

THE LGBT VOICE SINCE 1978

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THE OUTDOOR ISSUE

APRIL 2013

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AIDS WALK

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A CAUSE

**GAY
NIGHTLIFE**
MAKEOVER PART 1

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RUPAUL'S STALLION SOLDIER


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RUPAUL'S STALLION

Local Fleet Marine Corpsman, Mackenzie Claude is challenged to trade in the combat boots and fatigues for high heels and a dress on LOGO's RuPaul's Drag Race.



Duke, a handsome white Percheron Morgan was apart of our photoshoot thanks to Maribeth Jalepes.

Photographed exclusively for QVEGAS by **Ivan Avila**
www.ivanavilaphotography.com

a note from our PUBLISHER

Dear Readers,

This issue of QVegas marks the 10 year anniversary of the QVegas brand and a continuing lineage of LGBT community publications in Las Vegas for over 34 years. Formerly the Bugle, QVegas made its debut in April 2004 as a full gloss magazine. Since acquiring QVegas last fall, I am proud of the subtle changes that have been made to the magazine. Striking covers, a reorganized events calendar, incredible fashion spreads, and a new nightlife map are just a few of the changes that the staff has made to the magazine.

We have also increased our distribution outside of Las Vegas. When we combine the copies we distribute in Southern California and Arizona and the copies that are picked up in town by visitors, about half of our readers are from outside Las Vegas, making us an important travel resource for LGBT visitors coming to town.

Now it's time for some more radical changes. In the coming months, QVegas will be transitioning from a primarily print media business to a fully integrated multimedia company. Don't worry, our printed magazine isn't going away. Rather, we will begin making improvements to our website including a new look, reorganized navigation, and more curated content from around the web. In addition, featured articles from the magazine will be made available online as well. We're also adding social media integration allowing you to interact more with our staff and each other. Stay up to date on our progress at qvegas.com/makeover.

We have also been hard at work making great strides with QVegas Business Alliance. In March, QBA joined forces with the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. As the local affiliate serving Las Vegas and Southern Nevada, QBA advocates, promotes and facilitates the success of LGBT and ally businesses in the region. This month, in partnership with MGM Resorts International, we are excited to bring the NGLCC Road Show to Las Vegas on April 19th. All LGBT-owned businesses are strongly encouraged to attend this event to learn more about certification and supplier diversity programs, and meet procurement professionals from various businesses and organizations from around town. Only members of QBA are eligible for FREE certification through NGLCC.

QVegas continues to support many local non-profit organizations including SNAPI, The Center, AFAN, HRC, and many others. Our support of these organizations is



only possible because of your support of our advertisers and our advertisers support of the magazine. Each month, I encourage you to take a moment to recognize our advertisers and thank them for their support of the local LGBT community. When you patronize one of our advertisers, let them know you saw their ad in QVegas. And if you don't see a business in QVegas, tell us about them at www.qvegas.com/referral and you could earn a Visa Gift Card when they become an advertiser.

As the weather turns warmer, you'll start seeing more of the #QCrew out and around town. You can find us every week at Quesdays, our new social event at DB's Pong and Pool inside the Miracle Mile Shops—it's the only gay night on the Strip during the week. We continue to partner with HRC for monthly 3rd Thursday events and our smart phones will be checking in at the new Center's Grand Opening and AFAN AIDS Walk this month and the HRC Gala next month. Be on the lookout for our Sexiest of QVegas awards in June. We'll also be making the rounds to gay Vegas nightlife and summer pool parties snapping pictures for our hot summer QTease photos.

Taking the helm of QVegas has had certainly been full of challenges, especially coming from my technology background. I wanted to thank each of you that have welcomed me to the community. I feel very much at home in Las Vegas and want to thank you for your continued support of QVegas.

Russ White
Publisher

a note from our EDITOR



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Russ White

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THE BUZZ

The QCrew had a blast putting this issue together. Of course the sunshine made it difficult for us to stay tucked away in our offices, we've been out and about! This month's cover photo shoot took place 10 miles south of the Las Vegas Strip in a barren and dry lake bed. We had two handsome subjects, Duke the horse and Las Vegas native Fleet Marine Corpsman Mackenzie Claude.

April is our Outdoor Issue and we really wanted to capture the new energy that's been set abuzz by nature's turning of the season. While searching for the very best of Las Vegas to showcase in the Outdoor Issue we explored the Springs Preserve. The Springs Preserve is a 180-acre cultural institution designed to commemorate Las Vegas' dynamic history and to provide a vision for a sustainable future. As a living example of sustainability, the Preserve features museums, galleries, outdoor events, colorful botanical gardens and an interpretive trail system through a scenic wetland habitat. On page 44, Springs Preserve Foundation presented its first benefit Runway Fashion Show at the end of March and the QCrew was there to catch sustainable fashions made of recycled and reused material rip the runway.

This years Annual HRC Gala Dinner is scheduled for May 18th at the Aria Resort & Casino at City Center. Attending the Gala dinner you will leave with a sense of empowerment and confirmation that everything you do to make a difference in equality for the lives of others inturn makes a difference in your own life.



In this issue we also cover AIDS Walk Las Vegas. In a new fundraising component for the AIDS Walk 2013, Aid For AIDS Nevada (AFAN) is extending their fundraising net to include other nonprofit organizations serving individuals with HIV/AIDS. AFAN will split 50 percent of all money raised by these teams (up to \$10,000 for each team), to provide those nonprofits with the opportunity to support AFAN while also donating to their own fundraising missions.

Like us on Facebook ([facebook.com/qvegasmagazine](https://www.facebook.com/qvegasmagazine)) and follow us on Twitter ([@qvegass](https://twitter.com/qvegass)) to be the first to know about our new events and possibly participate in upcoming QVegas stories. By joining the #QCrew social network you can also get a chance to win some exciting giveaways throughout the year.

Janise "Noah" Henderson

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I WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS

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? I 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 and may be edited for clarity or length.

QVegas Business Alliance and MGM Resorts International Present



APRIL 19th
9am - Noon

Monte Carlo

The National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC) will be rolling into Las Vegas on April 19th at the Monte Carlo Las Vegas Resort & Casino. The NGLCC Road Show is designed to meet business owners where they live and work. Learn how business certification can leverage opportunities that will take your business from survival mode to legacy mode.

As the new NGLCC Affiliate serving Las Vegas and Southern Nevada, QVegas Business Alliance invites you to attend The NGLCC Road Show hosted by MGM Resorts International at the Monte Carlo. All LGBT-owned businesses are encouraged to attend this informational event. The event is open to employee group leaders, supplier diversity professionals, community leaders, and members from other chambers of commerce that qualify for certification, including women, minorities, people with disabilities, and veterans.



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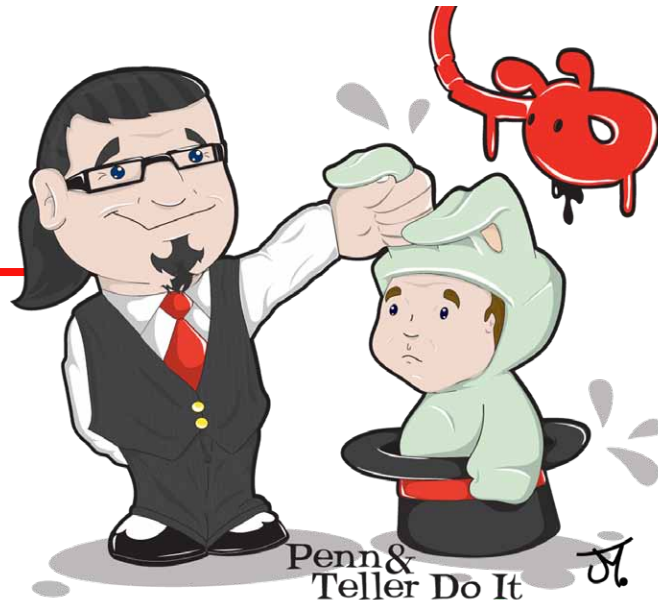


COMMUNITY TIES

QNEWS

AID FOR AIDS OF NEVADA'S ANNUAL AIDS WALK LAS VEGAS RETURNS TO UNLV ON SUNDAY, APRIL 14

PENN & TELLER HOST FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE, SERVE AS GRAND MARSHALS FOR 12TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR



Aid for AIDS of Nevada (AFAN) hosts its 23rd Annual AIDS Walk Las Vegas at the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) campus on Sunday, April 14 beginning at 8 a.m. Las Vegas entertainment legends Penn & Teller will return to AIDS Walk and serve as Grand Marshals for their 12th consecutive year in addition to hosting the Penn & Teller Challenge, which promises to match a portion of funds raised by their team.

"AFAN is extending their fundraising net to include other nonprofit organizations serving individuals with HIV/AIDS."

"AIDS Walk Las Vegas has been going strong for 23 straight years thanks to the amazing support of our local Las Vegas community in addition to the

wonderful exposure Penn & Teller have brought to the event not only as Grand Marshals but also as advocates for AFAN's mission," said AFAN Executive Director Antioco Carrillo.

In a new fundraising component for the AIDS Walk 2013, AFAN is extending their fundraising net to include other nonprofit organizations serving individuals with HIV/AIDS. AFAN will split 50 percent of all money

raised by these teams (up to \$10,000 for each team), to provide those nonprofits with the opportunity to support AFAN while also donating to their own fundraising missions.

Hosting the event this year are Jaymes Vaughan and James Davis, stars of Chippendales and fan favorites during a recent season of CBS' "Amazing Race." Vaughan and Davis will be joined by TV anchor Chris Saldaña, Heather Collins with Mix 94.1, and other CBS Radio personalities. This year's Walk will also feature a variety of entertainment including a special performance by the cast of Rock of Ages from The Venetian Las Vegas, Melody Sweets from Absinthe, Fantasy from the Luxor Hotel & Casino, Thunder from Down Under from Excalibur Hotel & Casino, DJ Axis, On With The Show, School of Rock, Las Vegas Kaminari Taiko Drummers, Sin City Rollergirls, Chuck Rite, Zodiac Dragon, and Zumba instructor Joaquín Rodríguez.

