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Ziering Joins The
Chippendales in
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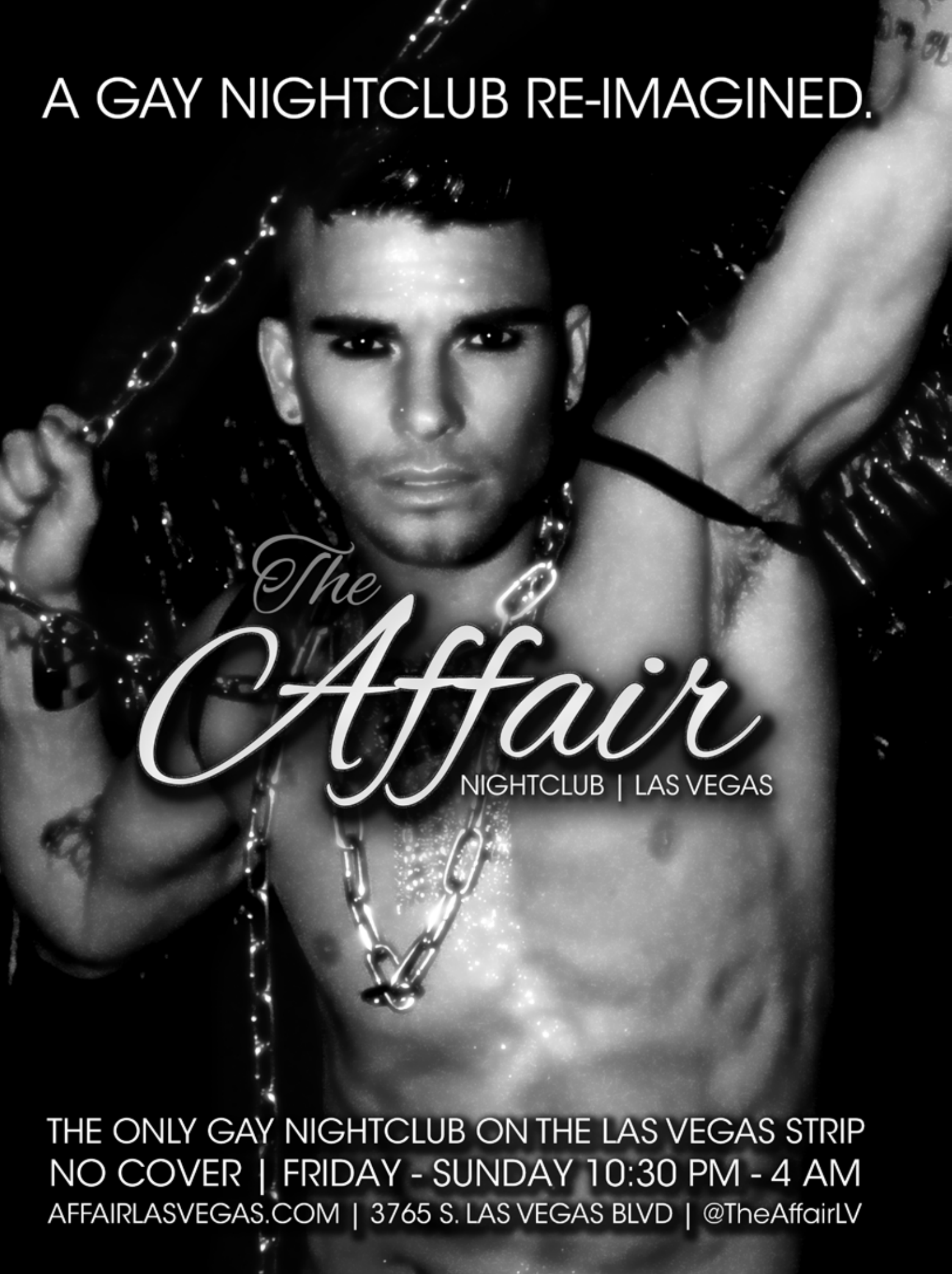


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ON THE COVER

CONNOR

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a note from our Editor

THE SWIMSUIT ISSUE

Summer is just about here, but not quite the scorching-you-MUST-wear-sandals part of summer. It is time for our first peek at a summer session of wet, half dressed bodies and full cups of frozen drinks. The QCrew picked up a few boys from Corbin Fisher and took a dip in the all-new Bagatella Beach Club Pool at Tropicana Las Vegas. Turn to page 28 for seven pages of wet men in tiny swim trunks.

We searched for a more feminine touch for the Eating Out column and that is just what Michael Barbieri from myvegasobession.com found. SHe by Morton's is a remarkable steakhouse that brings a touch of Hollywood actress Eva Longoria to your table.

Ever wonder how VIP service in Las Vegas works? Don't get caught undertipping or missing the perfect opportunities to live the VIP life to the fullest. Josh Begg gives the girls 'The T' on VIP cabanas and nightclub bottle service. We also threw in a cocktail recipe in case you'd rather stay nested at home with your lover(s).

Speaking of the T, the staff at the Bronze Cafe at The Center has been quenching this young studs thirst and taking all my tens. This is vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free friendly dining in Downton Las Vegas like you've never experienced. I am quite indecisive but as of print my favorite meal is The Green Goddess Chicken Salad Sandwich with an Iced Tea.

Like us on Facebook (facebook.com/qvegasmagazine) and follow us on Twitter (@qvegas) 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.

LAS VEGAS LOSES AN ICON - Remembering Kenny Kerr

Kenny Kerr was one of the first female impersonators to perform on the Las Vegas Strip. His show "Boy-Lesque" opened on May 13, 1977, at the Silver Slipper Casino. Some of his celebrity fans included Joan Rivers, Rich Little, Debbie Reynolds and Sammy Davis, Jr. Mr. Kerr wasn't just a great Las Vegas Strip drag performer, his shows helped changed the world.



The QVegas #QCrew has moved into The Center on 401 S Maryland Parkway and we are loving it. In the word's of *The Step Brothers* "So many activities." Be sure to log on to qvegas.com for The Center's event listings or log on to thecenterlv.com.

Join the QVegas Business Alliance June 5th at 11 AM at the Bronze Cafe at The Center for the monthly business luncheon. Bring a colleague and your business cards and get ready to network. Register online at qvegasba.com ■

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Photo by Virginia Trudeau

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Reynolds Hall, The Smith Center

In November, ballet's greatest love stories take the stage set to the timeless scores of legendary composer Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky.



