depends on who is hosting the party! Some parties you have to be punctual because the drinks and appetizers are punctual and the party ends punctual. Otherwise I

am known to arrive fashionably late

List three must-haves that a potential partner must possess. A sense of humor and a passport and a lot of love to give and receive.

Tell us the craziest way someone broke up with you. This crazy bitch (can I say bitch?) I was recently dating, erased the pictures out of my phone while I was showering. That's a sign she wants to break up right?!



DAWN

If there were a movie to be made about your life story, would it be a serious drama, a horror film or a comedy?

Why? Good question. I think light, funny and adventurous. I have fondled willing girls at a young age, and told lies in the confession box. As a teen I have flirted with my mom's girlfriends and joined the high school (secret-lesbian) softball team. As an adult I have traveled to countries and somehow had relations with women who didn't speak English, and today I can not wait to deeply love one who speaks several languages.

Do you believe in love at first sight? Of course, the best kind of love is at first sight!

Tell me about the best Valentine you ever received. When my late partner snuck into my office after work on the 13th and decorated it with streamers and balloons and hanging hearts, it was a surprise when I came to work on the 14th!

What is your favorite Winter Olympic sport? Why? Speed skating. It's kinda like NASCAR on ice! I'm actually a sports fanatic. I like all of the Winter Olympic sports, especially the ski jumping. I think that would be fun to try!



CHRIS

What was the first New Year's resolution you broke? How many days before you broke it? I don't really make New Year's Resolutions, just try and live each day the best I can. So I guess I broke it January 1?

When going to a party, are you a person who is punctual, fashionably late, or arriving as others are leaving? Punctual. I hate to be late for anything!

List three must-haves that a potential partner must possess. Ability to laugh at themselves, like to be outdoors and able to muck out several horse stalls!

Tell us the craziest way someone broke up with you. I don't really remember. My therapist told me to block it all out!

Phone texter or talker? Why? Texter. I don't talk on the phone much.

February is Academy Award month. Best film of 2009? The one with those actors in it... you know which one I'm talking about? I'm not really sure, I don't see a lot of movies. I did like *The Hangover*. That movie was hysterical!

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE QSINGLES?

If you like what you see here and want to know even more about this month's QSingles, visit www.qvegas.com. If you'd like to be considered for a future issue, contact matchmaker Chris Miller at www.engagingintroductions.com.