AIDS Walk Las Vegas serves as AFAN's largest fundraiser, providing funds for programs to assist and educate more than 4,000 men, women and children infected with HIV and AIDS in Southern Nevada. Last year, more than 9,000 supporters joined AFAN for the walk and collectively raised \$450,000. The Penn & Teller Challenge set a new fundraising record with a total of \$276,000 raised, not including Penn & Teller's final dollar for dollar match. Of the over 9,000 walkers at the 2012 event, 1,623 participated in the Penn & Teller Challenge, making it the Challenge's most successful year to date.

AIDS Walk Las Vegas is also an exciting opportunity for both local businesses and large corporations to give back to the community through unique sponsorships. Sponsors of this year's walk include Penn & Teller, Walgreens, Findlay Cadillac, Findlay Honda, Outdoor Promotions, Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Jamba Juice, Vegas Seven, QVegas, Clear Channel Outdoor, The Walking Company, Big Dogs, Yelp, Nestle Pure Life, Mix 94.1 FM, KLUC 98.5 FM, X 107.5 FM, Macy's, Spring Valley Hospital and Gilead Sciences, Inc. The success of the AIDS Walk would not be possible without the support of local businesses.

Following the conclusion of the AIDS Walk, a Food Truck Round-Up and picnic will be held on the UNLV campus, with 10% of sales being donated back to AFAN. Participants and supporters are encouraged to stick around for some delicious bites and entertainment.

People of all ages are encouraged to participate in the 23rd Annual AIDS Walk Las Vegas. Registration is free, but a minimum donation of \$50 per person is encouraged and includes an official AIDS Walk T-shirt.

Participants may register as individuals, join an existing team, or create their own. For additional information or to register for a team, visit the AFAN website. Individuals and teams can join the Penn & Teller Challenge when registering for the walk. Teams can also maintain their individual identities while still contributing to Penn & Teller's matching effort by registering their team with the Challenge. ■



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We welcome everyone to walk through our doors and see what the Downtown scene is buzzing about right now!



Rainbow Avengers Recap

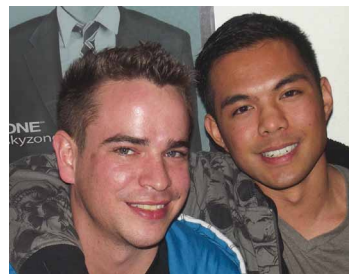
The Vegas Mpowerment Project, a program through The Center that enriches and strengthens 18-29 year old gay, bisexual, transgender and queer men, hosted its 1st Quarter Event called Rainbow Avengers.

This superhero-themed event was held at Skyzone in March, and attendees bounced back and forth between exciting activities like dodge ball, a costume contest, and the Next Top Superhero Challenge.



The guys (and some ladies too!) also engaged in meaningful conversation and encouraged new visitors to come to future meetings at The Center to learn about healthy relationships, HIV education, create lasting friendships and much more.

The Vegas Mpowerment Project meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 p.m. at The Center's new home in Downtown Las Vegas (401 S. Maryland Pkwy.).



Don't just come see us in person — interact with us virtually as well! Like us on Facebook ([facebook.com/TheCenterLV](https://www.facebook.com/TheCenterLV)) and follow us on Twitter and Instagram at @TheCenterLV for more exciting updates!



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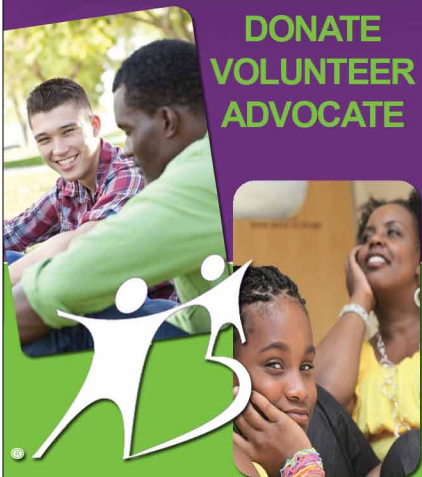
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2 STEPS FORWARD...

[by Miranda Boyd]

Here we highlight some of the accomplishments achieved over the past month. This is but a taste of all the progress made and all the victories won by LGBT and Ally individuals and organizations constantly striving for full equality and an end to discrimination.

Republican Senator Supports Marriage Equality

Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) declared his support for marriage equality, reversing his previous position. The change has been attributed to his son who came out to the Senator in 2011. Reflecting on the process that led him to this acceptance, Portman said, "It allowed me to think of this issue from a new perspective, and that's of a Dad who loves his son a lot and wants him to have the same opportunities that his brother and sister would have." While he still faces criticism from some of his colleagues and constituents, and while some have sadly criticized his son as well, Portman stands firm saying, "I have come to believe that if two people are prepared to make a lifetime commitment to love and care for each other in good times and in bad, the government shouldn't deny them the opportunity to get married."



New Mexico Mayor for Marriage

David Coss, Mayor of Santa Fe, New Mexico, is encouraging LGBT citizens of his state to apply for marriage licenses asserting that there is no legislation in place in New Mexico that defines marriage as being between a man and woman. New Mexico already recognizes marriages performed in other states, and the state constitution expressly requires equality under the law regardless of sex. Along with Councilor Patti Bushee, Coss is striving to bring light to the outdatedness of marriage bans. He says plainly, "Santa Fe is ready. New Mexico is ready, I know. Our country is ready to move on this."

Westboro's Proud Neighbor

The unfortunately infamous Westboro Baptist Church has a new neighbor, Equality house. Aaron Jackson, one of the founders of the charity organization, Planting Peace, was so disturbed by the Westboro members' hateful messages at pride parades and soldiers' funerals that he endeavored to find the church for himself. Upon seeing the For Sale sign on the house across the street, he decided to buy it, paint it rainbow, and christen it Equality House. "I've wanted to do something, and I knew when I saw that house for sale that it all came together." Jackson's story of creating Equality house, and interacting with the WBC members is as hopeful for LGBT citizens as it is for the children woefully trapped in WBC. "We want this house to be a message that where there's hate, there's also love."

Church Halts All Marriages

The Green Street United Methodist Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has decided to stop performing heterosexual marriage ceremonies until gay marriage is legalized. In a public statement the church asserts, "On the matter of same-sex marriage, Green Street UMC sees injustice in the legal position of state government and the theological position of our denomination." North Carolina recently passed a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. And the broader United Methodist Church takes a strong stance against homosexuality. According to Green Street UMC pastor Kelly Carpenter, "We feel that we're a church that's very welcoming to gays and lesbians, and we want our denomination to be welcoming as well."

1 STEP BACK

John Boehner Won't Budge

Speaker of the House John Boehner reiterated his opposition to marriage equality in a new, and stern, statement on ABC's This Week. "Listen, I believe that marriage is the union of one man and one woman," Boehner said. "All right. It's what I grew up with. It's what I believe. It's what my church teaches me. And I can't imagine that position would ever change." The Speaker's position represents a declining opinion certainly throughout the country, but also within the Republican party. Even as his some members of the GOP dig in their heels, others, like Rob Portman and former VP Dick Cheney, step forward in support of equality.

As we move ever forward, we must pause to acknowledge the backslides. Here we show the defeats suffered recently at the hands of adversaries and the misguided who continue to deny the rights, respect and beauty of us all.



Arizona's Bathroom Bill

Lawmakers in Arizona, including Republican Rep. John Kavanaugh, are attempting to introduce a law that would make it a Class 1 misdemeanor for anyone to use a gender-specific bathroom that does not match the gender noted on their birth certificate. The issue is further complicated by Arizona's requirement that anyone seeking to change the gender marker on their birth certificate must undergo costly gender confirmation surgery. The introduction of this new bill comes just weeks after the city of Phoenix passed a human rights ordinance banning all discrimination in public accommodations on the basis of gender identity or expression.



Michelle Shocks Fans

Singer Michelle Shocked riled fans at a concert in San Francisco when she told the audience, "I live in fear that the world will be destroyed if gays are allowed to marry." The musician, who once professed to have had her own relationship with a woman, has been outspoken against homosexuality and marriage equality since becoming a born-again Christian. Following her rant, the entirety of her U.S. tour has been cancelled. One venue has even opted to replace her performance with a queer act and donate all the proceeds from the show to local LGBT youth.



School Staff Bullying Students?

The ACLU has presented a high school in Hesperia, California, with a letter detailing their disgust at the conduct of school officials regarding their LGBT students. The letter asserts that the school has discriminated against LGBT students through selective enforcement of dress code rules, ignored accusations of bullying from LGBT students, and suppressed the free speech of the local Gay Straight Alliance. It further expresses that school personnel themselves have made derogatory and homophobic comments about students. In support of the letter, the president of the school's GSA, Kyle Bodda, said, "All students should feel safe and free to be themselves at school. It's hard to learn or feel comfortable in a space where teachers make degrading comments about LGBTQ people."

COMMUNITY TIES

POLITICAL Q



CONGRESSWOMAN DINA TITUS (NV-01)

FIGHTING FOR LGBT EQUALITY IN THE HALLS OF CONGRESS

Dear Friends,

Las Vegas take pride in the different cultures, traditions, and lifestyles that enrich our community and contribute to our distinct identity. We feel fortunate to live in a city that embraces our differences, celebrates our diversity, and, I believe truly leads our country in its commitment to social progress.

For many years, I fought in the Nevada Legislature, following the lead of Senator David Parks, for equality for all. And much progress has been made. Then with the help of many of you, I was able to take the fight to Washington.

In the 111th Congress, I co-sponsored and supported a number of bills that dealt with equality, but one of my proudest moments came in December of 2010, when I joined my colleagues in taking a stand against institutionalized discrimination by voting to repeal Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT), a policy that prevented more than 13,000 brave gay and lesbian service members from serving openly in our Armed Forces. This unfair policy, as former Joint Chief of Staff Admiral Mullen said, brought into question the very integrity of our Armed Services.