Illustration by Brian Swanson

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The Center Hosts Marriage Equality Event at The Pop-Up Wedding Chapel with 36 Couples

The Cosmopolitan makes generous \$50,000 donation to the local nonprofit

Last month, The Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada held an event at one of Las Vegas' most unique wedding chapels – The Pop-Up Wedding Chapel at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas. LGBTQ and straight ally couples took turns participating in commitment, vow renewal and faux ceremonies in support of marriage equality.

Before the event, The Cosmopolitan's Vice President of People, Daniel Espino, announced a significant donation of \$50,000 to The Center, which recently opened its new multi-million dollar facility in Downtown Las Vegas. This donation announcement was just the most recent demonstration in The Cosmopolitan's history of supporting The Center since the resort opened its doors in December 2010.

Given the recent passage of SJR13 by the Nevada Senate, a bill that would allow for marriage equality statewide, The Center and The Cosmopolitan kept momentum going by hosting this spirited and often moving event. The participating couples read vows reflecting a powerful message of solidarity for an equal and just future, while passersby on the street peered in through The Cosmopolitan's windows to witness the event from the Las Vegas Strip. While none of the ceremonies were legally binding, each represented a unique perspective and was a testament to the cultural shift in attitudes about marriage equality.

The couples displayed a broad range in age, race, culture and identity. From the gay couple in their early twenties committing to each other for the first time, to the elderly transgender couple who had been



Chuck (left) and Andrew Stutz

legally married before only to receive an annulment and tax return via a letter in the mail, this event displayed a true mixture of Southern Nevada residents all uniting for the same cause. One of the ally couples has been legally married for 71 years and participated to show support for marriage equality in what was one of the most touching ceremonies of the evening.

Among the couples were Candice Nichols – The Center's former executive director of nine years – and her partner Suzanne Miele. They

celebrated with a commitment ceremony and were the first couple in line reciting vows, which were perfectly tailored for the occasion:

"When you need strength, I will offer mine. When you need words of encouragement, I will listen and provide support. I place you in my heart today, and I pledge to work from this moment forward to make our commitment a sound and loving one. One day soon, we will become one under the law, but for now we are one in our hearts." ■

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Trey Noran Presents Star-Studded Giving back Concert at the Clarion Hotel at The Wolf Theater



Labor Day Weekend, August 31, 2013, Trey Noran will present a star-studded concert to raise money for His Love Street, a hotel to be built for the homeless. The concert will feature live musical performances to include Brett Mikels, Visual Flight Rules, and Jennifer Knight with the soulful sounds of Supreme Reflections. Noran seeks to bring the community together to transform the lives of the inner city to reduce homelessness in Nevada.

"We must do more than just give a nightly place to stay but help place them in employment and a home of their own."

Trey Noran is the godson of screen movie legend "Mae West." He's landed small acting and commercial parts, and back-up vocals in his travels from Las Vegas to Hollywood. After returning to his hometown of Denver, Colorado, a passion to help the homeless was ignited. Noran formed His Love Corporation, a nonprofit with the mission to serve the homeless in Nevada.

His business venture now is to raise one hundred million dollars to open His Love Street, as well as a job placement center, and fund an outreach program in October, 2013, to feed and clothe those in need. The hotel will include a clinic, commercial kitchen, private showers, laundry facilities, a library, a beautiful outdoor courtyard, a barber, a dentist, and counselors to help with adjustments.

Guests of the hotel will be employed in several areas, such as the hotel tower, clinics, book store, clothing store, and a 700-seat state of the art Olguin's Restaurant. Noran envisions the hotel serving more than 10,000 people each year in Nevada.

His Love Corporation, owned by Noran, is presently marketing his trademark "Real Men Love 2 Cuddle" T-shirts and is also opening Ice/Mex Takeout restaurant this winter with a unique concept of great and tasty Mexican food and 20 flavors of ice cream. All proceeds from the sales of T-shirts and Ice/Mex will go to feeding the homeless and constructing the multimillion dollar hotel.

To learn more about Trey Noran's work, and to purchase tickets to the Giving Back Concert, visit www.hislovestreetlasvegas.com. ■



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On Interviewing Amy

Why the Christian music icon's first gay press interview almost didn't happen

By Chris Azzopardi

Back in the mid-'90s, I watched from my seat at The Palace of Auburn Hills, just outside Detroit, as kids circled Amy Grant onstage with overzealous glee while she sang "Say You'll Be Mine." I wanted to get in on that dance carousal to be as close to this woman – my childhood idol – as possible. I wanted that so badly. Shy little me just couldn't find the gumption for that. I was intimidated by all those thousands of people. And her.

I'd been an Amy diehard since I pretty much ransacked my mom's *Heart in Motion* cassette. I couldn't get enough (sorry, Mom). Obsessed with "Galileo," I'd replay the song – in other words, I rewound that thing so many times I eventually wore out the tape – because I had mad nerd love for Ben Franklin, and Amy clearly did, too. She was singing about him.

I've made lots of other memories to Amy Grant music. On my Walkman, I'd bop down to the bus stop with "Baby Baby" singing in my ears, no matter how unhip it was. "I Will Remember You" was, for me, the high school send-off you never forget, and later I'd think of that song for all my goodbyes (to a friend, a dying relative and so on). There were Christmases that wouldn't have been the same without "Breath of Heaven," there was the song I put on a Mother's Day mix for my mom ("Oh How the Years Go By"), and there were more Amy concerts than that of any other performer.

As a kid who attended catechism and took communion nearly every Sunday, I connected to her messages of faith, compassion and being all-inclusive. I didn't care what she thought about homosexuality then, only that hers be the voice that help me come to terms with it. I clung to those messages of "love conquers all" when things got hard, when I felt like ending my life. And I thought about it plenty of times. But I'd close my eyes and listen and hear that voice of comfort and faith

filling my heart. She was the big hug in my headphones.

That connection – an affinity that anyone who's admired a musician from afar knows well – was the reason I almost didn't pitch an interview request to her people when I found out she was releasing her first studio album in 10 years, *How Mercy Looks From Here*. Did I want to know how Amy felt about gay issues? About my community? About me? I was the little kid too scared to get *that* close to her all over again.

This time, I went for it.