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Q NIGHT OUT

NIGHTLY GUIDE TO LAS VEGAS NIGHTCLUBS, BARS AND LOUNGES FOR LGBT PATRONS

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8½ and PIRANHA 4633 Paradise Rd. 702-491-0100	El Seseo Latin Night DJs Vago & Auner Las Sirenas 12a	Circus DJ Mikey Swift \$10 Liquor Bust	La Noche w/DJ Vago Sirenas Show 2a	Lingerie & Lace A Ladies Only Event	Boystown Liquor Bust DJs Mikey Swift & Chris Adams	Visit piranhavegas.com for details	Sex Saturdays DJ/VJ Scott K & DJ K Drag Show 11:30p
BACKDOOR 1415 E. Charleston Ave. 702-385-2018	Noches Nortenas (Latin Country Night) 9p - 2a	Karaoke Night 2-4-1 Drinks 10p - 4a	Happy Hour 2-4-1 Drinks 10a - Noon	Underwear Night 2-4-1 Drinks 10p - 4a	Happy Hour 2-4-1 Drinks 10a - Noon	Noches Latina (Latin Night) 10p - 6a	Noches Latina (Latin Night) 10p - 6a
BADLANDS SALOON 953 E. Sahara Ave. 702-792-9262	\$3.50 Beer Bust 9p - Midnight	Happy Hour 2-4-1 4p - 7p	Happy Hour 2-4-1 4p - 7p	Happy Hour 2-4-1 4p - 7p	Happy Hour 2-4-1 4p - 7p	\$5 Liquor Bust 7p - Midnight	\$5 Beer Bust 7p - Midnight
CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS 5012 S. Arville St. 702-876-1844	\$5 Beer Bust 4-7p \$2 Long Isl. 7p - Mid Sunday Show 9pm	Beginner Dance Lessons 7-9pm and Ginger Grant 10pm	Happy Hour 4-7p FREE Drag Queen Bingo	Happy Hour 4-7p \$1 Mini-Pitch. 7p-2a Retro Night w/Trivia	Happy Hour 4-7p Line Dance Lessons Bear/Bare Chest Nite	NGRA Apprec. Night 75¢ Happy Hour 7-9p \$10 Liquor Bust 9p-1a	75¢ Happy Hour 7-9p \$5 Beer Bust 9p-1a
ENTOURAGE VEGAS 953 E. Sahara Ave. 702-650-9191	Open 24 Hours Salsa Sundays Latin music & videos	Open 24 Hours Boys Night Ages 18-21 in free	Open 24 Hours Dark Night All lights are off	Open 24 Hours Wise Wednesdays Ages 40+ get in free	Open 24 Hours Inked Show off your tats	Open 24 Hours Freebie Fridays Exciting giveaways	Open 24 Hours Packed House Our busiest night
ESCAPE LOUNGE 4213 W. Sahara Ave. 702-364-1167	Karaoke 9pm-1am Happy Hour 5-7a and 5-7p	Monday Night Football Happy Hour 5-7a and 5-7p	Happy Hour 5-7a and 5-7p	Happy Hour 5-7a and 5-7p	Happy Hour 5-7a and 5-7p	Gamble, Mingle and Drink	Gamble, Mingle and Drink
FLEX 4371 W. Charleston Ave. 702-385-FLEX	Football Drink Specials and Free Food	Football Drink Specials and Free Food	Underwear Island with DJ Nutzz 10p-2a	Welfare Wednesday Desirae Penda'vis Midnight	2 for 1 Budweiser All Day Long	Confessions with JewDi Vine and DJ Ricoche 11pm	Ntoxxicated with Diva Toxxx 11p
FREEZONE 610 E. Naples Dr. 702-794-2300	Karaoke Happy Hour 4 - 8p Beer Bust 8p - 1a	Karaoke Happy Hour 4 - 8p Beer Bust 8p - 1a	Ladies Night Happy Hour 4 - 8p Beer/Lick-Her-Bust 8p - 1a	Beer Bust 8p - 1a Wicked Wednesdays 11:30p-1:30a	Naked Boy Frat Party Beer Bust 9:30p - 2a \$7 Liquor Bust	Queens of Las Vegas Show/Dance Party Beer Bust 8p - 1a	Queens of Las Vegas Show/Dance Party Beer Bust 8p - 1a
FUN HOG RANCH 495 E. Twain 702-791-7001	\$5 Beer Bust 6-9pm	Happy Hour 3-7p \$1.50 Long Island Iced Teas 9p-2a	Happy Hour 3-7p \$5 Beer Bust 9p-2a	Happy Hour 3-7p \$1.50 Margaritas 9p-2a	Happy Hour 3-7p \$5 Beer Bust 9p-2a	Happy Hour 3-7p	Come in, drink up and just have a great time.
GIPSY 4605 Paradise Rd. 702-666-8661	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Ghostmachine DJs Protokol & Romeo Romantic
GOODTIMES 1775 E. Tropicana Ave. 702-736-9494	Watch sports, mingle, drink, gamble and relax	Watch sports, mingle, drink, gamble and relax	Watch sports, mingle, drink, gamble and relax	Karaoke with Sheila 9p-1a	Watch sports, mingle, drink, gamble and relax	Vaquero Night \$10 Liquor Bust 10p-3a	Noche Calientes DJ Papi Chulo & DJ XTC 10p
KRAVE LAS VEGAS Harmon Ave. at LV Blvd. 702-836-0830	SINdaze: Vegas' 8th Deadly Sin hosted by JewDi Vine	Closed	Kouture DJ P.A. \$2 wells/\$5 premiums	WTF? Wednesdays DJ Earwaxxx 11pm Win up to \$1000	THURSTdaze DJ Javier Alba Liquor/Beer Bust	Flesh with VJ Alpyne (main room) and sKizoFrenia (lounge)	World-class DJs in main room and Candybar in lounge
LAS VEGAS EAGLE 3430 E. Tropicana Ave. 702-458-8662	\$5 Well or Draft Bust 12 - 5p and 10p - 2a	Monday Night Football with Brett	Karaoke with Mark & Brett 7p	Jock Strap and Underwear Night 7p - 3a	\$5 Well or Draft Bust 12 - 5p and 10p - 2a	Jock Strap and Underwear Night 7p - 3a	\$5 Well or Draft Bust 12 - 5p and 10p - 2a
SNICK'S PLACE 3rd St. off Las Vegas Blvd. 702-385-9298	Open 24 Hours	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	\$5 Beer Bust and \$6 Liquor Bust 9p - Midnight
SPOTLIGHT LOUNGE 957 E. Sahara Ave. 702-696-0202	\$1.50 Bloody Marys 8a - 4p \$5 Beer Bust 4 - 7p	\$5 Beer Bust Noon - 4p 2-4-1 9p - Midnight	\$5 Beer Bust Noon - 4p 2-4-1 9p - Midnight	Hump Day \$1.50 Well Screws or Margaritas 8a - 4p	Latin Thursdays with Las Estrellas, 9p Drink specials & raffles	\$5 Liquor Bust 1 - 4p \$5 Beer Bust 8 - 11p	\$5 Beer Bust 12 - 3p Couples Night 6 - 9p Jock Night Mid - 3a

