

THE LGBTQ VOICE SINCE 1978

MAY 2014
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QVEGAS

THE ENTERTAINMENT ISSUE

& ANDREW & KEVIN

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UPLIFTING DUO

EATING OUT

WHERE VEGAS CHEFS DINE:
SAGE @ ARIA

THRILL RIDES

ZIP-LINES, ROLLERCOASTERS,
AND ACROPHOBIC AMUSEMENTS

PLUS

R.R.L. BUTTERSCOTCH
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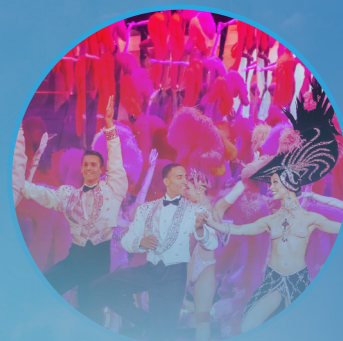
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Cover Art by Janise 'Noah' Henderson

Photography by Isaac Brekken

Courtesy of Zarkana at ARIA Resort & Casino

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Editor's Note

THE VOYAGE THROUGH LAS VEGAS

Entertainment in Las Vegas

—if you dare take the ride—is an incomparable whirlpool of tantalizing fantasy, a dash of chaos, and an extraordinary dose of therapy. So let yourself be entertained, it's OK.

Whether your trip to Las Vegas is your first or 50th, whether you've lived here 4 months or 40 years there's always something new to discover in the city that truly never sleeps, the entertainment capital of the world.

May is our Entertainment Issue and we are highlighting re-imagined acts on the strip, Eating Out on the town and spilling the "T" on what the locals are brewing up to celebrate the strides made in the journey towards equality and much more.

In my travels around the city I experienced internationally recognized best female beatboxer, Butterscotch. This uniquely gifted artist beatboxes, sings and plays either guitar or piano when performing. You may have spotted her as a finalist on NBC's "America's Got Talent" or wowing the crowd as a guest on



Amare Photography by Jasmine Thompson

Ellen DeGeneres' talk show. Now you can catch this upcoming musician right here in Las Vegas at Rose.Rabbit.Lie. inside The Cosmopolitan Las Vegas.

Join us right back here next month for the Swimsuit Issue. In the meantime, you have less than a month to get to #WerQ on those plans for the best summer ever in Las Vegas, already in the city? Viva Las Vegas!

Log on and 'Like Us' on Facebook (Facebook.com/qvegasmagazine) and 'Follow Us' on Twitter (@QVegas) to be the first to know about new events and happenings.

Janise "Noah" Henderson

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HRC LAS VEGAS ANNUAL GALA... 9 years and counting!

[by Ron Quinn]

This year the 9th Annual Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Gala will be held at The Wynn on May 17th. The HRC Gala is the single most important fundraiser for the Las Vegas Human Rights Campaign and the opportunity to honor many in the LGBTQ community along with our allies. Not only does it provide the financial capital HRC needs to move forward, it inspires the much needed "human" capital to further drive this movement. HRC is the largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans, and its vision is articulated in 32 HRC communities nationwide entirely by volunteers, and over 1.7 million members and supporters. The HRC Gala creates a "synergy" at all levels to achieve our fundamental right for equality. There have been many accomplishments in the LGBT movement in recent years, or for that matter recent months, yet there is still much to realize including anti-bullying legislation, the passage of a fully inclusive Employment Non Discrimination Act, health and safety of our LGBTQ youth and our aging LGBTQ community. HRC continues to educate through the HRC Foundation with programs such as Welcoming Schools, Faith and Religion, All Children All Families, Workplace Equality, Health and Aging, to name a few.

I invite you to experience the HRC Gala, "We are Human, We are Equal", on May 17th. No matter how you may support the evening, I encourage you to experience the magic of this Gala, whether as an attendee, volunteer, sponsor, silent auction donor, or advertiser. Not only will you be supporting the vital work of an important organization, our hope is that the program will leave you energized and inspired, as it has me year after year.

I remember my first Las Vegas HRC Gala. The year was 2006 for the Inaugural Las Vegas Gala. My spouse

and I were at a local LGBT fundraising event that summer, and were asked whether or not we would be attending the upcoming Human Rights Campaign Gala in two weeks. Curious, I inquired to find out more about the event and HRC in Las Vegas which until then I only primarily identified as a bumper sticker. As residents for over 15 years, we had a limited perception of the Las Vegas LGBT community through an event or two each year mostly at Las Vegas PRIDE. Yet this was to be an exciting and new event in Las Vegas, a formal black tie affair! We arrived for our very first HRC Gala, tuxedos and all, in 100 plus degree temperature. The Gala did not disappoint in any way.

We were mesmerized by the programming, the silent auction, the speakers, politicians, entertainers, and above all being among 700+ members and allies of the LGBT community in one place. Such in itself, captivated us. We didn't even know that many LGBT people lived in Las Vegas, let alone seen in one room!! We met many in the community, and developed new friendships...new relationships. We no longer felt like we were among a very few anymore, albeit scattered, we were part of a larger LGBT community in Las Vegas. It was a memorable evening. That night, and over the years as a result of HRC interactions, everyone we met immediately felt like family. Many have become family to us, and continue as such to this day. We had a sense of being "in sync".

Though not "out and about" much in our community at the time, I had become intrigued of the mission of HRC, and Las Vegas as an emerging LGBTQ community. Thereafter we attended the 2nd Gala, and the 3rd Gala, which each year the bar seemed to rise from the one prior.

The turning point came with the 4th Gala from being an attendee to being

The HRC Gala creates a "synergy" at all levels to achieve our fundamental right for equality.

part of the volunteer organizing committee. This one for me was even more enlightening, for at this time I was not just a spectator. My job for the 2009 Gala was to organize and aid all the volunteers we need to insure the event is a success and moreover appear flawless to our supporters and attendees. I can remember it like it was yesterday! I recall the many volunteers that night many of whom are still volunteers today, some in community leadership roles.

Over the years, while simply attending or contributing to the effort, I witnessed the Las Vegas Community showing support of HRC, with a desire to be a part of this movement while developing new friendships. I saw volunteers come to this event year after year, many whom had never volunteered before or with HRC, fully engaged during the evening while being a part of change. The gift of their time, regardless of duty or task, made a difference. I watched these volunteers develop new relationships, and lifelong friendships, likely which never would have occurred in any other circumstance.

It had been that same "energy" at every Gala prior, and has been at every Gala since. I hope to see YOU on May 17th

Purchase your tickets to the 2014 Las Vegas HRC Gala today:

www.hrc.org/lasvegas

HRC Gala sponsorship
Latoya Holman
latoya0303@gmail.com

Silent or Live Auction Donations
Kristine Kuzemka
kristinekuzemka@gmail.com

Volunteer
Sean VanGorder

lvgalavolunteers@gmail.com

Among other community roles, Ron Quinn currently volunteers as Las Vegas HRC Steering Committee Co-Chairs, the Area Representative and sits on the National Board of Governors.