Amy listened intently and responded thoughtfully. She expressed herself in the best way she knows how: with stories. And she did all of this for an hour.

She didn't have to do this at all.

In that moment, we were two human beings from two very different walks of life engaging in an illuminating dialogue.

Amy didn't take any strong stands, she didn't directly come out as pro-gay and remained relatively neutral,

but she spoke honestly and from the heart – just as I expected her to. People will say her statements about not dividing her fan base were safe, and maybe they were. But I didn't sense that at all. What I found was, truly, a person who didn't know my world. Our world.

And who can blame her? I haven't taken communion in over 15 years.

She referred to being gay as a "lifestyle," but remember: This is a woman who's never spoken to gay press before, and you won't see her in a Pride parade anytime soon (she is not Lady Gaga, people). And if we're going to play that game, call me out, too: I misidentified her religious upbringing when I called it "strict."

"When you say strict, that's interesting," she said, laughing. "What do you mean by that?"

We are clearly two people divided by radically different lives, generational gaps and family histories, and that's OK. I can live with not knowing where she stands on issues that are important to me but may not be to her, because I know there's





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no judgment. She sees people as they are: as people. She said it herself: "When you don't understand something, you can either default to judgment or you can default to compassion." I loved that.

The questioning seemed to reveal something I wasn't aware of. I've been doing gay press interviews for years. This was Amy's first.

"This is interesting, because I have never done an interview where it feels like every question is saying, 'Tell me I'm OK.' That's what feels like the underlying energy behind the questions and I'm just going, 'That's a powerful kind of energy' – and for different reasons."

Acceptance, I learned in that moment, comes in many shapes and from many people. Parents, peers, the president. But how about the people we idolize? The performer whose music wasn't just music – but memories?

I might not know where Amy stands on gay rights. I might never know. But I've decided it doesn't really matter.

I'm grateful to her on behalf of my

younger self, the little kid who wore out his mother's tape and derived strength and solace in her music. I won't let politics get in the way of that.

For my 30th birthday, my mom asked me to go on a getaway with her, so we're road-tripping to Amy's hometown for her Nashville Weekend. We go this fall, and I'm already creating a playlist of songs in my head that I hope to hear.

When I'm dancing under the sun and stars on her Tennessee ranch, I won't be thinking of gay marriage or government policies. It will just be about the music and how much it matters to me and everyone else there. Some of the people will be just like me and some will be different, but as Amy said in our interview, "I figure we must have some things in common because, of all the music we're all attracted to, at least we share this music in common."

And that's enough. It really is enough.

Chris Azzopardi is the editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBT wire service. Reach him via his website at www.chris-azzopardi.com. ■



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Beverly Hills 90210 Hearthrob Joins Chippendales at the Rio

Ian Ziering, star of television, stage and film, changes his famous zip code to become a Las Vegas headliner

by Randy Slovacek

Ian's career began at the age of 12 acting in commercials, which led to steady work on Broadway, TV, and film. However, it was his breakout role of "Steve Sanders" on the uber-hit show Beverly Hills 90210 in the 1990s that catapulted him to hearthrob super-stardom for over a decade. In 2008, Ziering donned his dancing shoes with partner Cheryl Burke on the hit ABC series, Dancing with the Stars. The duo remained fan favorites for many weeks taking them into the show's semifinals.

Those DWTS moves will be put to good use this summer as Ian takes the stage at the high energy, fully choreographed Chippendales show at the Rio.

Ian, who has always been health and fitness conscious, admits that the offer from Chippendales comes at a timely point in his life.

"TMZ was the catalyst for me getting in shape after calling me 'fat' on national TV," says Ziering. "There was a picture of Jason Priestley and me coming out of a restaurant in L.A., and a couple of the reporters commented that I was looking heavy. About a day after that news broke, I got a call from my agent asking would I be interested in hosting The Chippendales show in Las Vegas? And immediately, my mind raced to the image of Chris Farley dancing with Patrick Swayze on Saturday Night Live. Not a pretty sight."

"I had put on a few pounds as a new dad. I've got a two year old at home; my wife, Erin, has been pregnant the past nine months; we just had a baby. I'd gotten a little soft. But I'd kind of 'earned' it and it was a welcome trade for all the joy I was experiencing. Getting ready to host at Chippendales is a great

way for me to focus on me again because it's part of my job."

And what does the handsome hunk's wife think about her hubby getting up in front of hundreds of screaming, wild women and showing off a bit of his famous physique? Ian smiles. "My wife is pretty psyched. I told her I had this opportunity and she said, 'I think you should do it, 'Magic Ian.'"

After the enormous fame of 90210, it's easy to imagine that crowds of excited women are something Ian is accustomed to experiencing. "I don't take myself all that seriously," says Ian. "I'm just hoping not to embarrass myself when I have to stand up next to all that twisted steel and sex appeal," speaking in reference to the famous men of Chippendales.

All that said, Ian does have a few words for Harvey Levin and crew: "Hey TMZ, I've got two front row seats for you!"

Ian Ziering's limited Chippendales engagement runs June 6th through June 30th (Thursday through Sunday night performances only). Men are always welcome at Chippendales.



Photo Credit: Denise Truscello

"TMZ was the catalyst for me getting in shape after calling me 'fat' on national TV"



Randy Slovacek is the author of The Randy Report, covering entertainment & political news of interest to the LGBT community. Follow Randy at therandyreport.com.

A close-up, high-resolution portrait of a man's face, focusing on his eyes, nose, and mouth. He has light skin and blue eyes. The image occupies the left half of the page.

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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.

The City of LGBT Love

Mayor Michael Nutter signed into law a bill that aims to make Philadelphia, "One of, if not the most, LGBT-friendly cities in the world and a leader on equality issues." The bill, among other provisions, requires gender-neutral bathrooms in newly constructed city-owned buildings, adds protections for transgender citizens to existing anti-discrimination laws and grants decision-making rights to same-sex couples in medical issues. The city will also offer tax credits to businesses that provide health care coverage to same-sex partners and transgender-focused health benefits.



Trans-Friendly California

The California Assembly passed two bills designed to extend equality to the state's transgender population. The first bill would require all schools to support transgender students by allowing them to participate in gender-specific activities and athletics, and utilize school facilities such as bathrooms and locker rooms, according to their gender identity. The second bill, "Provides transgender people with a simple, inexpensive and private process for changing their names and documents to be consistent with their gender identity," said bill cosponsor Assembly member Toni Atkins. Both bills must still pass the state Senate.