WE ALSO RECOMMEND THESE MAINSTREAM NIGHTLIFE OPTIONS

BEATLES REVOLUTION LNG. The Mirage 702-692-8383	For you technology junkies, this has to be the coolest place in town with touch screen cocktail tables, great music and a couple of secret tricks to uncover. Check out Closet Sundays.	RHUMBAR The Mirage 702-792-7615	Designed in a style reminiscent of a mojito, with its white and green decor, Rhubarb is a new venue at The Mirage with a beautiful outdoor patio. Captiv8 is a gay night on Wednesdays.
BLUE MARTINI Town Square 702-949-BLUE	This new local hot spot is situated in Town Square and is always packed with great eye candy. Every night from 11 p.m. until close is hospitality pricing—half off drinks!	LAVO The Palazzo 702-791-1800	Check out the newest patio on the Las Vegas Strip by the Tao Group. Gays abound on Label Junkie Wednesdays with fashion shows taking place throughout the space.
CATHOUSE Luxor 702-262-4228	This swanky burlesque club/restaurant has hosted several gay events and is located in the Luxor. Great décor, sassy cocktail uniforms and fabulous lighting and sound.	STUDIO 54 MGM Grand 702-891-7254	A modern interpretation of the original, featuring state-of-the-art sound, video and lighting, live dancers and chart-topping dance music. 4 dance floors and go-go boys and girls.
CHRISTIAN AUDIGIER Treasure Island 702-894-7580	This renowned fashion designer turned nightclub connoisseur took over the space where Tangerine was in the Treasure Island and appointed it with some fierce bling. Check it out.	TAO The Venetian 702-388-8338	Restaurant, nightclub and ultra pool, this celebrity hang out is just hot. Found in the Grand Canal Shoppes at The Venetian.

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GENDER IDENTITY

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Transgender Male ☐ Transgender Female ☐ Questioning

ORIENTATION

☐ Lesbian ☐ Gay ☐ Bisexual ☐ Straight ☐ Queer ☐ Questioning ☐ Other

YEARLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME

☐ \$0-49,999 ☐ \$50,000-\$99,999 ☐ \$100,000-\$149,999 ☐ \$150,000+

AGE

☐ Under 18 ☐ 18-29 ☐ 30-39
☐ 40-49 ☐ 50-59 ☐ 60-69 ☐ 70+

RELATIONSHIP STATUS

☐ Single
☐ Partnered/Married

HOUSING

☐ Own ☐ Rent
☐ Live with family

PREFER TO SHOP

☐ In person
☐ Online

TRANSPORTATION

☐ Own or lease vehicle
☐ Get a ride or use public transit

LOCATION

☐ Las Vegas ☐ Henderson ☐ North L.V. ☐ Other in NV ☐ Outside NV

WHAT TYPE OF CONTENT DO YOU PREFER?

☐ Local news and events ☐ Entertainment ☐ General gay lifestyle topics

WHICH QVEGAS DEPARTMENTS HAVE YOU READ AND ENJOYED?

☐ Editor's Note ☐ Our Qmmunity ☐ That's So Vegas ☐ QShopping
☐ The Center Page ☐ On Q (galleries) ☐ QTravel ☐ QPeople
☐ QVibrations (horoscopes) ☐ Quid Pro Quo ☐ Supporter Spotlight
☐ Q Nightlife Vision (galleries) ☐ QGirl ☐ QFashion ☐ QMedia

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☐ By subscription ☐ Distribution in a gay establishment ☐ Other distribution point

HOW DO YOU OBTAIN EVENT AND COMMUNITY INFO FROM QVEGAS?

☐ Magazine only ☐ QVegas.com ☐ E-mail newsletter ☐ Facebook ☐ MySpace

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS/QUESTIONS?

YOUR NAME	
MAILING ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE & ZIP	
E-MAIL	MOBILE NUMBER

For ease of use and to conserve resources, we suggest completing this survey online at **www.QVegas.com**. However, you may also mail the completed survey to QVegas, 1380 E. Sahara Ave. Ste. A, Las Vegas, NV 89104 or fax to 702-650-0641.



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February 16, 2010 • 8-10PM

BRAND STEAKHOUSE & LOUNGE

Monte Carlo Resort • (702) 693-8300

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FEBRUARY 2010

QCALENDAR

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Hepatitis A/B and HIV Testing

The Center, 1-6pm
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Monday afternoon.