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COMMUNITY TIES

LAS VEGAS LGBTQ NEWS

THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK: QUADZ VIDEO BAR!

[By Chris Mason]

I personally would like to welcome to the community a new night spot for everyone to enjoy, QUADZ Video Bar, located in the heart of the Fruit Loop. This pleasant addition to the scene is definitely bringing new flavors and new ideas to the world of LGBTQ entertainment. I was fortunate enough to attend the opening of QUADZ and was not sure what to expect going in, but I was not disappointed and I look forward to this place being a long standing friend of the surrounding area, and of course our LGBTQ community here in Las Vegas. Hot bartenders and stiff drinks made for a fabulous first visit to QUADZ.

The clean and supreme remodeled space, formally the Buffalo, has definitely made a splash and planted its roots right off of Paradise. I am hoping it grows to become the staple I think it can be and is here for a long time to come.

I know there is one thing that the majority of you care about... DRINKS! Don't worry, they have them. They definitely didn't forget that part BUT they also threw a curve ball and brought something to the table that we haven't see yet here in Vegas. Are you ready for this? THEY PLAY SHOW TUNES!

Imagine a sleek, somewhat rowdy bar setting, but instead of



sports or obnoxiously loud top 40 pop music there were classic show tunes highlighting the background of theatre and music history. Got it? Now you are at the new QUADZ Video Bar.

Yes girl! You read right. Throw on your red ruby slippers and prance your butt down the yellow brick road (Harmon/Paradise) and have your own fabulous experience at QUADZ. Fun music and an even more than fun crowd is sure to take you beyond the rainbow. The staff is friendly and everyone is knowledgeable and professional. ALL traits that we enjoys seeing at establishments around town.

It is always great to welcome a new LGBTQ business into the community and I am more than excited to say "Welcome QUADZ!" New ideas and exciting concepts are what this town is all about and I will take the liberty of speaking for many by saying we are glad you are here and can't wait to see all that you can do! I think you will fit right in!

THE LEGACY OF MATTHEW SHEPARD WITH JUDY SHEPARD AT THE CENTER

[By Janise "Noah" Henderson]

Monday, March 24, 2014, Judy Shepard presented "The Legacy of Matthew Shepard" at the Gay & Lesbian Center of Southern Nevada (The Center). This event was co-sponsored by The Center, John C. Kish Foundation and the Anti-Defamation League.

October 7, 1998, 18-year old Matthew Shepard, Judy Shepard's son was found beaten to near death and later died in the hospital on October 12, 1998.

During this presentation, Judy navigated attendees through not only the death of her son, the prosecution and sentencing of his murderers, but also the formation of the Matthew Shepard Foundation and the Laramie project. In an effort to "Replace Hate with Understanding, Compassion, & Acceptance" Judy and Dennis Shepard have created the Matthew Shepard Foundation. Through its varied educational, outreach and, advocacy programs and by continuing to tell Matthew's story the legacy of Matthew Shepherd continues to change the way hate in this country is talked about.

Hearing Matthew's story from his mother challenges one to standup, speakup and speak out about hate. Inspiring more, is this mother's compassion and joy that seems to keep the legacy of Matthew Shepard alive helping to push schools, communities and families recognize that hate and discrimination still exist and that by talking it out, we can find understanding, compassion and acceptance.

After a decade of advocacy the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act



(HCPA) was passed and signed into law 2009. This law expands on the 1969 U.S. federal hate-crime law to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. A significant achievement yet there are laws in some states that do not fully protect its residents.

NEVADA'S ANTI-HATE CRIME PREVENTION JOURNEY

2001, Nevada amends its hate crime laws to include sexual orientation.

2011, a bill was introduced to ensure that Nevada residents would be fully protected by the federal HCPA but died by a single vote in the Senate.

February 28 2013, Senate Bill 139, which would expand provisions governing criminal and civil liability for certain crimes to include crimes motivated by the victims gender identity or expression is introduced in the Senate.

April 16, 2013, SB139's final passage in the Senate

May 20, 2013 SB139 final page in the Assembly.

May 21, 2013 SB139 was signed into law and took effect October 1, 2013.

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* Casino worker rear-ended in motor vehicle accident where insurance company argued the force of impact could not have produced the injuries. Client had injuries to one disc in neck and one disc in lower back. 40% Contingency Fee.
** Client was on a bicycle and hit by an automobile. Client suffered a broken leg and was in a wheel chair at her wedding. 40% Contingency Fee. *** 29 year old healthy client rear-ended by a corporation's driver. Disc injury in neck. No Legal Fee.

2 STEPS FORWARD...

[by CJ Sturgis]

CHANGES FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN ITALY

The Civil Court of Grosseto in Italy ordered the recognition of a same-sex marriage contracted in New York. The move is hailed as step toward marriage equality. "This is a unique precedent for our country," said Sergio Lo Giudice, a senator and past president of Italy's leading gay rights group Arcigay.



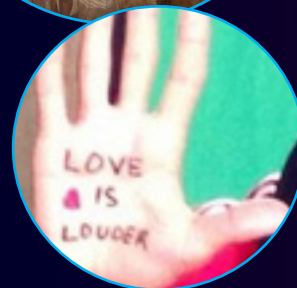
PHARELL COMES OUT FOR EQUALITY FOR ALL

Music phenomenon who has everyone feeling "Happy," Pharell Williams, comes out for gender and marriage equality on the Ellen Show. "We have legislators and legislation in place that tells women what they can and can't do with their bodies," Williams said. "And when I say equality, I mean equality for everybody. Who are you telling who they can marry and who they can't? What is this? This is 2014."



LESSON LEARNED BY ANGRY TWEETER

After an angry fan tweeted a homophobic slur when Major League Soccer's Mike Magee missed a penalty kick, the Chicago Fire player decided to use the situation as an opportunity for education. In response to the homophobic tweet, Magee took a picture of himself holding up his hand with "Love Is Louder" written on the palm. And as a result, the tweeter went on to apologize to Magee, expressing his respect for the soccer player's profession.



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SINCERELY, YOUR LESBIAN NEIGHBOR

Yet another letter has gone viral. A letter that appears to have been written by a woman who had the word "lesbian" used as an insult against her by a neighbor is letting her lesbian voice be heard. The unknown woman who is, in fact, a lesbian, wrote and taped the letter to her neighbor's door after hilariously reclaiming all of the stereotypes that she embodies. Her neighbor probably didn't see that coming.