The repeal of DADT was not just a victory for the LGBT equality movement; it was a victory for all Americans who value civil rights and uphold individual freedoms. But as the President stated in his Inaugural Address, "Our journey is not complete until our gay brothers and sisters are treated like anyone else under the law—for if we are truly created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well."

The repeal of DADT and the President's call for gay rights represent the fruits of labor of a powerful social movement gaining strength throughout our country. Now more than ever, there is a more vocal, more unified front in the fight against discrimination and unequal treatment under the law at all levels of government.



We've seen marriage equality measures move through state houses in Maryland, Washington, and New York. Meanwhile, the Supreme Court has agreed to hear two critical cases that could very well determine the immediate fate of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and California's Proposition 8. On March 1, I joined 212 of my Democratic colleagues in filing an amicus brief in the case of *U.S. v. Windsor*, a landmark challenge to Section 3 of DOMA. Our brief sent a clear message to the Supreme Court: There is simply no legitimate federal interest or justification in denying married, same-sex couples the legal security, rights, and responsibilities that federal law provides to all other married couples.

Regardless of what the Supreme Court decides in these two important cases, I will continue to fight for LGBT equality in the Halls of Congress. I am already a proud sponsor of federal legislation to repeal DOMA and of the Safe Schools Improvement Act to recognize and deal with bullying on campus.

Together we must keep fighting for full LGBT equality, and we can't stop until every person has the civil rights and individual liberties guaranteed to them as Americans.

Please know that you can call on me anytime. My office is very near the wonderful new Bob Forbuss Gay and Lesbian Community Center. And remember to invite me to your events. If I am in D.C. and can't come, I'm sure my mother would like to attend – she had a great time riding in last year's Gay Pride parade.

Sincerely,

DINA TITUS
Member of Congress

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THAT'S SO VEGAS

Tidbits from the Strip & Beyond

SUNDAYS

- *REVO Sundays* at Revolution Lounge inside Mirage Hotel & Casino
- *Showtunes High Tea* at FLEX Cocktail Lounge
- *PRIDE Pajama Brunch Bingo @ Circus Circus* (bi-monthly)
- All new Ladies' Night at FreeZone

MONDAYS

- *QSocial Ladies Event* (Every 2nd Monday) hosted by Tatiana Lewis
- *Boys Night* at Entourage Men's Spa
- *Stache Mondays* at Piranha Nightclub
- *Liquor Bust* at Spotlight Lounge

TUESDAYS

- *Quesdays* at db's Pong & Pool
- *Latin Night* at Entourage Men's Spa
- *Neo Soul* at Blue Martini

WEDNESDAYS

- *Underwear Night* at Charlie's LV
- *The Grand Tea Room - Pulse Nightclub*
- *Gay Men's Mpowerment Group* at The Gay & Lesbian Center
- *Wise Womyn Group* at The Gay & Lesbian Center
- *Drag Queen Bingo* at Piranha Nightclub
- *Ntoxxxicated- Diva Toxxx Drag Show* at FreeZone

THURSDAYS

- *Industry Night* at HAZE Nightclub inside ARIA
- *POP Thursdays* at Share Nightclub
- *QVolution Youth Group meeting* at The Center
- *Dark & Double* at Entourage Men's Spa
- *Prism* at Artifice



Romeo & Juliet

The Smith Center for Performing Arts
361 Symphony Park Ave
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Saturday, May 11 & Sunday, May 12

Set to one of Prokofiev's most riveting scores, this production will showcase Artistic Director James Canfield's unseen talent for transforming text into dance. Now, for an unforgettable season finale, the Nevada Ballet brings one of The Bard's most beloved tales to life just in time for Mother's Day Weekend.

Julie Budd "Show Stoppers"

The Smith Center for Performing Arts
361 Symphony Park Ave
Las Vegas, NV 89106

April 12 at 7pm & April 13 at 3pm & 7pm

Julie Budd's "Show Stoppers" is an evening of wonderful and memorable musical moments that have stopped shows for years and made people fall in love with the theater over and over. "Show Stoppers" is also filled with backstage memories and stories that go back Julie's start in show business as a child, when she had the opportunity to work alongside many of the legendary stars of the theater.



THE LAS VEGAS STRIP

WHERE TO EAT: Bagatelle Supper Club

The ultimate dinner party, with modern bistro dining in an exquisite atmosphere. It's an immersive experience from start to finish, where you can indulge in the natural progression of dinner into party, capturing your imagination at different points throughout the night. Start with a delicious dinner featuring modern Bistro fare. As the atmosphere builds, it turns into a party where truly anything can happen. Intrigued? You should be.

Tropicana Las Vegas
3801 Las Vegas Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89109
Daily 6pm-1am

WHERE TO DRINK: Fat Tuesdays

Fat Tuesdays may have originated out of Atlanta Georgia with its sister brand New Orleans Daiquiris, but in Las Vegas this is the bar you don't skip. With a half a dozen locations on or around the Strip, this is the bar that keeps the party going.

Caesars Palace, Mandalay Bay, Planet Hollywood, MGM Grand, Stratosphere
Las Vegas Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89109

WHAT TO SEE: Fountains of Bellagio

A refreshing addition to your entertainment options, the Fountains of Bellagio are destined to romance your senses. Take in a complimentary Las Vegas show of water, music and light thoughtfully interwoven to mesmerize its admirers.

Bellagio
3600 S Las Vegas Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89109

BEYOND THE STRIP

WHERE TO EAT: Bar + Bistro

Bar + Bistro is located in the Arts Factory, in the heart of the 18b Las Vegas Arts District. An eclectic Latin fusion menu reflects influences from Spain, Italy and France, following the shores of Morocco, Egypt, Israel and Lebanon. Every dish, every sauce, every meal, is homemade and meticulously prepared with the freshest of ingredients. We support our community and locally source ingredients whenever possible. Enjoy food, wine and art in the artistic, funky surroundings of the Bar + Bistro.

Arts District
107 E Charleston St. 155 Las Vegas NV, 89104

WHERE TO DRINK: Spotlight Lounge

Spotlight Lounge is a newly remodeled LGBT bar/lounge located in Commercial Center, offering daily & nightly drink special at very affordable prices. With new flat screen tv's, awesome touch tunes sound system, and hot guys, you are guaranteed to enjoy yourself here. Open 24/7, this friendly and cozy spot is filled with some of the friendliest staff in Vegas.

Commercial Center
975 E Sahara Ave.

WHAT TO DO: SHE'S DOPE Open Mic Night

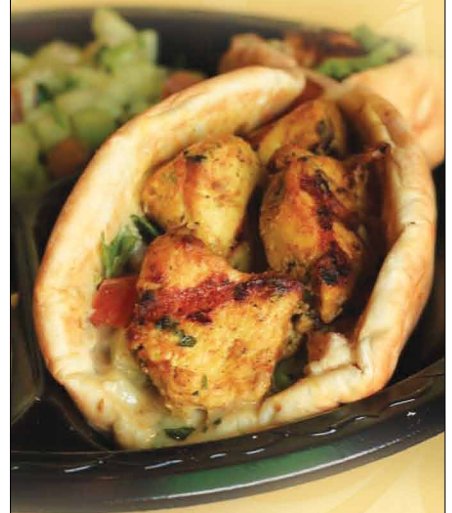
Come to the 'Fruit Loop' and showcase your talent this month at at SHE'S DOPE! Open Mic night. Admission is FREE. Sunday, April 7th is Poetry/Acoustic Set by KISMET ft. HERMETIC. To sign up just send an email to shesdope@live.com

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Formed in 1994 in New Hampshire at a high school talent show, Recycled Percussion's first performance gave birth to the style of music now known as junk rock. The band was introduced in living rooms across the country on the hit TV show "America's Got Talent" on NBC. The group placed third out of more than 100,000 acts and became the first non-singing act to place in the top three in show history.



Ryan Vezina (left): Percussion Specialist and Body Percussion Talent

Todd Griffin (right): DJ and Media Director & Percussionist

FRIDAYS

- Stripper Circus at Share Nightclub
- The L Group at The Gay & Lesbian Center
- Trans.lation Group at The Gay & Lesbian Center
- Addicted to DRAG at FLEX Cocktail Lounge
- Fetish Fueled Fridays at Charlie's
- DRAG Madness at FreeZone
- 3D Fridays at 8 1/2 Piranha Nightclub
- Ladies Affair Friday at Oracle Mansion hosted by Team Cream
- Porn Utopia at Krave inside the Rio

SATURDAYS

- SNAPI Saturdays at Charlie's Las Vegas
- Porn Stars in Vegas at Share Nightclub
- What a Drag featuring the QUEEN of LV at Flex Lounge
- Packed House at Entourage Men's Spa
- GODDESS at Piranha Nightclub hosted by India Ferrah
- DRAG Madness at FreeZone
- Zumanity, The Sensual Side of Cirque duSoleil inside New York New York
- Rock of Ages inside The Venetian
- Absinthe Stripside at Caesars Palace

Recycled Percussion The Quad

The Showroom at The Quad 7pm Saturday through Thursday

You've seen them on NBC's "America's Got Talent," now YOU can play along...LIVE at The Quad in Las Vegas. Grab drumsticks and an instrument as you enter the theater, or just kick back and watch the most exciting show on the Strip!

Produced by one of Las Vegas' most highly-regarded producers, David Saxe, the new Recycled Percussion show promises to be the most impressive yet. Whether playing on buckets, ladders, grinders or sinks, Recycled Percussion's boundless energy and creativity are sure to blow audiences away.

Recycled Percussion takes the stage at The Showroom at The Quad Saturday through Thursday (dark Friday) at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$65.98 and \$76.98 (plus taxes and fees) and can be purchased online at thequadlv.com or by calling The Quad Box Office at (800) 351-7400. More information on Recycled Percussion can be found at recycledpercussionband.com.