AA In Español

The Center, 6pm
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Monday evening.

Sex Addicts Anonymous

The Center, 6pm
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Monday evening.

Mpowerment Project

The Center, 7pm
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Monday evening.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

IRSCDEI Court Meeting

The Center, 7:30pm
www.desertempire.org

Sin Sity Sisters

Red Ribbon Martini Social
Planet Hollywood Mezzanine, 8pm
www.sinsitysisters.org

SinCityQSocials Trendy Tuesdays

John Varvatos Store (Hard Rock Hotel), 8pm
www.sincityqsocials.com

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

LVPT Casino Buffet

Fiesta Northwest, 11:30am
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

Ulli's Bodypump Class

LVAC Central (Karen and Maryland), 5:30pm
www.nevadaoutdoors.com
Repeats every Wednesday evening.

NGRA Fundraiser Committee Meeting

Location TBD, 6:30pm
www.ngra.com

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Dennis Bono Radio Show

Sam's Town, 2pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com
Repeats every Thursday afternoon.

Hepatitis A/B and HIV Testing

The Center, 1-6pm
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Thursday afternoon.

Full Figured Neon Kiss

Brett Wesley Gallery, 6-9pm
www.brettwesleygallery.com
Exhibition continues through February 28.

RENT: School Edition

Green Valley HS Theatre, 7pm
www.gvhstheatre.com
Continues through February 6.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Joe Rogan

House of Blues, 7pm
www.ticketmaster.com

IRSCDEI King & Queen of Hearts

Badlands Saloon, 8pm
www.desertempire.org

First Friday

Downtown Las Vegas
www.firstfriday-lasvegas.org

NGRA Appreciation Night

Charlie's Las Vegas, 7pm
www.ngra.com
Repeats every Friday evening.

The Hog Goes Country

Fun Hog Ranch, 9pm
www.ngra.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

George Strait and Reba McEntire

MGM Grand Hotel, 7:30pm
www.ticketmaster.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Alcoholics Anonymous

The Center, 11am
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Sunday morning.

Sin Sity Sisters Super Bowl Party

Fun Hog Ranch, 2pm
www.sinsitysisters.org

Sex Addicts Anonymous

The Center, 5:30pm
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Sunday evening.

Miss Frankie Unplugged

Badlands Saloon, 9-11pm
702-792-9262
Repeats every Sunday evening.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

NGRA Board of Directors Meeting

The Center, 6:30pm
www.ngra.com

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

LVPT Dine Out Night

Dragon Buffet, 6:30pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

SinCityQSocials Trendy Tuesdays

Stack Restaurant (The Mirage), 8pm
www.sincityqsocials.com

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Lambda Community Luncheon

Location TBD, 11:30am
www.lambdalv.org

SAVE THE DATE

AFAN's AIDS Walk Las Vegas • April 25

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

BUG

Las Vegas Little Theatre
www.lvlt.org
Continues through February 21.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Lisa Lampanelli

Pearl Concert Theater, 8pm
www.ticketmaster.com

NGRA Lonely Hearts Show

Charlie's Las Vegas, 9pm
www.ngra.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Senior Senior Connection

The Center, 2pm
www.thecenterlv.com

Golden Rainbow's 5th Annual Naked Hearts

Krave Nightclub, 10:30pm
www.goldenrainbow.org

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

NGRA General Membership Meeting

The Center, 6:30pm
www.ngra.com

NGRA Finals Planning Committee Meeting

The Center, 7:30pm
www.ngra.com

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

SNAPI Board Meeting

The Center, 6:30pm
www.lasvegaspride.org

SinCityQSocials Trendy Tuesdays

Brand Restaurant (Monte Carlo), 8pm
www.sincityqsocials.com

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Human Rights Campaign Third Thursday

Location and Time TBD
lasvegas.hrc.org

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Tony Bennett

Las Vegas Hilton, 8pm
www.ticketmaster.com
Also performing on February 20.

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

Submit full event details to Calendar@QVegas.com no later than the 15th of the month preceeding the event.