Representative and Husband

Phillip Frank received a congressional ID card identifying him as the spouse of Representative Mark Pocan (D-Wis.). Frank is the first same-sex partner to receive such an ID, having previously been granted only a "designee" card which is given to unmarried partners of members of Congress. The move, while historic, is largely symbolic since the Defense of Marriage Act prevents the federal government from recognizing their marriage, which was performed in Canada in 2006. Due to DOMA's restrictions, Frank will not receive the spousal benefits granted to others married to members of Congress.

NBA Player Comes Out

Jason Collins, the 34-year-old center who ended this season with the Washington Wizards, came out as gay in an essay to Sports Illustrated becoming the first American male athlete in a major sport to do so. He wrote in the piece, "If I had my way, someone else would have already done this. Nobody has, which is why I'm raising my hand." Collins has played twelve seasons in the NBA for teams including the Atlanta Hawks and Boston Celtics. He is now a free agent hoping to continue his basketball career.

1 STEP BACK

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.



Years ago, a 16-month-old in South Carolina was subjected to surgery to alter the child's intersex genitalia. The child, known as M.C., was then raised as female. Now eight years old, M.C. identifies as male, and a lawsuit has been filed on M.C.'s behalf. Anne Tamar-Mattis, executive director of Advocates for Informed Choice, explained, "The state made a decision that robbed him of his freedom to decide what should happen to his own body. Sadly, no one advocated for M.C.'s rights when this decision was made. It is time the state and all those involved be held accountable."

THAT'S SO Vegas

Tidbits from The Strip & Beyond

SUNDAYS

- Showtunes High Tea @ FLEX Cocktail Lounge
- The Affair @ The Boulevard Theater
- Pride Pajama Brunch Bingo (bi-monthly)
- Charlie's Amazing Drag Show @ Charlie's LV
- "She's Dope" Ladies Night @ FreeZone

MONDAYS

- Speak Easy Monday with Jessica Rabbit @ Piranha
- QSocial Ladies Event (Every 2nd Tuesday)
- Boys Night at Entourage Men's Spa
- Karaoke Night @ FreeZone
- Sin Monday's @ The Garage LV
- Liquor Bust @ Spotlight Lounge

TUESDAYS

- Karaoke Night @ FreeZone
- QSocial with Terry Hernandez
- Latin Night at Entourage Men's Spa
- Drag Queen Bingo @ Charlie's LV

WEDNESDAYS

- QBA Luncheon (Every 1st Wed.)
- Pride Bingo @ Circus Circus (Every 1st Wed.)
- The Grand Tea Room with D. Pendvis @ Pulse LV
- Skin/Underware Night @ Charlie's LV
- Gay Men's Mpowerment Groups @ The Center
- Ntoxxxicated- Diva Toxxx Drag Show at FreeZone

THURSDAYS

- Dark & Double Thursdays at Entourage Men's Spa
- POP Thursdays @ Share Nightclub
- Nothing But Country Thursdays @ Charlie's LV
- Prism @ The Artifice (Every 2nd Thurs.)
- Boys Night @ FreeZone
- Le'd Back Thursdays @ Drink & Drag

FRIDAYS

- Stripper Circus @ Share Nightclub
- 3D Fridays @ Piranha
- Packed House @ Entourage Men's Spa
- Drag Madness @ FreeZone
- Addicted to DRAG @ Flex Lounge

SATURDAYS

- SNAPI Saturdays @ Charlie's LV
- Porn Stars in Vegas @ Share Nightclub
- Goddess Saturdays with India Farrah @ Piranha
- Packed House @ Entourage Men's Spa
- Ladies Night at FreeZone
- Drag Madness @ FreeZone
- What a DRAG @ Flex
- CumUnion @ Hawk's Gym

JUNE 2013							JULY 2013							AUGUST 2013							
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5 QBA LUNCHEON IN IT'S NEW HOME

Every first Wednesday of the month, QVegas Business Alliance hosts an amazing network luncheon for LGBTQ owned and friendly businesses. Last month was by far one of the most successful, having been held at the world famous Top of The World Restaurant inside the Stratosphere Casino, Hotel & Tower. This month the staff won't have to travel too far, because the luncheon will be held in the company's lovely new home, The Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada. Bring your business cards, brochures and a few coworkers, and come enjoy an amazing lunch sponsored by The Bronze Cafe. Do some mingling and company networking with people from the community, and of course be sure to take a tour of the new location serving our community.

THURSDAY JUNE 6-16 JEWEL GREATEST HITS TOUR

AT THE SMITH CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Don't miss this intimate solo acoustic performance. Jewel is an acclaimed American singer, songwriter, actress, poet, painter, philanthropist & daughter to an Alaskan cowboy singer-songwriter. From the remote ranch of her Alaskan youth to the triumph of international stardom, the three-

time Grammy® nominee, hailed by The New York Times as a "songwriter bursting with talents," has enjoyed career longevity rare among her generation of artists.

YELP'S 89XXXHUBITION

The Center is turning into a makeshift art gallery for a new Las Vegas event coordinated by Yelp. Local photographer Linda Quakenboss will display images of Southern Nevada LGBTQ individuals, couples and groups to break down stereotypes and stigmas associated with the community. The gallery will be on display every day in the 89XXXhibition series (except Sundays, as The Center is closed). The new Gay & Lesbian Community Center is located at 401 S Maryland Parkway.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8 SWEETHEART PROM 2013

Penda'Vis Inc. presents the Sweetheart Prom 2013 "A Night with the Stars." Join the LGBTQ community on Saturday June 8, 2013 at the Texas Station Hotel & Casino inside of the Amaryllis Room. Bring a date, significant other, friends, and even family to enjoy a night of fashion, fun and music. Single tickets for the prom are \$15, and \$25 for couples. There will also be a CASH PRIZE give-away a for best dressed!

SUNDAY, JUNE 9 THE LAS VEGAS MEN'S CHORUS ANNOUNCES ITS SPRING CONCERT

The Las Vegas Men's Chorus, under the direction of Bruce Ewing, of The Phat Pack, will present its free spring concert, "all i really need to know i learned from BROADWAY" on Sunday, June 9, at 2:00pm., at the Community Lutheran Church, located at 3720 E. Tropicana Ave.