Equality Celebration: Show up for Equality Dixie Convention Center -Garden Room 1835 S Convention Center Dr. St. George, UT 84790

Seating is limited for Southern Utah's premier fundraising event—the 3rd Annual EQUALITY CELEBRATION: Show Up for Equality. Join a spirited audience, be inspired by stellar award recipients and scintillating remarks by Dustin Lance Black. Last year's event sold out early so purchase your tickets for the May 18, 2013 event today!

\$75 per person, ticket includes reception, silent auction, dinner, entertainment and after party! Visit www.equalityutah.org for more information.

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Downtown & The Fremont Street Experience

WHERE TO EAT: The Garden Court Buffet

Enjoy the spacious surroundings with elegant Victorian décor in one of Downtown Las Vegas' best buffets. Dine in for breakfast, lunch or dinner and try a vast array of delicious choices including Mexican food, Southwestern fare, Asian delights, pizza and their famous rotisserie chicken. The Garden Court Buffet features specialty nights including T-Bone Tuesdays, Steak and Scampi Thursdays, Seafood night on Fridays and Prime Rib on Saturdays. Also a champagne brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday.

Main Street Station
3801 Las Vegas Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89109
Daily 6pm-1am

WHERE TO DRINK: Drink & Drag

From the creators of KRAVE Nightclub, a totally new concept in the way gays play (and straight people too)! Staffed by some of America's best drag queens, Drink & Drag features the ultimate play lounge in entertainment with 12 lanes of bowling, pool tables, dart boards, a VIP area and an appetizing bar menu. Located on the corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Fremont Street, this hot spot is an easy find. Parking is off of 4th Street, in the Neonopolis Parking Garage. Parking is FREE with validation from Drink & Drag!

Neonopolis 2nd Floor
200 North Main Street, NV 89101

WHAT TO DO: Flightlinez Fremont Street

Tourists can now fly down an 800-foot -long zip line over the crowds at the Fremont Street Experience in downtown Las Vegas, gliding at up to 30 miles an hour along steel lines under the arched metal canopy that displays the hourly light show. It'll be the most exciting 15 seconds of your life as you soar above all of Fremont Street strapped in a trendy harness.

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**'It's like
quick,
fast sex...
hot and fun'**

[by Miranda Boyd]

But sometimes I think to myself, 'Did I just say that?!' That's what comedian Jason Stuart loves about comedy. His quick wit, honest approach, and willingness to stand up for his community and himself are what fans love about him. Both sides of that passion will surely be felt during his standup shows August 22-28 at The Laugh Factory at the Tropicana Las Vegas.

For the past twenty years, since coming out in 1993, Stuart has traversed the worlds of comedy and acting with honor and, above all, humor. Having appeared on shows including Will & Grace, House M.D., The Closer and Secret Life of the American Teenager. His film appearances include Vegas Vacation and Kindergarten Cop, as well as the soon-to-be-released Big Gay Love and the James Franco-starring Holy Land. Stuart's prolific career shows but a small piece of the wholly wise and confident man. Just speaking to him, beyond all the characters and without a preset joke in place, Stuart conveys a delightful self-awareness and a willingness to laugh at anything--including himself.

"I was following a comic recently who was saying some really vile stuff about gay people. So when I went on stage I said, 'How about a big hand for the last comic. I fucked him! And when I was done I fucked him again!' Crude, I know. But what was I gonna do? He had brought the audience to such a low level that I

had to fight back with jokes and make them laugh!" That ability to look at ignorance head-on and turn it into something from which we can all glean a smile is a quality that aids Stuart in all his endeavors.

Early in his standup career, Stuart attempted to book shows on college campuses. Some of those colleges were less than enthusiastic about having a gay comedian perform for their students, and some even refused to book him. Stuart's response was to alter the approach. He began offering a lecture program on coming out that the colleges could deem an educational event. That allowed him the opportunity to not only make people laugh, but to assure them that they aren't alone.

In one memorable moment, Stuart found himself conversing with the staff of a college. One of the teachers mentioned to him that she was gay, and that she was afraid to say she was gay because she didn't want to lose her job. Those anecdotes roll out of Stuart with the same ease as a joke on stage, a wise comment

“we are all the same in a very simple way... human,”

on television, or a quip about a classic film over the phone. Just as the slight somberness is felt, and the seriousness of that memory is reflected upon, the jovial nature returns and another joke is seen on the better horizon.

“I wish people would be more creative,” Stuart commented when asked about the worst questions he’s received during Q&As. When one student at a college asked him whether he was a top or bottom, he simply replied, “I’m an actor, I play both parts.” And when others questioned him about when he knew he was gay he retorted, “It was on a Thursday” or, “There was a big meeting at Elton John’s house and that week they picked me.” The sincerity in his answers, and the probable speed with which they came, show Stuart’s talent for getting people to listen before they laugh. “Sometimes people can hear something better with humor.”

Whether speaking to a crowded hall full of students, playing a character on any size of screen, performing a set on stage, or participating in a simple interview, Stuart’s cleverness and openness are obvious. And even his composed attitude, “That we are all the same in a very simple way... human,” falls to hilarity as he wonders, “How come the horse gets on the cover and not me? I have a bigger penis than the horse!”

For more information about Jason Stuart, his comedy, acting, lectures, and more, visit www.jasonstuart.com. And while you’re there, feel free to friend him, tweet him, poke him, lick him, taste him, “or whatever it is we’re supposed to be doing these days.”



Can Italian food be hearty but not heavy? Rustic, yet sophisticated? Classic, but still surprising? At Wolfgang Puck Pizzeria and Cucina, the answer to these questions is definitely “Yes!”

THIS IS COMFORT FOOD, ELEVATED!



EATING OUT: WOLFGANG PUCK PIZZERIA & CUCINA



BY MICHAEL BARBIERI
WWW.MYVEGASOBSESSION.COM

Located in The Crystals at CityCenter, Cucina is a modern, open, comfortable space, whether you're having a full meal, sitting at the bar, or gathering with friends at a high-topped table in the lounge. The decor strikes a smart balance between old and new, making nice use of wood accents and cheerful, yellow-green glass panels, along with bare, Edison style bulbs in the light fixtures. A small section of the dining area is canopied with criss-crossed bolts of striped fabric, vaguely suggesting an old fashioned Italian flair.

I was early, but when my lunch date arrived, I finished the excellent **Raspberry Lemon Drop** I had ordered while waiting at the bar, and we were shown to our table. Our friendly server started us off with a bottle of sparkling water, and after some intuitive suggestions, left us to look at the menu.

My friend happened to know Executive Chef Dustin Lewandowski, who came out to greet her and make a few suggestions of his own. This was becoming a dilemma - everything sounded fantastic. Narrowing down our choices was getting more difficult by the minute! We made our selections, deciding to share all of our

dishes. We ordered, and settled into our conversation. A short while later, the food began to arrive.

...And what amazing food! First came the **Tomato Bruschetta** - chewy pieces of ciabatta bread, spread with a simple pesto, then piled high with chopped tomato and onion, dressed with just a touch of olive oil, topped with grated Parmesan cheese, and garnished with micro-basil, which added an herbal pop to the lively flavors of the fresh toppings.

Next, the **Grilled Meatballs** - perfect little two-bite meatballs, juicy on the inside and just a hint of a char on the outside. They had been finished on the wood grill, which imparted a nice smokiness to the meat. Served on a ragout of red peppers and olives with some pureed basil, the dish was topped off with Pecorino Toscano cheese and wild arugula. While there's a lot on the plate, the meatballs themselves were the star attraction and were never overpowered. We also sampled the **Grilled Octopus Salad** - tasty chunks of lightly grilled octopus, tossed with celery, Kalamata olives, chopped Peppadew peppers, and fennel. The octopus had been braised for hours, making it wonderfully tender, with the celery providing a nice crunch

as a counterpoint. Dressed in a sunny citrus vinaigrette, the flavors of the salad were clean and bright, making me recall a little street cafe in Florence where I had discovered a similar dish.

We split one of the panini suggested by our server - the **"Porchetta"**. Tender, flavorful, slow roasted pork, shaved thin and stacked on fresh ciabatta, topped with Provolone cheese and peppery arugula. Underneath was a layer of a spicy hot pepper relish known in Italy as "la bomba", which gave the sandwich a savory and unexpected punch!

Finally, as if we hadn't had enough, we shared one of the pizzas, for which Wolfgang Puck is famous. We chose the **Wild Mushroom Pizza**, with Bechamel, Fontina cheese, thyme and arugula. This was a delicious step away from most people's concept of pizza. The pizzas at Cucina are made with a sourdough crust and ours was wonderfully light and airy, with the earthy mushrooms, creamy Bechamel sauce, spicy arugula and nutty Fontina playing beautifully against each other. I remember it striking me as funny that an Austrian chef had created an Italian pizza, using a classic French sauce, and a typically American crust. Bravo, Chef Puck!

THIS IS COMFORT FOOD, ELEVATED!

By now, we were both satisfied and decided to skip dessert, but I was so impressed, not just with the food, but with the service, and the space itself, that I decided to return the next evening for dinner. I try, whenever possible, to visit a restaurant at least twice before writing about it. I feel it makes for a more well-rounded piece...also, a more "well rounded" ME!

The following night, I met up with another friend, hungrily looking forward to dinner at Cucina. This time, I was honored that Chef Dustin came to the table to greet me! Our server had several suggestions, and she sold me on many of them, but we studied our menus and eventually made our choices.

My friend began with the **Calamari "Fritto"** - gorgeous rings of lighter-than-light calamari, flash fried in a delicate, barely-there batter. Not greasy or rubbery at all, they were served with a tangy tomato sauce and an excellent, creamy basil aioli. I opted for the **"Zuppa di Cippole"** - a spectacular Italian variation on onion soup. Made with beef and chicken stock, sweet caramelized Cippolini onions, homemade focaccia croutons, Fontina cheese and a touch of cream, this was the sort of soup you'd want someone's Italian grandmother to serve you - chunky, rustic and comforting. My friend took one taste and nearly ordered a bowl for himself!