Larry the Cable Guy

Star of the Dessert Arena, 9pm
www.ticketmaster.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

LVPT Stated Meeting

The Center, 4pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

Brad Paisley

Mandalay Bay Resort, 7:30pm
www.ticketmaster.com

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

IRSCDEI Board of Directors Meeting

The Center, 7pm
www.desertempire.org

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

SinCityQSocials Trendy Tuesdays

Mundo: A Culinary Haute Spot, 8pm
www.sincityqsocials.com

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

David Spade

Venetian Hotel, 9pm
www.ticketmaster.com
Also performing on February 26-27.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

LVPT Cocktail Night Out

Fun Hog Ranch, 6pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

Jay Leno

Terry Fator Theatre, 10pm
www.ticketmaster.com
Also performing on February 27.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

LVPT Brunch

Eureka Casino, 11am
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

LVPT Committee Meeting

The Center, 1pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

Sin City Sisters VIP RED Party

Downtown Lounge, 7:30pm
www.sinsitysisters.org

Sin City Sisters Red Dress Event: Rough, Tough and Red All Over

Beauty Bar, 10pm
www.sinsitysisters.org

NGRA Red Ribbon Show

Badlands Saloon, 9:30pm
www.ngra.com

Mariah Carey

Colosseum at Caesars Palace, 9pm
www.ticketmaster.com

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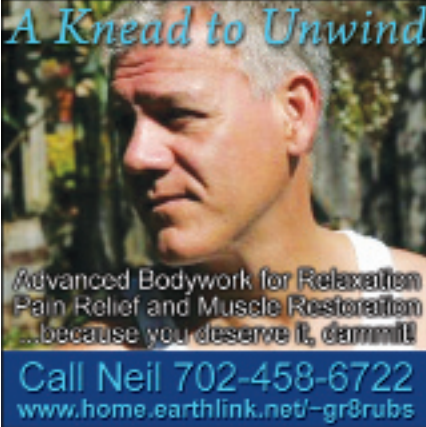
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1 Backdoor Lounge, 1415 E Charleston Blvd, 385-2018
CC Badlands Saloon, 953 E. Sahara Ave., 792-9262
3 Charlie's Las Vegas, 5012 Arville St, 876-1844
CC Entourage Vegas Bath House, 953 E Sahara Ave, 650-9191
6 Escape Lounge, 4213 W Sahara Ave, 364-1167
7 Flex, 4371 W Charleston Blvd, 385-3539
FL FreeZone, 601 E. Naples, 794-2300
8 Fun Hog Ranch, 495 E Twain Ave, 791-7001
FL Gipsy, 4605 Paradise Rd, 731-1919
CC Hawks Gym, 953 E Sahara Ave, 731-4295
11 Las Vegas Eagle, 3430 E Tropicana Ave, 458-8662
CC Las Vegas Lounge, 900 E Karen Ave, 737-9350
13 Krave, 3663 Las Vegas Blvd S, 836-0830
4 Revolution Lounge inside the Mirage, lightgroup.com
14 Snick's Place, 1402 S 3rd St, 577-3648
CC Spotlight Lounge, 957 E. Sahara Ave, 696-0202

DINING

16 The Coffee Bean/Tea Leaf, 4550 S Maryland Pkwy, 876-6629
17 Freakin' Frog, 4700 S Maryland Pkwy, 597-9702
18 It's A Grind Coffee House, 8470 W Desert Inn Rd, 360-4232
19 Qdoba Mexican Grill, 5045 W Tropicana Ave, 871-7022
20 The Cupcakery, 7175 W Lake Mead Blvd, 835-0060
21 The Cupcakery, 9680 S Eastern Ave, 207-2253
22 Keva Juice, 605 Mall Ring Cir, 898-2844
23 Java Detour, 6087 S Pecos Rd, 450-0025
24 Whole Foods, 6689 Las Vegas Blvd S, 589-7711
25 Whole Foods, 8855 W Charleston Blvd, 254-8655
26 Paymons Mediterranean Café, 8380 W. Sahara, 731-6030
27 Paymons Mediterranean Café, 4147 S. Maryland, 731-6030
28 Paymons Mediterranean Café, 107 E. Charleston, 272-0020
92 Yolies Brazilian Steakhouse, 3900 Paradise, Ste. 2, 794-0700