Director Bruce Ewing said this performance "will appeal to Broadway experts and novices alike. If you enjoy listening to entertaining singing, you will love this concert."

Everyone is invited to the free performance suitable for all ages. Donations will be accepted, and the funds collected will be used to prepare for the next concert.

TUESDAY, JUNE 11 - JUNE 16 GREEN DAY'S AMERICAN IDIOT AT THE SMITH CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Direct from Broadway, the smash-hit musical *American Idiot* tells the story of three lifelong friends forced to choose between their dreams and the safety of suburbia. Based on Green Day's Grammy Award-winning multiplatinum album and featuring the hits "Boulevard of Broken Dreams," "21 Guns," "Wake Me Up When September Ends," "Holiday," and the blockbuster title track, *American Idiot* boldly takes the American musical where it's never gone before. With direction by Michael Mayer (Spring Awakening), choreography by Steven Hoggett (Black Watch), and orchestrations and arrangements by Tom Kitt (Next to Normal).

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 KRAVE MASSIVE GRAND OPENING

It's been a long time coming, and now we're just days away from experiencing the world's largest gay club, right here in Las Vegas. The official Grand Opening for Krave Massive is Saturday, June 15th. And while the Krave team prepares for one of the biggest nights in Krave history, the rest of the world anticipates the opening of a new downtown sensation. This 80,000 square foot, multi level venue, has created a huge buzz in the city because it's taking over the Neonopolis retail center on Fremont Street. With five mind-blowing dance rooms, Krave Massive is sure to be the new "it" spot for the LGBTQ community in Downtown Las Vegas.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 - JUNE 23 CATCH ME IF YOU CAN AT THE SMITH CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Based on the hit DreamWorks film and the incredible true story that inspired it, CATCH ME IF YOU CAN is the high-flying, splashy new Broadway musical that tells the story of Frank W. Abagnale, Jr., a teenager who runs away from home in search of the glamorous life. With nothing more than his boyish charm, a big

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imagination and millions of dollars in forged checks, Frank successfully poses as a pilot, a doctor and a lawyer — living the high life and winning the girl of his dreams. But when Frank's lies catch the attention of FBI agent Carl Hanratty, Carl chases Frank to the end...and finds something he never expected. Don't miss this big-hearted musical adventure based on an astonishing real-life story of being young, in love...and in deep trouble!



WEDNESDAY JUNE 19 JIM CARUSO'S CAST PARTY

Jim Caruso's Cast Party is a cool cabaret night-out enlivened by a hilariously impromptu variety show. Showbiz superstars hit the stage alongside up-and-comers, serving

up jaw-dropping music and general razzle-dazzle. This mix of music, performance and cocktail party revelry debuts at Cabaret Jazz at The Smith Center in Las Vegas! At their last outing, they were joined by Donny Osmond, Clint Holmes, Mimi Hines, Frankie Moreno, Cassetta, and the stars of Jersey Boys, Vegas: The Show, Phantom of the Opera, and so many more. The buoyant, sharp and charming Caruso guides the entire affair like a bubbly cruise director, musical genius Billy Stritch holds court at the ivories, and the audience is invited to participate in the festivities! Some of the A-Listers seen at Cast Party include Liza Minnelli, Michael Feinstein, Fiona Apple, Donny Osmond, and many more.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30 "RIBBON OF LIFE"

AT THE SMITH CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

"Ribbon of Life" is one of the largest HIV/AIDS fundraisers in the state of Nevada and is Golden Rainbow's main source of revenue. The fundraising spectacular is unlike any other production in the city and features some of the best performers from the Las Vegas Strip in original acts. Showcasing new numbers and talent, each year's audience is always surprised, thrilled and inspired by performances that are exclusive to the event.

KNOW YOUR STATUS

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RISCILLA

QUEEN OF THE DESERT

BINGO

JULY 3 | SNAPI HOUR 6PM | BINGO 7PM
CIRCUS CIRCUS | GRAND BALLROOM

EATING OUT

At SHe by Morton's

by Michael Barbieri
myvegasobsession.com

You walk in. You notice plush fabrics, sexy lighting, Swarovski crystal chandeliers, and a glowing catwalk winding through the room. Throughout the evening, there are appearances by lovely women - stilt walkers, contortionists, and character dancers - all totally empowered by their own femininity! Is this a new Cirque show or another Ultra Lounge on the Vegas Strip?

No! This is SHe, a remarkable new steakhouse by Morton's and actress Eva Longoria, with women as its target clientele.

Located in Crystals at CityCenter, Longoria wanted to create a place where she and her girlfriends could go for a night out. The result is a steakhouse where the decor is a little sexier - leather banquettes are softer and more rounded, hanging lamps are nicely shaded to create soft, flattering light, and doorways are half-hidden by pull-back curtains, creating softer lines throughout the space. Men are welcome, of course, but indeed, I saw several tables of two or more women friends enjoying each other's company, yet I never felt out of place.

My experience at SHe was absolutely delightful. My server, Trista, was

outgoing, friendly, and full of very informed suggestions regarding the menu. I wanted to start with a cocktail, and Trista recommended the Lavender Lemontini - Stolli Razberi Vodka, Elderflower Liqueur, and Creme de Violette. An inspired choice, it was cool and very smooth with a subtle floral undertaste, one of the most interesting cocktails I've tried. After that, I decided to put my trust in Trista!

The menu at SHe was quite extensive and divided into various categories aimed at pleasing diners whether they want a meal, or just a few small plates to share, before embarking on a night out. I was told the Sea Bass Bites was a very





popular dish and would make an excellent appetizer. Once again, a fabulous suggestion - firm, beautifully cooked nuggets of fresh sea bass, served with a ponzu glaze, with diced tomato, cilantro yogurt, pistachios, peanuts, frisee lettuce, and a touch of caviar! There were many components to this dish, yet all of the flavors worked together, allowing the fish to be the stand-out ingredient. Trista next told me that the Pear and Saga Salad - mixed greens, slices of pear, delicate slivers of red onion, grape tomatoes, and candied pecans, with a light, creamy Saga Blue Cheese dressing - was one of her favorites. This "simple salad" was nicely balanced, with the pear providing subtle sweetness, the onion giving it just enough bite, and the pecans adding a tasty crunch. The mild quality of the Saga kept the smooth dressing from overpowering the salad.