We split a pasta dish; the **Rigatoncini Piemontese** - bite-sized rigatoni served in a tomato-based sauce with ground fennel sausage and Genoa salami. The pasta was cooked exactly "al dente", and the entire dish managed to be hearty, yet not heavy in the least! The salami gave the sauce a kick, though a hint of fennel from the sausage still came through at the end.

Our entrees came next; the **Organic Chicken Piccata** for my companion - large chicken cutlets in a smooth sauce of lemon, butter and capers, accompanied by sautéed broccolini. The Piccata was not too aggressive, with just enough acid to balance out the creaminess; one of the best I've tried. I chose the **Porcini Crusted Salmon** - firm, pink and perfectly cooked, with

a light crispy crust, resting on a bed of porcini mushrooms, gently sautéed Savoy cabbage, and a subtle puree of roasted sunchoes. The presentation was clean and modern, but the flavors were homey, earthy and satisfying.

Finally, we shared a dessert; the **Chocolate Hazelnut Gelato Pie** - creamy hazelnut *stracciatella* gelato in a chocolate crumble crust, fresh whipped cream and candied hazelnut on top, a layer of chocolate sauce beneath. The rich, nutty flavor of the gelato was punctuated by chunks of bittersweet chocolate throughout. Interestingly, it was not overly sweet and was a perfect finale to the meal.

It's safe to say that my friends and I were very impressed with Cucina. Everything was wonderful, from the moment we arrived. The servers were all very knowledgeable about the food, and were able to answer any questions we had. They were efficient and non-intrusive, whisking away empty plates one minute, popping back a moment later to refill our water glasses, or to lay down the next course. Best of all, the hostesses, bartenders, servers and bussers were all cute and friendly - their lack of attitude making the place completely welcoming!

And then of course, there was the food. Rustic, comforting, home-style food, in sleek, sophisticated surroundings; the quality of their dishes and ingredients always managed to excite me. When dining out, I love those moments when you first taste a dish and quietly say to yourself "Wow!" Well, I had quite a few of those "Wow" moments at Wolfgang Puck Pizzeria and Cucina. I think you will too!





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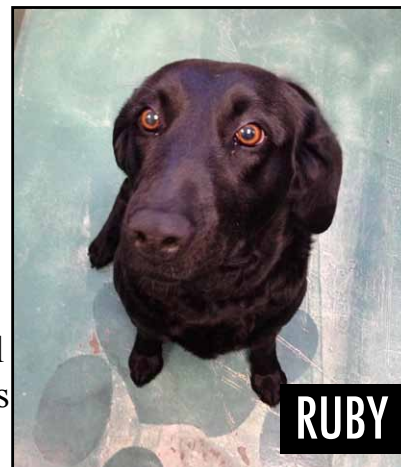
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SIENA ANIMAL HOSPITAL

[by Miranda Boyd]

Dr. Susan Keeney's Hospital Continues To Open its Doors to help Animals



RUBY

For years now, Siena Animal Hospital has graciously opened its doors to hurt, sick, stray and abandoned pets. In the past, at the bottom end of the housing boom, those unable or unwilling to care for their pets properly found ways to give up their furry friends to the hospital. Some left them in boxes by the front door. Some tied them to fences on the property. Some even scheduled exams for their pets then never returned to claim them. Thankfully, the recession is lifting, and Siena Animal Hospital and the companions it serves are finding new life.

The state-of-the-art facility was built on the western edge of Las Vegas. The area was chosen under the assumption that the city would continue to expand around it and the building prospects would bring potential clients to the area. As the economy declined, foreclosures and empty buildings began to scrub away the optimism. And the most vulnerable, the pets, paid for the economic calamity.

Now the community is rebounding. New homes are being built, and the population of the neighborhood is increasing. All that upswell has brought new business to Siena Animal Hospital, which recently opened the entire facility to clients for an anniversary party to celebrate five years of serving the community.

Offering services including dentistry, medicine, grooming and boarding, the facility is meeting a need often overlooked in times of financial hardship. At the heart of the entire operation is Dr. Susan Keeney.

Dr. Keeney has been a veterinarian for seventeen years, fifteen of those in Las Vegas. She's the first woman in Las Vegas to become Diplomat of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners in Canine & Feline Specialty. Being a Diplomat means she has proven her abilities as a veterinarian and clinician relative to other veterinarians. One of her primary focuses involves treating animals with endocrine diseases like

hypothyroidism and diabetes. These animals require special treatment in order to lead long and healthy lives. Dr. Keeney has a special interest in these disorders and finds their care especially challenging and rewarding.

Dr. Keeney isn't just a veterinarian and administrator. Over the years she's adopted seven dogs and one cat, the three most recent from Siena's overwhelming number of strays—those that no one wanted or those that adopted her. Many have been featured in the QVegas LGBT Yellow Pages. The dogs routinely pile in her car and join her at the hospital, frolicking around the facility and entertaining the guests.

While the number of strays taken in by Siena has diminished over time, owned and unowned pets still come through their doors in desperate need. The hospital provides physical exams and vaccinations for the strays it takes in and strives to find homes for every pet possible. To help prevent the excessive pet population problem, all the pets are spayed and neutered prior to finding a forever home. The current (temporary) resident is a beautiful black lab named Ruby. For more information on adopting Ruby, or for all your pet health needs including an online pharmacy, pet medical reference library and emergency resources, visit www.sienaanimalhospital.com. The staff of Siena Animal Hospital is also happy to answer your questions at 258-0006.



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11:00am **NewSong**

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Mackenzie Claude

RuPaul's Stallion Soldier, From Fighting Force to Fashionably Fierce

Military service members face challenges that most of us can't imagine. Trading in the combat boots and fatigues for high heels and a dress is one challenge most never expected to attempt.

This season on *RuPaul's Drag Race*, five United States military and ex-military service members do just that, showing there's nothing our fighting forces can't conquer.

In an exciting new episode, airing in April on Logo, the contestants are tasked with making over some of the strongest and most confident members of our fighting forces. One of those selected for the makeover was Las Vegas resident and Fleet Marine Corpsman Mackenzie Claude.

"Doing that episode was a lot like the first time I'd showed up for boot camp. It was intimidating and terrifying and I thought I'd made the biggest mistake of my life. But in the end I became, you know, stronger and wiser for it." Claude's comparison is likely striking to anyone who hasn't done both. But hearing it from someone surging with such determination makes the struggle

implied seem all the more heartening—as though we're right there with him as he learns to stand.

"Getting dressed in drag for the first time, the first thing that I did was put on a pair of red heels while still partly in military garb and I had to walk a straight line, in heels, and it was a massacre. It was horrible. And it's all caught on camera." The language is strong. The image is undoubtedly stronger. And the notion that a man could compare something countless women do everyday to a massacre speaks volumes about not only gender, but also the attitudes regarding drag.

The show, while obviously designed to be entertaining as we chuckle at these new fawns fumbling to their feet and cheer as they're unveiled as beautiful, also highlights the important connections between the gay community and the military that are constantly growing and maturing. That connection and similarity is something Claude has noticed.

Photographed by
Ivan Avila

www.ivanavilaphotography.com

"Personally I've found a lot of parallels with drag and being gay in the military. A lot of the drag queens that I met weren't able to tell their families what they did for the longest time, in fear for how their families would react. And it was the same way in the military. We couldn't tell the military that we were gay. We weren't even allowed to tell other people in our unit that we were gay, because if the wrong person found out, it didn't matter how good you were at your job, or how long you had been in the military, or what your contract said, if they didn't like the fact that you were gay, they could launch an investigation and you could be discharged."

The parallels are understandable when the two structures, though seemingly worlds apart, are viewed through a common lens. "Really, drag is like a uniform for a drag queen. That's the uniform that they get into to go and do their job. And so, when I looked at it that way it made the whole process a lot easier." That ease is becoming an increasingly large part of the blending of cultures. With the repeal of DADT, gay service members are finally free to be themselves even when in uniform. And with the popularity and success of newer and more daring television shows, drag performers are finding a new voice of their own.

"Obviously *RuPaul's Drag Race* is really leading the pack and setting the bar with this episode and this theme, because drag and the military just haven't been together before." While Claude's observation clearly holds for the majority of society, his personal life tells a different story about the similarities and companionship between the worlds of drag and the armed forces. Claude is currently in a relationship with a drag queen.

"Derrick Barry is one of the prominent figures in the drag world, and he also happens to be my partner." Claude's affection and admiration for his partner are clear as he explains how a friend of Barry's contacted him about appearing on *RuPaul's Drag Race*. And his honesty and confidence are shown as he continues, "And my other partner





is Nick San Pedro. He's an artist." Just as the military trains members to weather any storm and adapt to any environment, being open about relationships has given Claude a determination and drive that he brings to all aspects of his life.

As a VIP host at Piranha nightclub on Friday and Saturday nights, and model with Best Agency, Claude is immersed in the culture and nightlife of Las Vegas. He's handled VIP service for celebrities like Janice Dickinson, Carrot Top and stars of the *Real Housewives of Orange County*. Through it all he's expressed his love for this city with the certainty and dignity one would expect from any service member. "Vegas is so unconventional, and so am I. So for me it's the perfect marriage. I work eight hours a week at a nightclub, a gay nightclub off the strip. I have two boyfriends and we're celebrating our one-year anniversary at the end of this month. I did a TV show where I dressed up like a drag queen. And I'm on a billboard right next to the airport. So Vegas just looks good on me."

The boldness it takes to try something new, the fortitude required to be seen as bold, and the alacrity found in tucking for the first time, all combine to make Claude, and all the participants on this special episode of *RuPaul's Drag Race*, worthy of attention and accolades. The convergence of power and poise, rigor and frivolity, masculine and feminine, creates an experience to be raved about. And the entire encounter, from the first pinched toe to the final strut and saunter, have left at least one of the stars with a greater appreciation and understanding of the drag world, even if it doesn't come packaged with the desire for a repeat performance.

"Going through the whole process of the Drag Race and doing the whole drag experience for the first time, it's not something I'm going to continue doing. I'm going to save drag for the drag queens because at the end of the day I'm a king, and that's how I'm going to keep it. So I won't be doing drag in the future, but it was definitely a great experience."