ACCOMMODATIONS

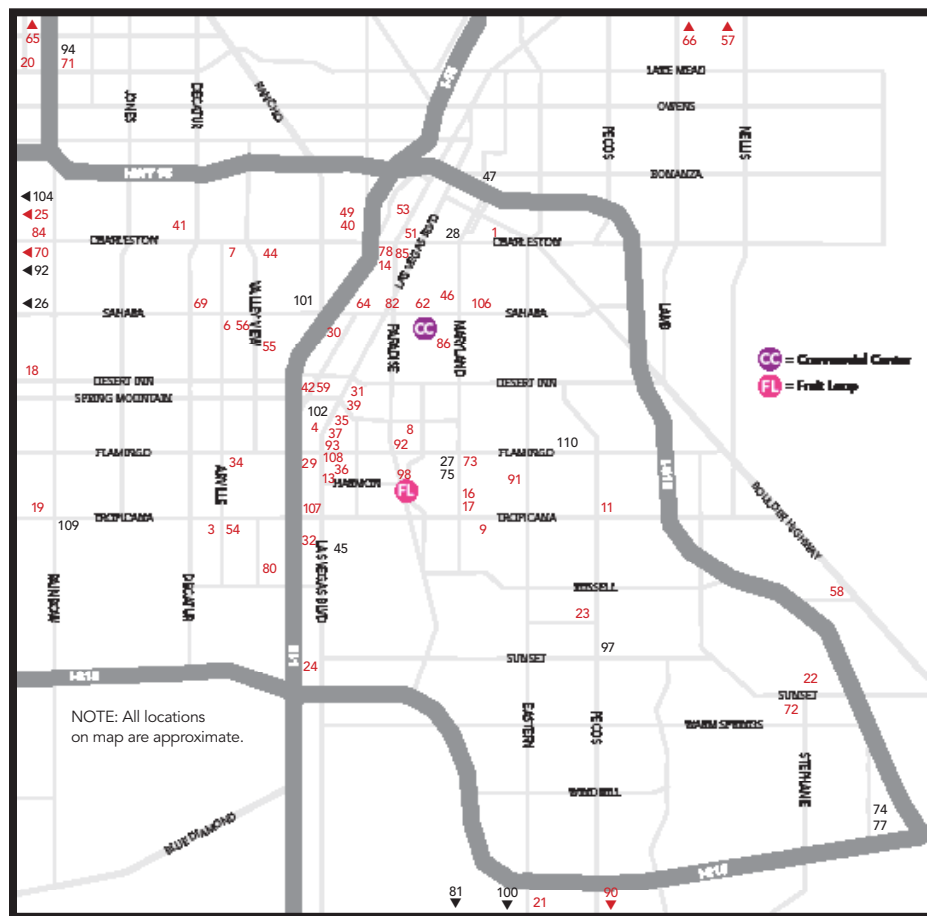
29 Bellagio Hotel Concierge, 3600 Las Vegas Blvd S
30 Blue Moon Resort, 2651 Westwood Dr., 361-9099
31 Encore Concierge, 3131 Las Vegas Blvd S.
32 Luxor Hotel Concierge, 3900 Las Vegas Blvd S,
4 Mandalay Bay Hotel Concierge, 3950 Las Vegas Blvd S
34 Palms Hotel & Casino Concierge, 4321 W Flamingo Rd
35 Palazzo Resort Concierge, 3325 Las Vegas Blvd S
36 Paris Hotel & Casino Concierge, 3655 Las Vegas Blvd S
37 Venetian Resort Concierge, 3355 Las Vegas Blvd S
39 Wynn Las Vegas Concierge, 3131 Las Vegas Blvd, 770-1571

ORGANIZATIONS

40 Aid for AIDS of Nevada, 701 Shadow Ln, 382-2326
41 Charleston Heights Arts Center, 800 S Brush St, 229-6383
42 Erotic Heritage Museum, 3275 S Industrial Rd, 369-6442
CC GLBT Center, 953 E Sahara Ave Ste B31, 733-9800
44 Golden Rainbow, 3233 W Charleston Blvd, 384-2899
45 Imago Dei Sunday Mass, 55 E Reno, 354-2294
46 Metro. Comm. Church, 1140 Almond Tree Lane, 369-4380
47 NALA, 323 N. Maryland Pkwy, 382-6252
CC Onyx Theatre, 953 E. Sahara Ave, 732-7225
49 Southern NV Health District, 625 Shadow Lane, 759-0702
51 The Arts Factory, 107 E Charleston Blvd, 676-1111
40 Wellness Center, 701 Shadow Lane, 383-2691

ADULT RETAIL

53 A-Action Adult & Video, 1016 S 1st St, 382-1076
54 Adult Déjà Vu Emporium, 4335 W Tropicana Ave, 367-8002
55 Adult World, 3781 Meade Avenue, 579-7335
56 Bare Essentials, 4029 W Sahara Ave, 247-4711
57 Desert Adult Books, 4350 Las Vegas Blvd N, 643-7982
58 Fantasy World, 6760 Boulder Hwy, 433-6311
59 Industrial Rd. Book, 3427 Industrial Rd., 734-7667
62 Glamour Boutique, 714 E Sahara Ave, 697-1800
64 Peep Land, 2424 Western Ave, 383-4993
65 Rancho Adult Bookstore, 4820 N. Rancho Rd, 645-6104
66 Sin City Adult Superstore, 4440 E Cheyenne Ave, 643-696
CC The Rack, 953 E Sahara Ave, 732-7225