ONLY " " LIKE
KEEP THEIR PANTS
DOWN!!!!
PULL YOUR PANTS UP!!!
OR
PROUD TO BE " "

1 STEP BACK

TEACHER RESIGNS AFTER COMING OUT DUE TO PARENTAL COMPLAINTS

Author of *Challenging Homophobia in Primary Schools*, Andrew Moffat, was targeted by a group of parents whose religion took an opposing stance to homosexuality. Moffat's book has been used in literacy lessons for young children at several schools, including Chilwell Croft where he was teaching. After coming out at a school assembly, where his student made a sign reading "Gay is Good," a group of Christian and Muslim parents told Moffat that they didn't want their children learning that it's OK to be gay.

CONTROVERSIAL SIGN AT GAS STATION

Georgia convenience store and gas station owner Anil Patel, posted a sign using anti-gay slurs that read, "Only faggot like to keep their pants down!!! Pull your pants up or be proud to be faggot!!!!" Patel decided to put the sign up to keep customers from coming in with baggy clothing, and as a result, Patel came off as ignorant and discriminatory.

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GARRETT'S GAY GUIDE.COM



Starting this month, QVegas replaces our "That's So Vegas" event calendar with an all new print version of Garrett's Gay Guide. This new format builds on the partnership between QVegas and Garrett's Gay Guide to bring you an even better LGBTQ guide to Las Vegas. The completely re-designed map and pocket guide lets you keep the daily event guide and map with you. You can also view these and more events online in the QVegas iPhone® App.

May 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Get Listed! Post your event to yellow.qvegas.com for free and we'll consider it for publication.

AIDS Walk Las Vegas

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Join Grand Marshals Penn & Teller – along with local celebrities, businesses and community leaders at the University of Las Vegas campus located at 4505 S. Maryland Parkway for Nevada's most significant fundraising event in the fight against HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS is EVERYONE's public health issue. AIDS Walk Las Vegas is Nevada's most significant fundraising event and it funds supportive services designed to stabilize and empower clients living with or affected by HIV. Register now or support your favorite team because together we make a difference!

<http://www.afanlv.org>

Wize Womyn LV: Spring Fling

Saturday, May 10, 2014

Join the Wize Womyn of Las Vegas for a dance open to mature womyn who want to dance to the beat of Rock n Roll!. This year's spring fling is a "sock hop" dance with music from 50's, 60's and beyond. The dance will be held at The Center on Maryland Parkway.

<http://meetup.com/wizewomynlv>

GLO After Dark

Saturday, May 10

Temptation Sundays, Las Vegas' original and longest running Gay Pool party kicks off the season with

an after-dark season opener. Join all the hottest locals (and some pretty sexy visitors) poolside at Luxor during GLO. You'll want to be seen so, wear your most vibrant swimsuit because the pool will be open. Resident DJ Matt along with tasty drink specials will have everyone in the mood to make a splash as we welcome summer and the fifth season of Temptation Sundays.

<http://luxor.com/lgbt>

HRC Las Vegas Gala

Saturday, May 17, 2014

Please join Dinner Committee Co-Chairs Steve Amend, Latoya Holman & Kristine Kuzemka for the 9th Annual Las Vegas Dinner held at the Wynn Las Vegas. As you know, many influential citizens will gather at this event to celebrate the strides Human Rights Campaign has made toward achieving #equality for our community this past year, while preparing for the work ahead in the year to come.

<http://www.hrc.org/events/entry/hrc-las-vegas-gala>

Long Beach Pride

Saturday - Sunday, May 17-18, 2014

The Long Beach Lesbian and Gay Pride Celebration has become one of the premiere Pride events nationwide now attracting over 80,000 participants over two days. The

Festival Celebration includes seven large dance areas including a main stage which has featured musical artists such as Grammy Award Winner Jennifer Hudson, Queen Latifah, Mya, India.Arie., and Village People.

<http://www.longbeachpride.com>

Canvas

Monday, May 26

Provoke your sensual side and explore your voyeuristic desires at the intimate Savile Row inside Luxor Hotel & Casino. Savile Row welcomes gay and gay-friendly guests to Canvas, an evening featuring unique cocktails, as well as familiar favorites, blended with vintage pop music, and a seductive performance twist. Hosted by J.Son of nakedboynews.com, the evening begins at 8:30 pm. Entry is just \$10. Free entry is available by texting VEGAS to 77948.

<http://luxor.com/lgbt>

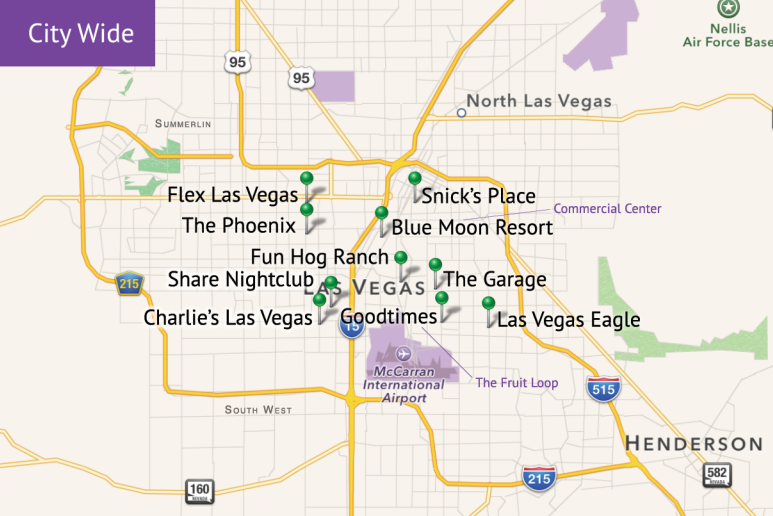
Mirror Mirror

Saturday, May 31, 2014

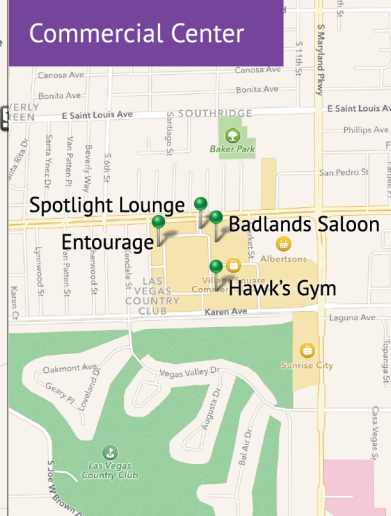
Mirror Mirror returns May 31 to Vanity Nightclub inside the Hard Rock Hotel. This month's event is inspired by the Brothers Grimm classic tale of Sleeping Beauty. Nick Ayler provides sounds with Disco Dollie hosting the evening.