By now, the Floor Show was in full swing: A female DJ was spinning fun, funky music - fairly loud, but never too intrusive. A pretty stilt walker in a sexy red, black and white outfit, was flirting with diners and waving her white marabou fan at me. On the runway, a contortionist, all in black, was doing impressive backbends and aerial splits.

At this point, Executive Chef Erick Stecher sent out an extra treat for me to sample: the Shaved Hamachi - thinly sliced yellowtail, drizzled with a coconut puree and topped with shaved jalapeno, julienned radish, minced piquillo pepper, and sprigs of micro-cilantro. Although the dish seemed Japanese inspired, the coconut, cilantro and hot peppers give the dish a tropical, almost Thai flavor. Delicious and light, with just a hint of spice, this was a stellar example of how tiny details can make food special. The menu's desire to appeal to each sex in-

dividually was most evident in the "Steaks" category. Listed as She Cuts, He Cuts, and We Cuts, there was something to please any carnivore - from a 6 ounce filet to a 40 ounce Porterhouse for two! I chose the 8 Oz. Center Cut Filet, which was lean, juicy and perfectly seasoned. It was also amazingly tender - I was actually able to cut the steak with my fork! I chose two side dishes: the excellent Creamed Spinach, and the Lobster Mashed Potatoes - a decadent combination of smoothly whipped mashed potato, lots of heavy cream and sweet, delicious lobster meat. They were evil, immoral and worth every wicked calorie!

More performance artists had appeared - one young woman in a black, lacy mask, wandered through the room, tickling random diners with an ostrich plume. Another with a pink corset, stockings, and parasol, edged her way onto the backs of the banquettes to pose for everyone. The stilt walker changed outfits and returned looking very much like Bettie Page in a vintage black brassiere, fringed girdle-like shorts and nylons.

Finally, Trista brought me the dessert menu and made a dangerous offer: I could choose one dessert OR I could have the chef prepare a tray with a sampling of almost all of them! Realizing this would mean extra hours with my trainer, I chose the sampler. OMG! These confections were truly transcendent!

There was the Peanut Butter and Jelly - crispy whipped chocolate topped off with a rich peanut butter mousse, combined with a Concord grape meringue "cloud." It was a treat that could bring you back to your childhood. The Tiramisu Cups were incredible - coffee soaked ladyfingers and coffee creme anglaise, with chocolate shavings, served in actual espresso cups. This was creamier than typical tiramisu and very indulgent. I loved the Goodnight Kisses - brown sugar meringues, dulce de leche droplets, a tropical flower gelee that provided a bright burst of flavor, and a bittersweet chocolate sauce that was a nice counterpoint to the sweetness. Among the other offerings was a true surprise, the Popcorn Milkshake - popcorn infused milk blended with vanilla ice cream, and caramel popcorn clusters. The actual popcorn in the shake was a little odd, as it got caught in the back of my throat, the way popcorn will, but the flavor was unique - a circus in every mouthful!

After dinner, Chef Stecher came to the table to greet me and I thanked him for a fabulous meal! But this was more than just a meal. It was a fantasy - as if Bettie Page herself had owned a restaurant.

Girls, bring your girlfriends! Guys, bring your boyfriends! Gentlemen, bring your ladies! Treat yourselves to the fabulous food and fantastical floor show at SHe!

SHe by Morton's:

The Shops at Crystals at Aria Las Vegas
3720 Las Vegas Blvd South, Suite 260,
Las Vegas, NV 89158
702.254.2376





Dawson
Wearing Andrew Christian

A high-angle, close-up photograph of a person's back and legs. The person is wearing black swim briefs with white elastic waistbands and leg openings. A thin pink line is visible on the side of the briefs. The person's skin is wet and glistening. In the background, a swimming pool with blue mosaic tiles is visible. The overall tone is bright and summery.

Q
Style

CORBIN FISHER GETS

WET



Connor
Wearing Andrew Christian



Connor, Dawson, Trey, Reed
Wearing Basket, Andrew Christian



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Wearing Baskit



Trey
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StyleQTIPS



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Las Vegas offers world class beauty at your finger tips. Having experienced that quality for a number of years, the guys at TitoJimmy Men's Boutique and Salon have a reputation for excellent work and stellar customer service. Those talents have given them the opportunity to work along side influential people to provide some of the best service the industry offers. Now those captured talents are brought to you. That's how TitoJimmy came to be!

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men, from hair, makeup and skin to mastering your look and surpassing expectations, TitoJimmy is creating a driving force of fabulous!

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SHINE ALTERNATIVE FITNESS OFFERS DADS AN X-TREMELY FUN WAY TO GET FIT THIS FATHER'S DAY

Shine Alternative Fitness will offer an exclusive Father's Day gift package for dads of all skill levels, featuring five adrenaline-charged X-treme Boxing classes priced at \$50, through Sunday, June 16.

The 'man of the house' can get a toned body with X-treme boxing's hour-long, high-intensity interval training which combines boxing, kickboxing, body sculpting, plyometrics and abs. A combination of jumping, aerobics, toning and conditioning, patriarchs will achieve a total body workout, burning between 800 to 1,200 calories per session.

Under the careful instruction of renowned boxer, Victoria Gusto, dads will enjoy a long-lasting present this holiday that can be used within 90 days.



POOLSIDE PERFECTION

by Junior Renteria, Rain Cosmetics
National Makeup Artist

With temperatures rising, what you wear on your skin is just as important as what you wear by the pool. We've got you covered with tips to keep your makeup looking fresh and your outfits on trend.

Our Conceal ...Reveal Flawless Foundation SPF 15 has built-in mattifiers to instantly give your skin a smooth, velvet finish for hours. Wearing sunscreen in the summer months (year-round also!) is crucial to keeping your skin looking young for years to come.

TIP: Wear a hat by the pool to add flair to any outfit and instantly protect your face from harmful rays.

Give your face a glow with our Beach Club Bronzer. Dust your face and shoulders using a fluffy makeup brush to create the illusion of a sun-kissed complexion.

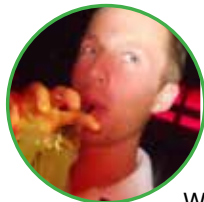
TIP: For a playful touch, sprinkle our Glitterati on your shoulders to enhance your tan.

Neon is a fun trend we are seeing a lot of this year. Brightly colored lips look amazing paired with a neon bathing suit. My favorite bold shades of our Glam Lipstick are 'With the DJ' and 'Cocktail Hour.'