RETAIL

24 Borders Books & Music, 6521 Las Vegas Blvd S, 383-6734
69 Borders Books & Music, 2323 S Decatur Blvd, 258-0999
70 Borders Books & Music, 10950 W Charleston Blvd, 382-6101
71 Borders Books & Music, 2190 N Rainbow Blvd, 638-7866
72 Borders Books & Music, 1445 W Sunset Rd, 433-6222
73 Buffalo Exchange, 4110 S Maryland Pkwy, 791-3960
74 Courtesy Imports, 260 N. Gibbons, 567-8000
75 English Garden, 4171 S. Maryland Pkwy, 482-1117
13 FCUK Planet Hollywood, 3667 Las Vegas Blvd S, 383-5056
77 Findlay Cadillac, 993 Auto Show Dr, 558-2600
78 Funk House, 1228 S Casino Center Blvd, 678-6278
FL Get Booked, 4640 Paradise Rd, 737-7780
81 Optical Effects, 8985 S. Maryland Pkwy, 435-3937
82 Paradise Mini Mart, 2242 Paradise Rd, 794-4082
FL Price Video, 700 E Naples Dr, 734-1342
84 Psychic Eye, 6848 W Charleston Blvd, 255-4477
85 Retro Vegas, 1211 S Main St, 384-2700
86 Sam Ash Music, 2747 S Maryland Pkwy, 734-0007
80 Sinderella's, 5570 S. Valley View, 736-9700
37 TeNo, 3355 Las Vegas Blvd S, 369-2736
13 TeNo, 3667 Las Vegas Blvd S, 735-8366
62 Tiger Lily, 700 E Sahara Ave, 737-7077
90 Vignettes Art, 1714 W Horizon Ridge Pkwy, 221-8350
91 Zia Record Exchange, 4225 S Eastern Ave, 735-4942

SERVICES

93 Alexandria's Salon, 3555 Las Vegas Blvd S
94 American Male, 2021 N. Rainbow, 405-0500
4 Arcs Salon, 3930 Las Vegas Blvd S
28 Azimi, DDS, 820 S. 7th St., 759-0005
100 Belle Ange Salon, 8630 S. Eastern Ave., 307-0173
97 Blush Salon, 6360 S Pecos Rd, 851-3100
98 Bronzed, 4480 Paradise Rd, 737-8266
102 Kim Vo Salon, 3400 Las Vegas Blvd S
101 LV Defense Group, 2300 W. Sahara, Ste. 800, 333-3673
36 Mandara Salon, 3655 Las Vegas Blvd S

104 NV Fertility C.A.R.E.S., 653 Town Center, Ste. 206, 341-6616
106 QVegas Magazine, 1380 E. Sahara Ave, 650-0636
107 Regis Signature Salon, 3790 Las Vegas Blvd S
108 Regis Signature Salon, 3645 Las Vegas Blvd S
110 Wuxin Healing Arts, 2840 E. Flamingo, 369-3406

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GAY OWNED AND OPERATED

AQUARIUS 01/20-02/18

Communications with your significant other will be much smoother this month. New Moon in your sign on the 13th should ignite a sizzling romantic encounter (be sure to have the good "bubbly" on hand). Watch where you put that wallet on the 21st. We strongly suggest you invest in a shiny and safe new money clip.

PISCES 02/19-03/19

A money clip would do no good at all, Pisces. You spend it faster than you could clip it. Why not get into the habit of actually saving? Someone grab the smelling salts! Ever hear of saving for a rainy day? All is well now, but you never know. That elegant bash on the 27th gives you a chance to show off that toned new bod.

ARIES 03/20-04/19

Being rational and having a game plan will beat the hell out of impulsiveness across the board in February. Counting to 10 (or 100) before speaking or acting is almost essential. Ask a Virgo for some counsel. Expect a lovely Valentine's Day invite. Won't that be a nice change of pace? Avoid long distance driving on the 19th if possible.

TAURUS 04/20-05/20

Busy is as busy does, and you've got more projects than a poodle has fleas. How about taking a Sunday off? The 21st would be ideal. That cute new neighbor has been dropping hints, so why are you not responding? Still gun shy from that last breakup? It's time to move on, Taurus. You work hard and now it's time to play hard (excuse the expression).

GEMINI 05/21-06/21

This month should be like a gentle breeze compared to the last three. Much less drama to deal with and so much more shall be accomplished. Tend to any foot cuts or bruises especially on the 12th to avoid infections. That Virgo Full Moon on the 28th is the only time when feelings/emotions could get into an uproar, so stay close to home.