<http://www.mirrormirror.lv>

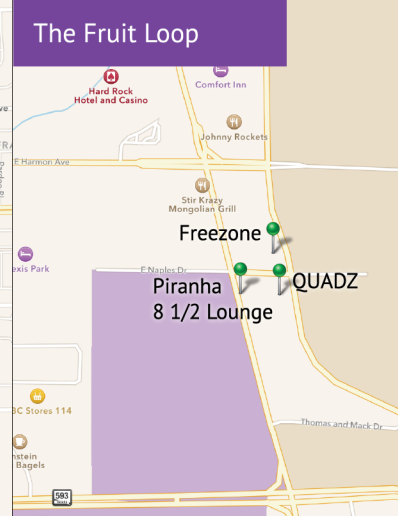
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Commercial Center



The Fruit Loop



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Temptation
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Inside Cosmopolitan

G Revo Sundays
Inside The Mirage

G Festival Opening Party
The Stratosphere

Canvas @
Savile Row
Inside Luxor

Xposed! @
Tropicana

Krave

G Mirror Mirror @ Vanity
Inside The Hard Rock Hotel



The G-Spot indicates an event hosted or sponsored by Garrett's Gay Guide.

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sundays

MIRROR
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SOCIAL
TUESDAYS

festival

Every Sunday Night
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and No Cover with Guest List

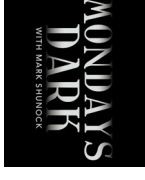
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- REVO Sundays at Revolution Lounge inside Mirage Hotel
- Temptation Sundays at Luxor Pool (Starts May 18)
- Service Industry Night at Flex Lounge
- Country Line Dance Lessons at Charlie's Las Vegas
- Charlie's Amazing Drag Review at Charlie's Las Vegas
- Ladies Night at FreeZone

- Mondays Dark at Hard Rock Hotel (3rd Monday)
- Martini Mondays at Flex Lounge
- Liquor Bust at Spotlight Lounge
- Karaoke at Charlie's Las Vegas
- S.I.N. Mondays at The Garage

- Social Tuesdays
- Drag Queen Bingo at Charlie's
- Karaoke Night at FreeZone
- Trashy Tuesdays at Hawk's Gym

- Karaoke Wednesdays at Flex Lounge
- Skin Mens' Underwear Night at Charlie's
- Game Night at FreeZone
- Wild Wednesdays with India Ferrah at Piranha Nightclub
- Confidential at Bond Bar

Sundays

Mondays

Tuesdays

Wednesdays



Saturdays

Fridays

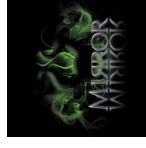
Thursdays

- Mirror Mirror at Hard Rock Hotel (Last Saturday)
- Ladies Q Social at Lady Sylvia's (Every 2nd Saturday)
- Goddess with India Ferrah at Piranha Nightclub
- Drag Madness at FreeZone
- CumUnion at Hawk's Gym

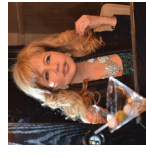
- Pia Zadora at Piero's Italian Cuisine
- Blame it on the Alcohol Fridays at Krave Las Vegas
- Dance Party at Flex Lounge
- F*ck It Fridays at Piranha Nightclub
- Drag Madness at FreeZone
- Stripper Circus at Share Nightclub

- HRC/QVegas 3rd Thursday PRISM (2nd Thursdays)
- Foreplay at at Share Nightclub
- Boys Night at FreeZone
- Tat Thursdays at Entourage
- Karaoke at The Phoenix

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SAGE@ARIA



[by Michael Barbieri]
myvegasobsession.com

Ask the people who work in Las Vegas' restaurant industry whose food they like to eat, many of them will tell you it's Chef Shawn McClain. Ask the servers and executive chefs where they'd go for a great fine dining experience, they'll tell you SAGE!

With a discreet, elegant entrance at the far end of the registration area of the Aria Resort and Casino, Sage is home to Chef McClain's Creative American fare. Built on the farm-to-table movement, which emphasizes super-fresh ingredients, the menu at Sage is fascinating - modern, yet rustic; high-end, yet playful.

Considering the restraint of the restaurant's entrance, the interior, with its regal gold and purple decor, is quite stunning. To the left, a long, sleek bar, is bookended by two large murals, each lit dramatically in deep purple. The high ceilings, hanging, fringed lamps, and glowing gold panels behind the bar, create a Gatsbyesque glamour that is almost cinematic. Beyond the bar, the dining area is no less impressive - gold-hued chandeliers, soaring columns, recessed lighting, plush purple banquettes, shiny black tabletops, and two more murals complete the dark, romantic atmosphere. I had eaten at Sage once before and enjoyed it very much. This time, I was excited to return with my partner in tow.

Our friendly, ebullient server introduced himself, took our cocktail orders and left us to study the menu. Although divided into 5 simple categories: Starters, Salads, Steaks and Braises, Lighter Meats, and Pasta and Seafood, the selections were all very tempting. We placed our orders and sat back, enjoying the ambiance and each other's company.

We were first treated to a lovely *amuse-bouche* of **Vancouver Island Kushi Oysters** - beautiful, deeply cupped little bivalves, sweet and not too briny, their flavor accentuated nicely by the Piquillo Pepper and a bracing, lightly acidic Aged Tequila Mignonette. My favorite detail was the dab of Tabasco sorbet - an unexpected way to deliver that final touch of heat. Next came our appetizers. Vincent chose the **Veal Sweetbreads** with Glazed Bacon, White Polenta and Trumpet Mushrooms. This was an earthy offering, with a pleasantly spongy texture from the organ meat and the bacon brightening up the slight gaminess of the dish. Not what I was expecting, but very good nonetheless. I selected the **Foie-gras Custard Brûlée** with Bing Cherries, Cocoa Nibs and

Toasted Salted Brioche - layers of light, smooth custard and tart cherries, topped with shaved foie-gras, and cocoa nibs to mimic the crunch of the crust on a great creme brulée. While all the elements were delicious on their own, when combined and spread on the brioche, the mix of sweet, savory, buttery, and salty flavors was sheer heaven! Licking the bowl would've been very bad manners, so I resisted the urge!

Our entrées arrived. For Vincent, the **Maine Day Boat Scallops** with Braised Oxtail, Wild Mushrooms, and a Salted Caramel Reduction - four enormous, perfectly seared scallops surrounding a generous mound of broccoli rabe, atop tender shreds of oxtail. There was a sexy sort of Surf 'n' Turf interplay between the scallops and the beef, while the mushrooms lent the dish a depth of flavor that countered the caramel sauce, preventing it from being too cloying. I had chosen one of that evening's specials, the **Maine Lobster Mezzalunas** - half-moon shaped ravioli filled with mascarpone, lobster, and scallion, topped with a creamy sauce made with the lobster stock. Studded with bits of celery, lobster claw and knuckle meat, mache, and gorgeous chanterelle mushrooms, the ravioli had a delicate flavor, and the sweetness of the lobster and the bite of the scallion kept me wanting more! The chanterelles were a nice touch, providing a slightly woody undertone and an almost toasted texture.