MATINÉE LAS VEGAS



MATINÉE LAS VEGAS FESTIVAL
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2013

FEEL THE REVOLUTION

MATINÉE LAUNCHES REVOLUTION IN SIN CITY WITH FOUR-DAY WEEKEND SPECTACULAR: MATINÉE LAS VEGAS FESTIVAL

Matinée is asking fans to “feel the revolution” this Memorial Day – the party revolution, that is. The festival that has become world famous for re-imagining the elaborate party experience with blazing pyrotechnics and production by Cirque du Soleil and Matinée Ibiza, returns to Las Vegas with the biggest dance festival of the summer. Taking place Friday, May 24th thru Monday, May 27th, **MATINÉE LAS VEGAS FESTIVAL** will play host to over 8,000 clubbers dancing to twenty of the world’s leading DJs at eight high-energy party events.

“In today’s over-technologized world, people want a real interactive experience,” explains Paul Nicholls, part of the production team behind Matinée North America. “We combine fantasy elements from concerts, theatrical stage

shows, Hollywood films and even video games into one giant *offline* spectacle.”

“A Matinée party is all about awe and extravagance,” continues Matinée North America’s Patrick Crough. “We partner with the hottest and most cutting-edge acts from around the world. For this year’s **MATINÉE LAS VEGAS FESTIVAL** we’ve teamed up with the Las Vegas production, *Absinthe*. We are integrating several of their amazing acts into our main events. It will be breathtaking.”

“Matinée raises the bar on nightlife,” says Jake Resnicow. “Whether in the heart of Manhattan or on the beaches of Miami, a Matinée event is meant to take revelers out of body and beyond the confines of their imagination.”

“One reason we stay so cutting edge is we re-invest into the parties,” adds

Crough. “As the numbers get bigger, so does the experience.”

Last year’s **MATINÉE LAS VEGAS FESTIVAL** was wildly successful. The main event at Rain Nightclub in the Palms Hotel featured Spanish dancers, fire displays and live acts by Cirque Du Soleil. The weekend’s big surprise was the large crowd of men that packed the Monday Pool Party. Says Nicholls, “It was a party we added at the last minute because pre-sales were so high. It ended up being a really great way to close the long weekend.”

They plan to pull out even more stops this Memorial Day. They have upgraded the main event to Vanity. Vanity is an exquisite nightclub reserved exclusively for special events at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. The dance floor is a massive 14,000 square-feet with an outdoor terrace and fire pits.

The weekend will feature eight events over four days and nights, including main events and after-hour parties at the city’s hottest clubs, as well as pool parties at the weekend’s host hotel, Rumor. Each party will feature original themes designed to take revelers on a weekend-long journey.

Las Vegas is the perfect city to launch the party revolution, says Resnicow. “In Vegas, parties can do what they want, when they want. There are very few restrictions and absolutely no last calls. Now, that’s a revolution.”

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*Weekend passes start at \$99. The exclusive and luxurious Rumor Hotel (455 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas) is the host hotel for **MATINÉE Las Vegas Festival**. Suites start at \$129/night. Rumor will also provide guests with complimentary shuttle service to all weekend events.*

For more information on MATINÉE LAS VEGAS FESTIVAL, visit www.matineevegas.com

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MAKEOVERS

QNIGHTLIFE

Makeovers Pt. 1

The Las Vegas Gay Nightlife scene is witnessing a transformation of its notorious small town feel. But these small town bars and nightclubs have no fear when it comes to change. Over the last few years, almost every bar has begun making significant renovations and updates to their respective locations; however big or small, the QCrew wanted to share what our favorite bars have been up to. This is part one and we have checked out Badlands Saloon, Flex Lounge, and Spotlight. We hope to include new bars, events and nightclubs in coming issues.



Flex Lounge

Open 24hrs
4371 W Charleston Blvd
Las Vegas, NV 89102
(702) 385-3539

FLEX Cocktail Lounge is one of the most well known LGBT bars in Las Vegas and has been around for OVER 20 years. After sitting around with employees, customers and entertainers, shooting ideas back forth, the team at Flex decided it was time for a face-lift. Many plans are still in the works including renovations to the outside of the building. Inside, the bar features projector screens, flat screens, LED lighting and all sorts of upgraded technology. With their remodeling they've also introduced new entertainment including Britney Glam Wednesdays, Flamboyance Thursdays, the Queens of Las Vegas, and Civil and Nakita's open mic nights.

Badlands Saloon

Open 24hrs
953 E Sahara Ave
(Commercial Center)
Las Vegas, NV 89104
(702) 792-9262

This friendly neighborhood country/western bar will make you feel like you've walked into the wild wild west. The jukebox is decidedly country and the regulars are really regular (they even keep their own beer mugs here). Recently renovated, this country themed saloon has new wood flooring, expanded dance floor, new bars stools, and what's a renovation without a fresh coat of paint. Open 24hours a day, no matter what the occasion, you're going to enjoy your time here at Badlands.





FREE ZONE

Open 24hrs
610 E Naples Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89104
(Fruit Loop)
(702) 794-2300

Free Zone is one of the most versatile bars in town. Located conveniently in the Fruit Loop is Free Zone, a bar that is a casual place to drink and to eat. Ask for the menu, you'll be glad you did. The crowd here is varied but it's the only gay bar in town with a night dedicated

to the ladies. Sundays is SHE'S Dope, an open mic night where you can showcase your talent. There's always a drink special or happy hour and the bartenders are always friendly. The atmosphere here is always upbeat and special event decor is usually the creative flair of Blown-Out Productions. There are several drag and karaoke nights sprinkled throughout the week plus go-gos and themed parties throughout the year.

Spotlight

Open 24hrs
975 E Sahara Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89104
(Commercial Center)
(702) 431-9775

You will love the NEW and improved Spotlight Lounge in Las Vegas! Come visit the bartenders you know and love, and meet some of the new faces while you're at it. Spotlight Lounge

is a brand new Lounge/Bar offering daily & nightly drink specials at affordable prices. New renovations include Six - 50" Flat Screen TV's, an awesome touch sound system, and even FREE Wifi.



UP NEXT

SHARE Nightclub
Pirahna & 81/2 Nightclub
Club Metro

Do you have the "T" on your favorite Vegas gay bar or nightclub? The QCrew would love hear your thoughts about the changing gay nightlife scene in Las Vegas, email the editor editor@qvegas.com or Tweet us @QVEGAS.



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APRIL IS STD AWARENESS MONTH



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Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 733 9800
Monday and Thursday
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Richard Steele Boxing Club

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Las Vegas, NV 89030
(702) 759-0702
Tuesday and Wednesday
1pm - 5pm



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Wednesday, April 3

The Official Dinah Pre-Party

Hilton Hotel Poolside: 8-11 PM

Thursday, April 4

The Dinah Comedy Show

Zoso Resort Grand Ballroom: 7:30 PM

Featuring Suzanne Westenhoefer, Jackie Loeb, Jacqueline Monahan and our hilarious headliner Fortune Feimster

The Official Dinah Kick Off Party

Zeldaz Nightclub: 9 PM

Featuring a performance by K. Rose

Friday, April 5

Autostraddle Presents

TGIDF Dinah Pool Party

Hilton Hotel Main Pool: 12 PM - 5 PM

Featuring a performance by Anjulie

Dinah Film Series

Hilton Hotel; Doors: 6:30 PM

featuring the premiere of two episodes of "Second Shot" - a new comedy starring Jill Bennett, and Page Hurwitz's much anticipated Dinah documentary, "Out In The Desert"

The Dinah White Party

Zoso Hotel: 8 PM

Including Curve Magazine's exclusive VIP Party
Red Carpet Arrivals 10:30 PM

Featuring a performance by Havana Brown

**>>> CLUB SHIRTS PRESENTS
THE DINAH SHORE**

Saturday, April 6

Logo and After Ellen Present

The Cabana Girl Pool Party

Hilton Hotel Main Pool: 9 AM

Featuring a performance by Kat Graham, & appearances by The Real L Word's Kiyomi McCloskey and Lauren Bedford Russell and other special celebrity guests

Sirus Presents

The 4th Annual Celebrity Dodge Ball Match

Takes place during Cabana Girl Pool Party: 11 AM

One More Lesbian Presents

4th Annual Battle of The Web Series

Takes place during Cabana Girl Pool Party: 5 PM

Hosted by Doria Biddle and Fortune Feimster

Dinah Girls that Rock Pool Party

Zoso Resort: 9 AM

Featuring a performance by Playboy School, Life Down Here and headlining Love Darling, from the Real "L" Word

Bacardi Presents

The Dinah Goes To Monte Carlo

Palm Springs Convention Center: 8 PM

Featuring a full concert with Karmin

Red Carpet Arrivals 10:30 PM

Celebrity Poker with some of your favorite celebsians

Sunday, April 7

SheWired Presents

The Annual Sunday Tea Dance

Hilton Hotel Main Pool: 9 AM

Featuring a performance by Diana King and appearances by Kiyomi McCloskey, Lauren Bedford Russell, Leisha Hailey, Camila Gray, Josh Kane, Katy Tiz and other special celebrity guests.

Concert with Uh Huh Her

Hotel Zoso Resort: 8 PM

Go Mag Presents

Dinah Closing Party

Zoso Resort: 9 PM

Featuring a performance by Katy Tiz



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SUSTAINABLE

SPRINGS PRESERVE SUSTAINABILITY

By: Noah Henderson

*Fashion Photography courtesy of
Amare Photography by Jasmine Thompson*

The 180-acre Springs Preserve campus is a living example of sustainable living, design and architecture. Its buildings are among the most "green" in the nation.

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- Straw bale insulation
- Rammed earth wall



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www.springspreserve.org



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HISTORY OF THE SPRINGS

The rapid increase in Southern Nevada's population outgrew nature's ability to recharge groundwater aquifers naturally. Early inhabitants relied heavily on groundwater thus the Las Vegas Valley Water District was formed in 1947 to regulate overpumping. By the 1960s, residents had continued drilling wells and dried up the Springs altogether by 1962.