Not ready to take the plunge into a colorful lip? Our Gloss of Fame glosses are packed with hydrating ingredients and provide a long wearing shine with only a kiss of sheer color.

For more beauty tricks, visit RainCosmetics.com.

BOTTOMS UP



Living the VIP Life

When the thermometer cracks the triple digits, the Vegas days get hot and the Vegas nights get even hotter. Nothing screams Vegas excess like pampered VIP treatment at a cabana by the pool during the day and table service at the nightclubs by night. But dropping a couple of bills for a place to sit and a bottle of vodka that costs less than \$20 at the grocery store dumbfounds many visitors. QVegas caught up with Josh Begg, VIP host at Share Nightclub for the inside scoop on Vegas VIP services.

TABLE OR BOTTLE SERVICE

Table service or bottle service at a nightclub provides guests with a reserved place within the club for their group. With table service, you receive a private table along with the attention of a personal server and busser, standard mixers, and a choice of alcohol from the bottle menu—typically vodka or champagne. You can order anything on the bottle menu. Price varies based on the brand of alcohol.

How long your table is held depends on the night. Most tables are first-come first-serve. If you show up during the busiest time of the night, you may need to wait for a table. Check with your VIP host if the venue allows you to guarantee the table on arrival.

There is a difference between bottle service and VIP/guest list. VIP is very broad and means different things at different places. VIP usually means you'll enter with no cover and have bottle service. Guest list just means you don't pay cover.

How many friends you can bring to your table or cabana is different for each place. Some have minimums and maximums.

The service is expensive. You are not just paying for drinks, you're paying

for an experience. These VIP services provide you your own private area, personal service, and a greater experience than general admission.

DRINKS

Standard mixers vary by club. The most popular are cranberry juice, orange juice, and soda water, but clubs often allow you to choose from other choices like pineapple, Sprite or 7-UP as well. Energy drinks, bottled water and additional cocktails can be ordered from your server. Your server can make shots with your bottle, but additional shots cost extra.

Most places keep your mixers topped off. You can make your own drink, but your server is there to make your drinks and ensure you're having a great time.

Once you finish your bottle, if the club has died down, some places will allow you to stay, however if it's a busy night you'll be required to purchase another bottle to keep your table. Unfortunately due to liquor laws, the bottle needs to stay on premises. Any unconsumed beverages are disposed of. Some resorts will allow you to mix drinks and leave the bottle behind.

CABANAS, DAYBEDS AND POOLS

Cabana or daybed service gives you the same VIP treatment of table or bottle service poolside. A daybed is basically a large lounge chair, whereas a cabana is an enclosed private area exclusive to you and your party.

For poolside service, it is common for beverages to be served as pitchers of mixed drinks like margaritas or mojitos rather than the bottles and mixers at a nightclub. You'll also have your own area to lay out in the sun, so you don't have to fight for a chair.



Rice & Co. Mama Son's Kiss Cocktail

Ingredients

- 1.5 oz Ketel One Oranje Vodka
- 1 oz Yuzu Juice
- 2 Large Sliced Strawberries
- 2 oz Fresh Sweet & Sour Mix
- 0.5 oz Rock Candy Syrup or Simple Syrup

Directions

Muddle sliced strawberries with the Rock Candy Syrup in a mixing glass. Fill glass with ice. Add remaining ingredients, and shake. Pour into a tall Collins Glass and garnish with a fresh orange slice.

You also receive towel service, a safe to lock up personal belongings, a small refrigerator, water, and often sunscreen.

If your hotel comp'd you a cabana for the day, that means there's not a minimum spend, but your food & beverage usually isn't included and is charged to your room if you're staying on property, or you can pay with a credit card. If your cabana is comp'd though, you should be spending about \$500 or more based on the size of your group.

If you are not a guest of the hotel, then you typically pay a cover to get to the pool, however, if you're renting a cabana you won't have to pay the cover. Some pools will have a VIP area only accessible to select VIP tables.

The cost of cabanas and daybeds are a minimum spend. All food and beverage is applied to the minimum cost of the cabana. As long as you spend the minimum amount for the cabana or daybed, your value is returned to you in your total food and beverage spend.

SERVERS, BUSSERS, DANCERS AND HOSTS

Your server is responsible for handing your payment, your cocktails, keeping your glass full, bringing drinks, making shots, etc. A busser keeps your table clean and organized, all mixers, ice, napkins, and straws fully stocked. A dancer is an entertainer—they are there for atmosphere and do not handle alcohol. VIP host will book your table either in advance or at the door, check you in, escort you to your table, and introduce you to your server.

Sometimes your server, busser, or dancer can have a drink with you. Ask them. Some places allow it, others do not, and even if the venue does, it's up to the individual if they want to partake.

GRATUITY AND COVERS

20% is standard. But tips are pooled among all staffers. Vegas servers make their living off their tips. If you feel they provided great service, a little extra is always appreciated.

If you're getting comp'd, base your gratuity on the quality of service you receive and what you spend. When you're getting comp'd and you get great service, throw an extra 5-10% in for your server and busser.

Auto-gratuity is a standard 20% gratuity that is automatically added to your bill. If you receive a comp'd bottle service, the auto-gratuity is based on what the bottle service would have cost.

Tipping VIP host is usually up to you. Your host typically makes a commission on table sales.

If you have table or bottle service, a daybed or a cabana, there's no cover.



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With Special Guest Casey Lee Moore**

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Bagatelle Beach is Las Vegas' premiere Mediterranean-style pool and day club. Its laidback Mediterranean bravado allows guests to enjoy beachside activities, lounge in an exclusive cabana, or indulge in brunch atop the outdoor bistro-style restaurant overlooking the tropical oasis.

The venue is open Friday-Sunday from 11 AM - 6 PM. Admission is \$30 for men and \$20 for ladies at the door. Locals receive complimentary admission with Nevada ID.

BOYS & BURGERS BLUE MOON HOTEL FOR MEN

A staple for Las Vegas gays going into its 10th Season. BOYS & BURGERS is held poolside at Las Vegas' only gay hotel, Blue Moon Hotel for Men. FREE for hotel guests. This is a guys only place. Skinny dipping and nude sunbathing is allowed. \$25 for outside guests. Blue Moon features 45 hotel rooms and suites, clothing optional (all male) PRIVATE pool compound, steam room, world famous jacuzzi grotto and waterfall just blocks from the Las Vegas Strip. Along with your Day Pass, (which is good from 7 AM - 8 PM) comes a full menu of burgers, dogs, sausage, BBQ chicken, salads and drinks.