It's worth mentioning that on my first visit to Sage, I tried the **Wagyu Beef Tartare** appetizer, featuring fun crispy chocolate ribbons and a slow poached egg that gave the nicely spiced beef a very luxe creaminess. My entree, the **Braised Veal Cheeks** were, for me, a surprising experiment. Animal cheeks, as a cut, had gained popularity in the food world and I was curious to try them. Tender, flavorful, and just a

bit gelatinous, they won me over and I'd certainly order them again.

Our desserts, as it turned out, were just as intriguing as the rest of the meal. Vincent opted for the **Effervescent Grape Mousse** - A Greek yogurt posset served with a lychee sorbet and carbonated champagne grapes. Light and refreshing, the mousse had an addictive smoothness, contrasted by the sweet, tiny carbonated grapes that gave each bite a Pop Rocks-like crackle. My choice, the **Foie-gras Ice Cream Sundae** just sounded too weird not to order. A combination of foie-gras ice cream, almond sponge cake, macerated blackberries, peanut butter caramel, and salted peanuts at the bottom, there was a lot going on here! With the peanuts and caramel fighting the other ingredients a bit, I'm not certain if the dessert was entirely successful. Although the current version of the sundae uses different ingredients, I was glad to have tried the one I did.

Another remarkable touch at Sage is the tableside Absinthe service, featuring a variety of recently legalized absinthes from around the world. One more fabulous way to indulge yourself. We declined, but instead were given complimentary shots of White Chocolate and Almond Coffee Soup. A dreamy, comforting concoction, It was like a General Foods International Coffee, only made by a Master Chef! We left, feeling as though our dinner had been an adventure and that we'd both definitely return.

With surprising, often unfamiliar ingredients, adventurous eaters and lovers of good food may be conflicted as to which tempting dish to order, but the incredibly knowledgeable staff will help you make selections that will satisfy and delight you. The menu may change depending on the freshness and availability of local ingredients, but the one constant on the menu at Sage is innovation.

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The name Zarkana is a fusion of the words "bizarre" and "arcane." The twisted fictional world of Zarkana is an elusive destination that is fantastic yet bizarre.

Zarkana performs Friday through Tuesday at 7:00pm and 9:30pm at Aria.

Tickets are available at the Aria Box Office or online at www.cirquedusoleil.com

Photo Credit: Isaac Brekken



ANDREW & KEVIN

Zarkana's Twin Aerialists

This Spring, Cirque du Soleil presented a re-imagined Zarkana. The setting for this show is an abandoned theatre that comes to life. Two clowns revive the circus acts and the stage comes alive with an extraordinary visual display.

One of the new acts that is sure to appeal to our gay readers is the aerial strap act of Andrew and Kevin. These twin brothers emerging from the depths of the theater attach themselves to straps and fly high into the air. Their graceful and sensual movements have you thinking lovers, not brothers. The stunning display of intertwined male forms dance high above the stage.

The twins aren't the only act that have a sensual appeal. Illustrating a moment of quiet poetry and refined grace, a solo artist takes center stage effortlessly balancing his weight with the fluidity of ballet and the strength of an athlete.

Costuming for Zarkana (there are 250 costumes for the cast) required extra forethought. Kundalini, the dangerous snake-woman, performs close to fire-eaters her costume had to be made fireproof. The lead female singer had her entire body, together with the harness she wears throughout the show, scanned with 225 precise measurements. The data were used to produce a cast that minimized the need for in-person costume fittings.

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BUTTERSCOTCH

*Photography courtesy of Rose.Rabbit.Lie
& Erik Kabik*



SMOOTH LIKE BUTTER, HARD LIKE SCOTCH

I had the pleasure of experiencing a talented artist by the name of Butterscotch, while on a night out at the awesome Rose.Rabbit.Lie. inside the Cosmopolitan in Las Vegas. I must say that this young lady's presence and talent blew me away. Butterscotch was a one-woman show with a microphone and guitar. She beatboxed sang and played the guitar flawlessly. She had us jamming in our seats to a mixture of music that was appealing to us all. With Butterscotch's personal twist her music was truly smooth like butter and hard like scotch.

Born Antoinette Clinton on September 29, 1985 in Sacramento, CA. Butterscotch was raised in Davis, CA with her siblings by her parents. After attending Natomas Charter School's elite Performing Arts Academy, Butterscotch was accepted into the music program at Cal State in Sacramento, CA. However after a few years in college, she decided to break from her studies to focus on her music career full time.

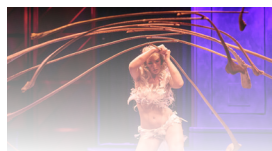
As a performer Butterscotch has seen an impressive amount of success. She has claimed both the titles of the First International World Female Beatbox Champion and the West Coast beatbox champion for both male and female. She has performed on *America's Got Talent*, *The Ellen Show*, as well as *The Tyra Banks Show*. She has also appeared on MTV's *Made* encouraging a talented youngster to follow their dreams. Butterscotch has been included in Verizon's BeatBoxer mixer launch with the likes of greats such as Doug E. Fresh, Biz Markie and Kid Lucky. She has performed with the likes of Earth, Wind, and Fire, Marcus Miller, Wah Wah Watson, Mike Patton and Lenny White. She has opened for Wyclef Jean, Will.I.Am and Fishbone. Butterscotch has toured with Mike Patton's group Peeping Tom and Mike Patton and Dan the Automator's newest project, Crudo. She has recorded with the legendary bass trio, Stanley Clarke, Marcus Miller, and Victor Wooten (SMW) on one of their albums as well as with George Benson on his "Songs and Stories" album.

Butterscotch can play the piano, saxophone, flute and

guitar. Classifying herself as a singer, beatboxer, musician and songwriter, she credits her influences as a mix of the greats like Frederick Chopin or John Coltrane and Stevie Wonder. Her style is a mix of jazz, classical music, hip hop and r&b. She is a vocal percussionist as well as a voice virtuoso. Dare I say that Ms. Butter is truly one of a kind as an artist?

Butterscotch has traveled all over the world sharing her art with all who come to see her perform. She appears one of the few artists out now who performs for the sheer enjoyment of sharing her craft whether for an audience of 200 or an audience of 2. Which makes her a true force in the music world. With the approaching release of her EP entitled "Perfect Harmony" I believe that Butterscotch's position, as the best female beatboxer will be solidified. I look forward to seeing what else this talented young lady does in the future. But in the meantime in between time I will be going back to Rose.Rabbit.Lie. To experience this amazing artist's brand of Smooth like Butter, Hard like Scotch music.