The Southern Nevada Water System was constructed in 1968 and began treating and delivering water to the Las Vegas Valley Water District and its neighbors in July of 1971.

Thanks to an archaeological survey showing long-term human occupation of the site, the springs missed being paved over by the transportation department's plans for the Oran K. Gragson Expressway (US95).

Citizens and Las Vegas Water District petitioned to add the springs to the National Register of Historic Places. The springs was registered in 1978. Further protection and preservation of the historic site came in the formation of the Springs Preserve which opened in 2007. This 180-acre cultural institution was designed to

commemorate Las Vegas' dynamic history and to provide a vision for a sustainable future.

The Springs Preserve features museums, galleries, outdoor events, colorful botanical gardens and an interpretive trail system through a scenic wetland habitat.

FASHION FOR A CAUSE RUNWAY SHOW

Springs Preserve Foundation presented its first benefit Runway Fashion Show, Wednesday, March 20. Designers created fashions from sustainable, recycled and reused material including garbage bags, solar panels and old compact discs. Elizabeth Caldren, Jennifer Henry, Reyna Herrera, Dayana Rueda and students from Las Vegas International Academy of Design Institute were among the designers whose work was presented on the runway on fashion models. To produce the event, and to teach and encourage sustainability, the Springs Preserve Foundation partnered with Fashion For a Cause.

Fashion For A Cause Foundation (FFCF) was born to raise awareness and funds to support Nevada's community causes.



Founded by Fashion Photographer Andres Gonzalez and supported by an international network of fashion designers, models, make up and hair stylists, soap opera stars, beauty queens and choreographers, Fashion For a Cause Foundation is proud to support solid and emergent non profit organizations that advocate to people in need among other community needs.

The perfect harmony between Fashion and goodwill is what Fashion For a Cause foundation empowers. Since 2011, Andres Gonzalez and his team of fashion industry professionals have been working to support Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Mente Sana, The Nevada Chapter of Society Inc. and The Nevada Blind Children Foundation.

Their doors are open to build creative fashion projects to raise money for non-profit organizations.

For more information visit: www.fashionforacause.org

QSTYLE BEAUTY TIPS

Beauty and Healthy Self-Esteem

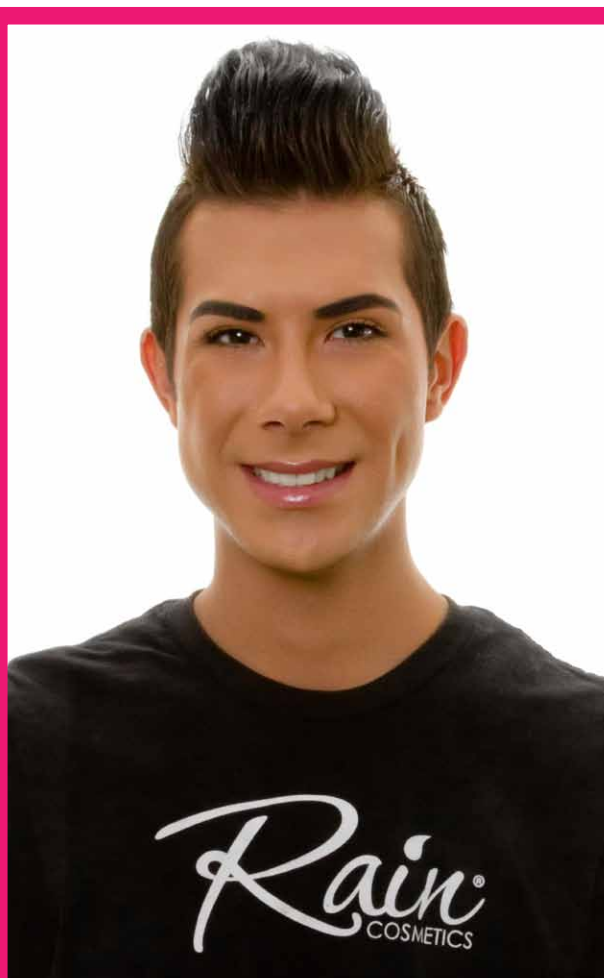
[by Junior Renteria]

National Makeup Artist for Rain Cosmetics

I was always told that beauty comes from within. I truly believe that, but sometimes feeling beautiful on the outside can help you feel beautiful on the inside too. Looking in the mirror and loving how you look can give you an instant confidence boost!

Think about this- every person has stress issues in their life, whether they be work, relationship, emotional or health related. We often complain that there's never enough time in the day to get everything done that we need to do and this leads to us focusing less on ourselves. Over time we can become unsatisfied with our relationships and self-esteem, leaving us feeling undesirable.

The first and most important step to accomplish both internal and external beauty is to make time for yourself. I know this is easier said than done; but you need to pamper yourself, even if only for a few minutes a day.



RELATIONSHIPS

Focus on letting the small things go when you're unhappy with your partner. Fighting over every little thing is a waste of time. Remind yourself how amazing you are and believe it. Remember that the dynamic person who your partner fell in love with is still inside you. Making time for your own beauty and health not only boosts your confidence, but keeps your relationship on its toes and your honey coming back for more.

PERSONAL BEAUTY

Treat yourself to a facial, whether it be at home or in a salon. Switch up your look with a new bold lip color to grab some attention and rock some 'Red Carpet' red lips for a change. Apply some false lashes during the day and wow your co-workers. Take a few extra minutes each day to do something for yourself you don't usually make time to do.

HEALTH

Join a yoga or fitness class. Exercise helps release built up tension and stress. Make time to power nap or meditate even if it's for only 15 minutes a day. Try and let go of one bad eating habit you may have picked up and replace it with a healthy one.

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As the National Makeup Artist and Lead Educator for Rain Cosmetics, a company born in Las Vegas, Junior Renteria is one of the city's rising celebrity makeup artists. Junior has worked alongside some highly-talented photographers and designers, on sets of popular television shows, and several shows on the Las Vegas Strip.

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April 11 @ 11pm

\$10

Dealer's Choice by Patrick Marber

April 12, 13, 19, 20 @ 8pm, April 14, 21 @ 2pm

\$15

Broadway And Beyond Cabaret

April 19 @ 11pm

\$15

The Balloon Master Show

April 26 @ 10pm

\$10

The Enoch Augustus Scott Experience

April 27 @ 11pm

\$15

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2013 REGIONAL PRIDE CALENDAR

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April 3 - April 7
www.thedinah.com

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Phoenix, AZ PRIDE

April 6 - April 7
www.phoenixpride.org

Dinah Las Vegas

April 25 - April 29
www.dinahshoreweekend.com

Long Beach, CA PRIDE

May 18 - May 19
longbeachpride.com

Gay Days Orlando, FL

May 28 - June 3
www.gaydays.com
Orlando's Gay Days Celebration is a total gay and lesbian vacation experience. Gay Days is comprised of multiple events staged at world-famous attractions, gay & lesbian clubs, and unique venues secured for the purpose of creating a gay and lesbian atmosphere at Orlando's greatest theme parks and at multiple parties occurring during this long weekend.

Utah Pride (Washington Square)

May 30 - June 2
www.utahpridefestival.org

Los Angeles, CA PRIDE

June 7 - June 9
www.lapride.org

Denver, CO PRIDE

June 15 - June 16
www.glbtcolorado.org

Flagstaff, AZ PRIDE

June 15 - June 16
www.flagstaffpride.org

San Francisco, CA PRIDE

June 23 - June 30
www.sfpride.org

San Diego, CA Pride

July 12 - July 14
www.sdpride.org

Gay Days Anaheim, CA

Oct 4 - Oct 5
www.gaydaysanaheim.com
Years ago, Disneyland used to have a private party one night of the year for gays and lesbians. When the event was canceled in 1998, Gay Day Anaheim was created. Similar to the event in Orlando, Gay Day, Gay Days Anaheim is a "mix-in," meaning gay people and straight people mingle together; the park is open to the general public. Also like Orlando's Gay Day, everyone wears RED shirts to identify one another.

Gay Days Las Vegas, NV

Sept. 3 - Sept. 9
www.gaydays.com

Pahrump, NV PRIDE

Sept. 6 - Sept. 7
www.lasvegaspride.org

Las Vegas, NV PRIDE

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Mindfulness is the key. It's trusting your own intuition to know what's truly important in every moment. I once lost my bags while traveling and had to go to a key meeting in *beach sandals* in the dead-cold of winter. Ironically, it didn't "break the deal," but rather "broke the ice" by offering a humorous glimpse into the joy of being human. Not only did I book the job, I learned a great spiritual lesson: the best product or service I can offer to my clients, is me.

Calm the Mind

Attempt to turn negative daily experiences into positive spiritual lessons to calm the mind. So, here you are in that featured speaker conference event where you *suddenly, only wake up to find drool coming out of your mouth*. Use that "Sermon on the Mount" expert for what he's good for-- an opportunity to *silently combat him*, enlisting your East vs. West "Open Eye Meditation Techniques" that you learned in your past life as a Buddhist monk in the Himalayas.

Focus your open and "deeply loving gaze" on his nose. Note the fine details such as its shape, sensuousness, and oversized pores. Focusing intently on subtle details is the key to a quick meditation and mental break. Use your visual focus for two to three minutes to remove thoughts and anxieties, while allowing the speaker to become appreciative of your unending attentiveness to his every word and, possibly ... to become a little "turned on" too.

Meditation seems too fancy a term for what it really is: a simple focused break from the chatter of a busy mind. "Focus tools", such as candles, can help. They flicker just enough for you to become "mesmerized by the flame", enabling you to sense spiritual energy and calm filling your body.

Suitable "focus tools" are in all environments. Pick an object on the wall behind the person speaking. Dwell intently on its every detail. Focus on the Marge Simpson blue beehive hairdo in front of you, or the variation in the sound of the wind. Focusing is about intimately absorbing an ordinary object. For a quick break in your hotel room between meetings, choose any humdrum item and become aware of its simple yet powerful presence for just two to three minutes.