CANCER 06/22-07/22

This year and month in particular proves to be an incredible time for launching any new career projects. Of course it'll require stepping out of that oh so cozy comfort zone. Comfort is nice but we don't learn from it. Taking chances and making mistakes are among the best teachers in life. So, don't be afraid to go out and live a little. It's okay to draw outside the lines.

LEO 07/23-08/22

Patience is a true virtue and one that you'll never master. Don't take offense, Leo. You've got loads of other great qualities (generous, helpful and sensitive). But, sometimes you can't make things happen so it fits your schedule. Often letting things take a natural course is the way to go. Leave those credit cards home on the 25th, we implore you!

VIRGO 08/23-09/22

Getting back into shape is never easy, but you've shown the town just how fabulous the results can be. You look "mahvelous" and don't you know it! So how about some hot new jeans to hug that bod in all the right (or naughty) places? You've sure earned it.

LIBRA 09/23-10/22

Know in advance that it's going to be a month of starts and stops from beginning to end (take comfort that it's the shortest month). Don't try for speed or momentum. You'll only trip and fall on that lovely butt. Slow and steady wins the race and keeps you out of trouble. Except for maybe on the 20th. That night your libido goes into complete overdrive.



SCORPIO 10/23-11/21

A major career/financial victory appears to be within striking distance. Don't slow down, though (think Boston Marathon, which is 26 miles). You've come 25 miles with only one to go. Now is the time to give 110 percent of that laser-like Scorp focus and concentration. We guarantee that most of the competition will be left in the dust. Well done!

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21

Unlike Scorp, most of the victories you experience shall be more on the spiritual and emotional levels (though finances won't be too shabby either). Try shedding that shy persona, Sag. Friends know and accept it, but strangers may think you're being rude. Smile more and be the aggressor in meeting new people. It'll pay off big time on the 28th.

CAPRICORN 12/22-01/19

Your strength of character and integrity will both get a major workout during February. Take the high road whenever possible. Of course if a competitor gets devious, nail them! Book a spa treatment for the 13th. It'll feel like a whole new you. Cut that significant other some slack on the 25th and give them space as well.

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GAY OWNED AND OPERATED

You want equality? Embrace diversity at home first.

Close your eyes. I want you to draw a picture inside of your head. Draw yourself a picture of what you think a typical LGBT activist looks like. Now, what did you come up with? Chances are that you pictured a group of 30- or 40-something white males. Maybe a couple of white women? Did you see any Black people? Probably not.

I am an LGBT activist. I am Chairman of The Stonewall Democratic Club of Southern Nevada. I am the Director of LGBT Outreach for the Clark County Democratic Black Caucus.

I am Black.

As Director of Diversity Outreach for the National Equality March I was charged with making sure that all of the neighborhoods in our LGBT community were represented as over 200,000 of us gathered for one of the largest marches in our nation's history. I may have been naïve, but I was truly surprised to find out that the vast majority of LGBT organizations were lead by boards of directors who by and large were white males. When I asked why there were no Blacks I was told that "there aren't any" or "we used to have one, but, he stopped coming."

The French have a word for how I feel about that.

So do I.

Diversity is a buzz word that is often bandied about these days like "green" or "PC." It is neither. It is essential to embrace diversity if the LGBT community is ever going to band together and take our equal rights as guaranteed by the US constitution. As we saw in California during the Prop 8 fiasco, all-white boards of

our LGBT organizations leads to missed chances to explain our side of a story. Often in D.C. I was told by major Black politicians that they didn't see any reason to support LGBT rights because every time a representative from an LGBT organization came by, it was a white guy demanding that Blacks stop being so homophobic.

How'd that work out?

By the way, Diversity is not just Black and White. It's about embracing and celebrating all of the facets of our LGBT world. Diversity won't mean anything if women, Asians, Latinos, transgender persons, the disabled, youth and our seniors are not represented at every stage of the decision-making process as we plan the battles in our human rights fight.

When Martin Luther King, Jr., led the historic March on Washington 40 years ago, he didn't just march with other Black people. He led a march of every color, faith and gender. In order to achieve our goals of full equality and to get our civil rights, we in the LGBT community are going to have to make sure that we reach out to every group in our diverse community and our straight allies. Otherwise, we'll end like our brothers and sisters in Cali.

Right back at the back of the bus as second-class citizens.

A little LGBT history for you: Did you know that the man who planned the March on Washington and much of the Civil Rights movement was a gay Black man named Bayard Rustin? On the day of the march he was told that he wouldn't be allowed to participate.

Why?

Because he was gay. ●



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