[by FRM Taylor]



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INSANITY THE RIDE - ACROBAT OR ACROPHOBE

Insanity the Ride is a truly mind-bending experience! A massive mechanical arm extending out 64 feet over the edge of the Stratosphere Tower at a height of over 900 feet, this Vegas ride will spin you and several other passengers in the open air at speeds of up to three 'G's. You'll be propelled up to an angle of 70 degrees, which will tilt your body into one position — straight down!



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SLOTZILLA@ THE FREMONT STREET EXPERIENCE

A permanent zipline attraction named SlotZilla™ has been launched in Downtown Las Vegas. The \$15 million attraction will forever alter the downtown Las Vegas skyline with a 12-story slot-machine-themed takeoff platform located near the intersection of Las Vegas Boulevard and Fremont Street.

"We wanted to take a ride typically found in the jungle, give it amusement park features and qualities, and build it in the middle of downtown," said Tom Bruny, Director of Marketing at Fremont Street Experience.

SlotZilla™ is a two-level thrill ride. Riders on the upper Zoomline will take off 114 feet above ground and riders, lying flat in a harness, will be launched to a speed that will zoom them 1,700 feet through and under the Fremont Street Experience canopy. Riders on the lower Zipline take off 77 feet above ground and zip 850 feet to a mid-point landing platform. Both levels deliver a ride experience unique in the world – flying above thousands of people on Fremont Street Experience and under the Viva Vision canopy, which is the world's largest video screen.

The new zipline attraction is named "SlotZilla™" as a tribute to the deep gaming roots of downtown Las Vegas. Through the creative direction of Contour Entertainment, the 120-foot-high takeoff tower was transformed into the World's Largest Slot Machine. Riders will actually "be the jackpot" and exit the slot machine through the pay table and coin tray. Las Vegas visitors will not want to miss this iconic new attraction.

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A central graphic featuring a mirrored silhouette of a person in a tuxedo, surrounded by swirling green smoke or mist. The figure's eyes are visible through the mirror effect.

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*And from this Slumber You shall wake,
When true love's kiss, the Spell shall break.*

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JUBILEE!

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- There are more than 1,000 different costumes in the show.
- The costumes of Jubilee! were designed by famed designers Pete Menefee and Bob Mackie.
- The average cost of one finale costume is \$7,000
- There are 8,000 miles of sequins used on the costumes – that's enough to reach from Las Vegas to Paris and back.
- The notch skirts (weighing up to 10 pounds) and Love costumes are made of fabric material especially woven in Japan for Jubilee!.
- Shoes cost approximately \$100 per pair and last about three months. Each showgirl has approximately seven pairs of shoes for the show.
- Every shoe is re-enforced with steel braces and rubber soles.
- The cast goes through 1,500 pairs of tights per year.
- Jubilee! has a wardrobe team of 18 people to build, repair and wash costumes.
- Fifty-eight tuxedos based on Fred Astaire were individually hand-cut and tailored.
- Jubilee! uses topaz, crystal, sapphire, emerald, ruby, amethyst and aurora borealis rhinestones.

Caesars Entertainment has unveiled first chapter of ongoing effort to continuously update the most iconic and longest-running show on the Las Vegas Strip. Last month the reimagined show re-opened at Bally's Las Vegas and ushered in a whole new chapter for Vegas' most icon show. The best of the show's main elements, including the signature showgirl costumes and set pieces, have been preserved as homage to the original production, director and choreographer Frank Gatson Jr. Originally produced by Donn Arden, Jubilee first opened on July 30, 1981



photography by Jerry Metellus

and quickly became synonymous with Las Vegas, outlasting every show on the famed Strip. With a stage that is 15 stories high and half the size of a football field wide, Jubilee is home to one of the most advanced and technically complex theaters in The United States. After having gone its first set of extensive changes, Jubilee has transformed into a show that is constantly evolving, while staying true to the original spirit of the show.

PRISM

Street Wear Inspired



- Each costume is created with dance in mind, with durable elements to withstand nightly performances
- Fashion and functionality is important to the crew. Jabbawockeez took their love for street couture and blended it with materials and fits that allow them to be mobile and function in the way that's needed in order to provide flexibility on stage and durability
- Each design maintains signature Jabbawockeez costume elements like the white mask and gloves

- Duane Saunders is the Costume Designer for "PRISM" and Wardrobe Manager for Jabbawockeez
- Duane has been working with Jabbawockeez for four years
- When developing the costumes for "PRISM," Duane worked closely with the Jabbawockeez daily to consolidate hundreds of creative ideas to the costumes seen on stage
- ROY G BIV is the hero of the show – the ROY G BIV costume was created to be fun, colorful and vibrant
- While it was previously the Jabbawockeez style to have one uniform look, with ROY G BIV, each crew member has an individual color, but are united to create one character
- The characters in Zarkana inhabit a surreal world inspired by the American circus sideshows that flourished in the 1930s and the spirit of the golden age of Coney Island. The overall visual aesthetic of their costumes – 250 in all – is a modern take on the look of the 1920s, the 1930s and the Art Deco movement.
- One of the biggest challenges Alan's team faced was to give a major emphasis to the traditional white of circus clowns in the costumes of the 15-artist house troupe – called "Movers" – and to integrate it with the wider overall color spectrum of the show.

The world-famous dance crew Jabbawockeez continues to make their mark in their 830-seat Jabbawockeez Theater featuring amphitheater style seating, creating an intimate feel for each guest at Luxor Hotel and Casino. The show opened in May 2013, and the crew has since entertained celebrity supporters and fans alike with their creative moves and captivating energy.

ZARKANA

Acrobatic Spectacular

- In addition to his own vast experience, intuition and knowledge, Alan Hranitelj drew inspiration from various sources and artists of that era, including Catalan artist Joan Miró and Russian/French designer Erté. These references provided a departure point for his far-ranging and resolutely modernist approach to the look of the show's characters.



photography by Matt Beard

The acrobatic spectacular Zarkana by Cirque du Soleil unveiled its amped up production, including an artistic transformation and a remastered soundtrack, to a packed audience in late February the ARIA Resort & Casino. The show capped off its reimagined return with the introduction of the show's new aerial straps act. Aerialists Andrew and Kevin Atherton. This duo thrills spectators as they performed outside ARIA's porte cochere, while suspended 32' in the air.