"Be Good to Yourself" on Business Trips

Attend the meetings that intuitively seem to matter and become *~The Great Houdini~* at those where vibes are off. When the guest speaker offers his ever-enthralling revelation of great proportions that "the customer is the most important person in your business," put on your best emmy-award-winning cameo performance: reach frantically for your PDA and ... with a *feigned look of sheer horror* across your face, quietly (yet *most* urgently), exit the room. Head for the outdoor pool or wet-bar for some quality Vitamin D from the sun for your body & soul.



© Davi Sales

At night, do a true "Microsoft Exchange." Turn off the PDA and indulge in an evening of massage, a walk under the stars, an engaging book, or in simple solitude, journal about your spiritual self while away from family, home & routine

Increase Spiritual Awareness

Schedule an extra day or two to visit calming natural or spiritual places in the local city. Find a local temple, a spiritual awareness training event on www.meetup.com, or an inspiring connection with mother earth that fuels your imagination and feeds an awareness of a more spiritual existence beyond physical reality.

With mindfulness, your next business trip can bring you spiritual balance, creativity, inspirational problem solving, fresh insights into your field or industry, valuable connections through focus, and benefits to your business through an increased awareness of your soul and its spiritual needs. Stress? Tossed away like a spent boarding pass.

For more information about connecting with your intuitive compass & soul's purpose, please visit: www.PsychicMike.com



About the Author: Mike Schopp is a Psychic Medium & Clairvoyant Counselor with 20 years of experience of working via telephone and skype. Educated at the Arthur Findlay College for Psychic Mediums in Essex, England and the California School of Professional Psychology, he blends channeling & humor with his professional experiences in counseling, career assessment, and organizational development to jump-start others to identify & achieve their soul's dreams. He has provided entertaining psychic & mediumship development courses in China, Thailand, England & USA.

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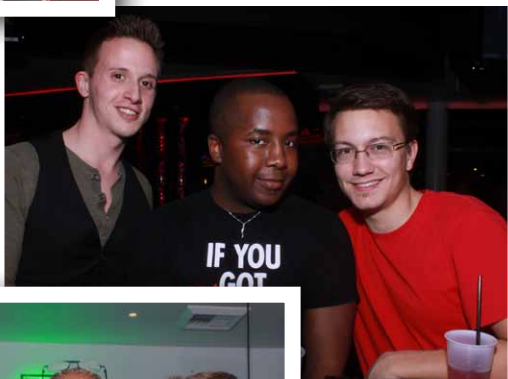
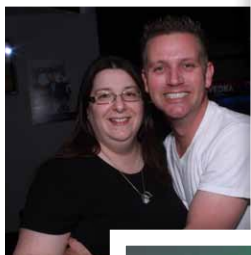
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HEALTH GUIDE

QVegas Magazine is pleased to introduce the *QVegas Health Guide*. This revived publication is available at many locations where you'll find QVegas.

Finding an LGBT-friendly health care provider can be a daunting task for LGBT patients. Even though LGBT equality has made great strides in recent years, and laws and policies are in place to protect patient records and ensure privacy, choosing a provider can still be an uncomfortable process. 29% of LGB patients and 73% of transgender patients believe they would be treated differently by medical personnel because of their LGBT status.

Advertisers in the *QVegas Health Guide* welcome LGBT patients and clients, and show support for the community at large.

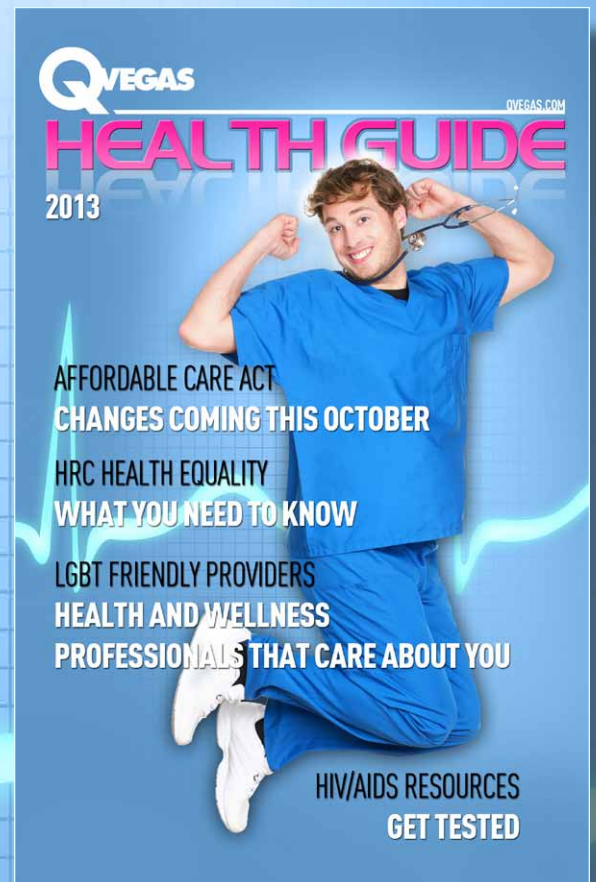
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Inside The Guide

Learn more about the Affordable Care Act and how it will impact you next year.

Find out how HRC evaluates healthcare facilities around the nation.

Read more about health and wellness professionals that support the LGBT community.



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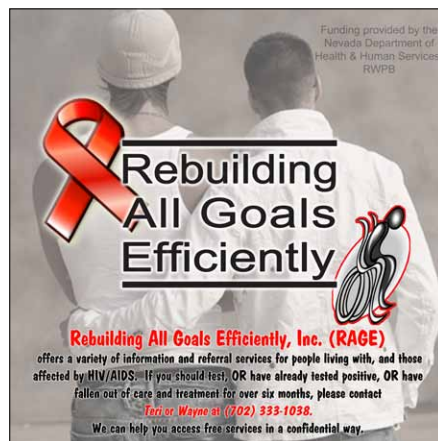
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QVegas Business Alliance is a Nevada non-profit corporation and the local affiliated LGBT Chamber of Commerce with the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC). Our mission is to advocate, promote and facilitate the success of LGBT and ally businesses in the Las Vegas Valley and Southern Nevada region.

QBA membership is open to any business organization or individual in the Las Vegas area. Whether you are a small business owner or an individual working for a business that is LGBT-owned or an ally-owned business or employee serving LGBT customers, you are welcome to join.

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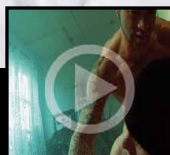
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Nevada Gay Rodeo Association BIGHORN RODEO

THE LAST WORD:

RIDING INTO THE NIGHT

[by Laura Scott, Rodeo Director]

The Nevada Gay Rodeo Association presents: Bighorn Rodeo 16, "Riding into the Night" over Mother's Day Weekend (May 9 - 12, 2013) at Horseman's Park located at 5800 East Flamingo Road. That's right, this year we are having a nighttime rodeo on Friday and Saturday starting at 4:00pm and for only a \$5 admission. Gay Rodeo isn't your typical rodeo, y'all! NGRA is an affiliate of the International Gay Rodeo Association with 28 associations throughout the United States and Canada. Events in gay rodeo include rough stock (chute dogging, bull riding, and steer riding), speed (barrel racing, pole bending, and flag racing), and roping events (calf roping on foot, mounted break-away, and team roping). Unique to gay rodeo are the camp events (steer decorating, goat dressing, and wild drag). The Bighorn 16 Rodeo is under the leadership of Rodeo Director Laura Scott and Assistant Rodeo Directors Douglas Graff and Matt Cox.

LUXOR LAS VEGAS GOES COUNTRY

This year, we have some fun and exciting events taking place over rodeo weekend. Bighorn Rodeo Kick-Off begins Thursday, May 9th followed by Contestant Registrations Friday, May 10th. Enjoy the rodeo, entertainment, vendor booths and of course the hot cowboys and cowgirls with happy hour libations.

Saturday morning May 11th we are hosting a special Poker Tournament inside our host hotel, Luxor Las

Vegas. Details to follow but we know it will be a great time and it's a wonderful opportunity for those of you who are maybe a little scared to get on a Vegas poker table, to join us and get your feet wet for the next time.

Sit poolside at the Luxor Las Vegas Sunday from 11am to 1pm to watch Ribbons, buckles and cash awards are presented to those cowboys and cowgirls with the top performances. Then immediately after the awards ceremony, Luxor Las Vegas and Temptation Sundays pool party are opening one week early to coincide with rodeo weekend. Join us for the biggest LGBT pool party in Las Vegas.

This year in our Entertainment tent, NGRA wants to show that we truly are an International Organization by giving you some Latin flavor in DJ music as well as guest performers.

NGRA is a 501c (4) organization and works hard year-round with many fundraising events to produce Bighorn annually. Every year the rodeo selects a charitable partner. This year the Rodeo Planning Committee has selected The Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence SADAP program and The Community Outreach Medical Center as their beneficiaries. For additional information, and all updates, please refer to the following website: www.ngra.com. We look forward to seeing you in the stands!



EVENT LINEUP

THURSDAY, MAY 9TH

Bighorn Rodeo Kick-Off
8PM-10PM LUXOR LAS VEGAS

FRIDAY, MAY 10TH

**Contestant Registration
& Big Horn Brunch**
9AM TO 12PM HORSEMAN'S PARK

Bighorn Rodeo
4PM HORSEMAN'S PARK
(HAPPY HOUR 4-6PM)

Latin hour
9PM-10PM HORSEMAN'S PARK

SATURDAY, MAY 11TH

Bighorn Rodeo Poker Tournament
10AM LUXOR LAS VEGAS

Final Day of Rodeo Action
4PM HORSEMAN'S PARK
(HAPPY HOUR 4-6PM)

Latin hour
9PM-10PM HORSEMAN'S PARK

SUNDAY, MAY 12TH

Bighorn Rodeo Awards Ceremony
11AM - 1PM POOLSIDE LUXOR LAS VEGAS

Temptation Sundays Pool Party
1PM POOLSIDE LUXOR LAS VEGAS

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