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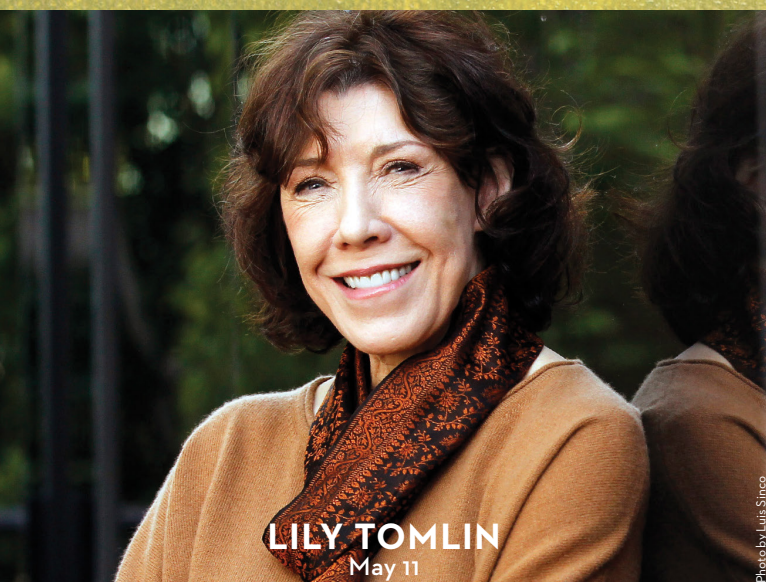
RENÉE FLEMING
"GUILTY PLEASURES"
May 1

Photo by Desca/Andrew Eccles



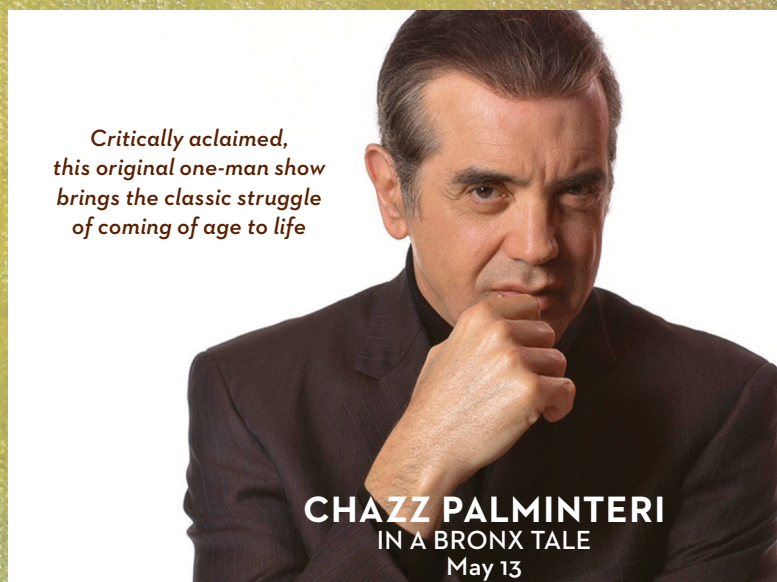
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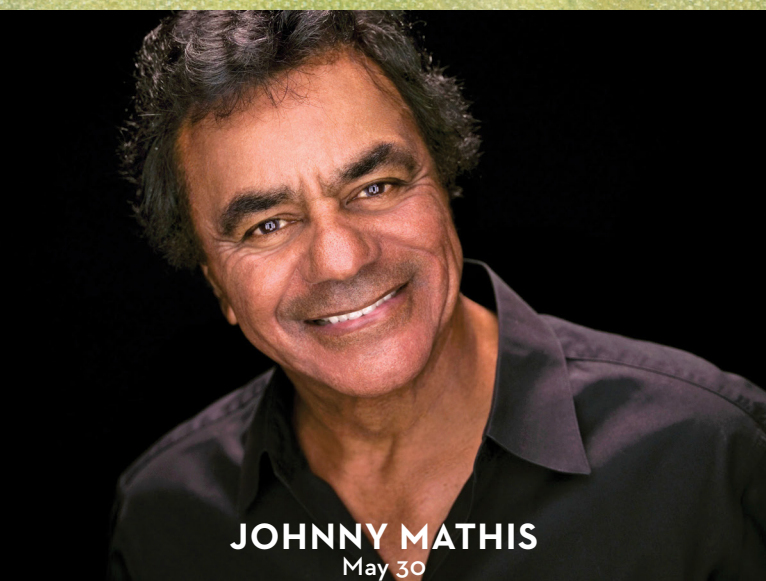
LILY TOMLIN
May 11

Photo by Luis Sinco

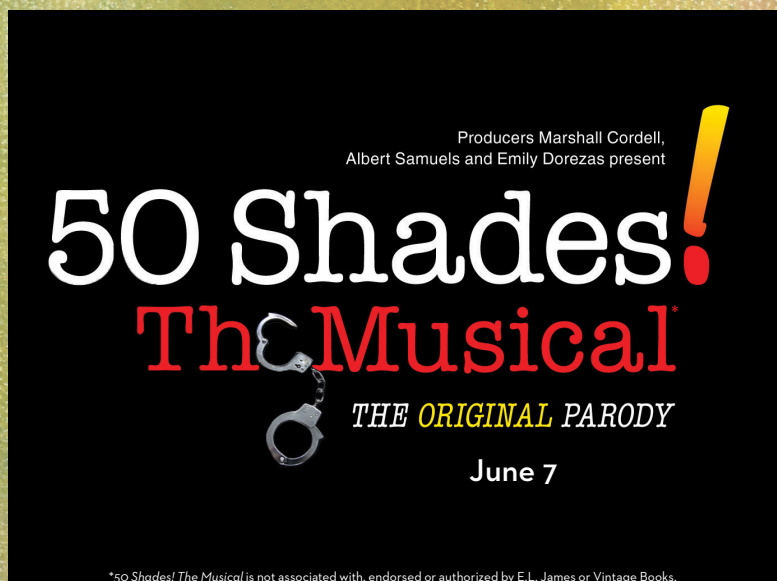


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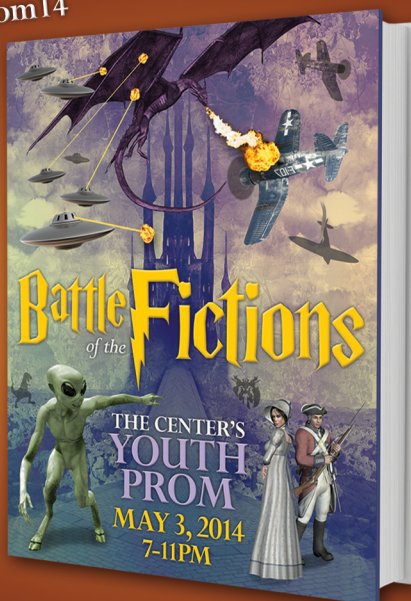
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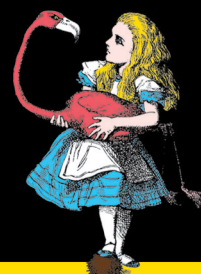
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last word!

By Russ White
PUBLISHER

MDW

Memorial Day Weekend. The official start of Summer in Vegas. Most of the Vegas gays have spent the past 2 months prepping for pool season, Matinee returns, and EDC is only a few weeks away. With all the partying that happens, we often forget that

Memorial Day is the day that Americans remember the men and women who died while serving in the US Armed Forces.

As the grandson of two WWII veterans, I have a familial reverence for the military. Both of my parents grew up on military bases around the world, and I have fond memories of going grocery shopping on base at

the commissary at the naval air station with my grandmother. As the gay grandson, I also know the struggle that LGBTQ service men and women face (before, during, and even after Don't Ask, Don't Tell). Even with the repeal of DADT, many LGBTQ service members still fear disclosing their sexual orientation and remain closeted.

I met with Congresswoman Dina Titus (D-NV) a few weeks ago to discuss H.R. 2529 – the Veteran Spouses Equal Treatment Act that she authored. “The Defense Department can't recognize marriage equality and have Veteran Benefits not be in parallel. This is one of the last real injustices of DADT and DOMA.” said Titus.

The fight for equality scored major victories with the repeal of DATD and DOMA, but veterans are still not afforded the same equality due to a discriminatory definition of “spouse” in the Veteran's section of the US Code as “a person of the opposite sex.” These six words remain a barrier to achieving full equality following last summer's Supreme Court decision. Currently, same-sex spouses of veterans are unable to receive all VA benefits, even if the same-sex marriage is legally recognized.

The legislation that Representative Titus has introduced amends the definition of “spouse” within Title 38 of the US Code to recognize all valid marriages for the purposes of receiving all VA benefits. Without this legislation, benefits including VA housing loans and burial

benefits are denied to same-sex spouses.

Today, a same-sex couple applying for a home loan through the VA is technically ineligible. A same-sex spouse of a veteran cannot be buried in a VA cemetery without a special waiver.

With the glitz, glitter, and neon of The Strip, we sometimes forget the Las Vegas is also a military town. Located in the far northeast of the Las Vegas Valley, Nellis Air Force Base has a population of over 40,000 and is one of the largest employers in Southern Nevada.

To bring some local context to this legislation, a local Air Force service member at Nellis Air Force Base, and his husband were denied full VA home loan benefits because his husband was not recognized by the VA as his legal spouse. Married legally in California last summer, he and his husband do not currently qualify for 100% of VA Home Loan coverage that they would receive if his husband were a woman. Titus' legislation fixes these discrepancies in benefits ensuring that all veterans and their families have access to their earned benefits.

“There are 27 Democratic co-sponsors for H.R. 2529, and our hearing had no opposition,” added Titus said regarding the current status of the bill. “We are ready to hold a vote in committee.”

As Memorial Day approaches, go ahead hit the pools, the picnics, and the parties, but do not forget why we get the 4-day weekend in the first place.

As Memorial Day approaches, go ahead hit the pools, the picnics, and the parties, but do not forget why we get the 4-day weekend in the first place.



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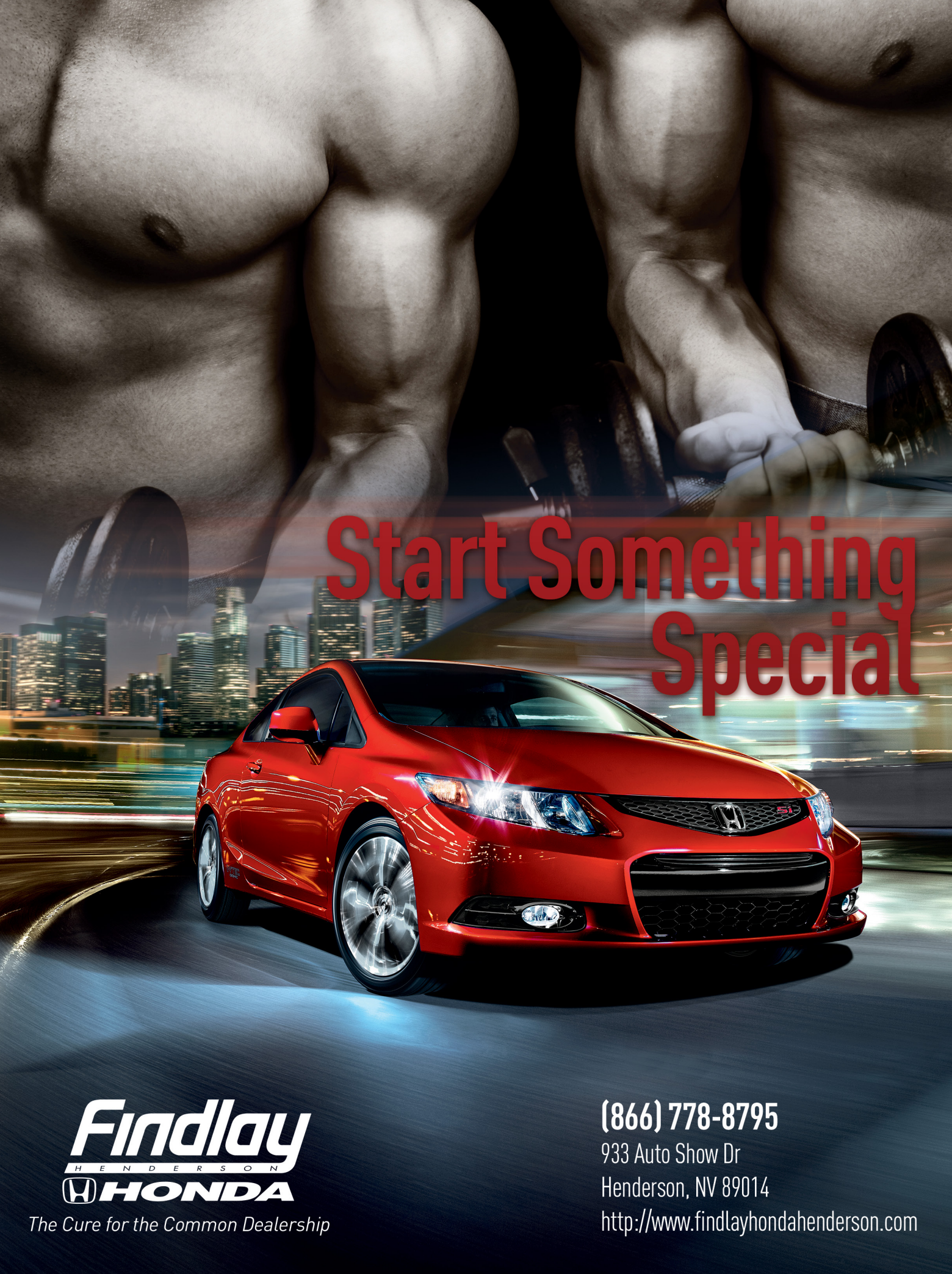
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