HEAVEN AT BREATH POOL CLUB HARD ROCK HOTEL

The weekly gay event—"Rated E for everyone"—entirely transforms the petite daytime oasis into a topless (that is, roofless) party under the stars with distinctive contemporary ambiance and ultra VIP service. Every Friday guests will be able to dance and mingle while enjoying the breathtaking nighttime view of the Las Vegas Strip.

TEMPTATION SUNDAYS LUXOR

Upbeat, sultry and tailor made for the Gays, Luxor knows how to provide everyone a good time. This event is hosted by J.Son of nakedboynews.com every Sunday from 1 PM - 7 PM. Go ahead and immerse yourself in this temptation of hot, hard bodies, frozen drinks, and rockin' music. DO reserve your cabana ahead of time and DON'T miss out on guestlist free entry.

»»INSIDER TIPS

Check QVegas.com for more weekly events and more.

- Look for Facebook Check-in Specials the day BEFORE you want to attend a pool party.
- ALWAYS bring flip-flops or other water footwear; the Vegas sun lights the ground on fire (well, not really, but only go barefoot if you dare!).
- Purchasing the refillable souvenir cups at the pool is always a good choice to keep your thirst quenched.



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Connecting Your Business to Your Community: LGBT Business Certification

by Justin Nelson
President and Co-Founder
National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of
Commerce (NGLCC)

Why did NGLCC begin this initiative in the first place?

Many of America's leading corporations, most notably NGLCC's founding corporate partner IBM, were interested in adding LGBT-owned businesses to their supply chains, just as they did for women and minorities. They turned to the NGLCC to create a rigorous certification process to ensure that resources invested in the advancement of LGBT business community did, in fact, go to the LGBT business community.

Why would an LGBT business owner want to become certified? How will they benefit?

NGLCC's LGBT Business Enterprise (LGBTBE) certification means access; access to corporate decision makers and access to resources and opportunities for long-term business growth. Certified suppliers have access to dedicated supplier diversity professionals, people who are there to be their advocates and to match them with strategic sourcing opportunities within large corporations.



How successful has it been, both in terms of getting companies and suppliers involved and participating?

We certified our first LGBTBE in 2005 and currently have close to 500 businesses certified. From our original 11 corporate partners, we now have more than 130. We're especially proud of the massive growth of our annual National Business & Leadership Conference, and we are expecting the largest turnout ever this summer; it is

the only conference for corporations seeking to buy from LGBT businesses and for LGBT entrepreneurs seeking growth opportunities and thought leadership.

How difficult is the certification process? What can applicants expect? What is the purpose?

Applicants can make the process extremely easy if they organize all of their business and legal documents; and this level of organization is also

critical for any business aspiring to large corporate contracts. We are continuously improving the process to make it as efficient as possible so that our entrepreneurs can get back to their most important focus, growing their business and creating jobs.

Our entire process, including the site visit, is meant to make both corporate partners and business owners secure in the knowledge that resources dedicated to the community go to the community. We want applicants to know that they are joining a powerful community of peers. Site visits are also an important way to get to know our new businesses better and build rapport. They are actually a lot of fun, for both the visitor and the business applicant, and something everyone on staff enjoys doing.

Are there any particular success stories that stick out in your mind?

NGLCC's local affiliate chamber, the Q Vegas Business Alliance has an amazing success story with Teazled, which landed a contract as a result of becoming certified and attending our 2012 National Business & Leadership Conference in Chicago.

- In terms of business development, we've been proud to grant dozens of executive leadership scholarships, mentorships, and several of our LGBTBEs have recently completed Accenture's DSDP (Diverse Supplier Development Program)
- LGBTBE Q&A Events, an Atlanta-based meetings company, was the event planner for NGLCC's 2011 Business & Leadership Conference. Shortly after, they became the first LGBT-owned firm to work for Coca Cola, an opportunity that included embedding a Q&A staff person in the Coca Cola events office for six months.
- LGBTBE Outsmart Office Solutions formed a partnership with Office Depot wherein they offer the customer service and personal touch of a small firm backed by the price point and supply chain of a large corporation.

Are there other opportunities for LGBTBEs to remain plugged in, or become even more plugged in, to

supplier-diversity networks beyond becoming certified by NGLCC and registering with corporate partners?

Staying actively involved in your local chamber network and attending the National Business & Leadership conference are vital ways to connect with these strategic growth opportunities. Opportunity is not limited to those able to directly service corporate contracts; there are additional avenues of engagement at the sub-contracting (known as Tier II) level as well. To demonstrate true leadership in supplier diversity today, many corporations encourage their larger vendors to implement their own supplier diversity efforts.

The National Business & Leadership Conference is July 30 to August 2 at the Omni Dallas Hotel in downtown Dallas. www.nglcc.org/events.



Get your NGLCC Certification Fee waived with QBA Membership

QVegas Business Alliance is a Nevada non-profit corporation and is the exclusive local affiliate of the 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 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.

QBA members enjoy a waiver of all application fees for NGLCC's LGBT business certification (400.00 value) as well as a significant discount off the registration for NGLCC's National Business and Leadership Conference.

QVEGAS BUSINESS ALLIANCE, INC.
401 South Maryland Pkwy
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702-650-0636
www.qvegasba.com



Dal Toro is an exciting multi-level restaurant, car gallery and event center located in the Palazzo Hotel and Casino.

Dal Toro Ristorante and Dal Toro Exotic Car Gallery, designed by famed Italian architect, Paolo Cortese, features stunning architectural elements. The luxurious décor is a contemporary spin on characteristic Italian aesthetics that includes Italian sculptures, custom-designed furniture, a glass-enclosed wine cellar with private dining and modern abstract paintings. Guests have the option to dine inside the 100-seat restaurant or al fresco on the most beautiful patio on the Las Vegas Strip surrounded by white rose bushes, manicured gardens and 100 feet of marbled mosaic Palladian fountains.

The exotic car gallery, located on both upper and lower levels of the venue, invites guests to preview a collection of exotic, luxury and classic cars for sale. The state-of-the-art car gallery also doubles as a special event space housing 14 suspended plasma flat screen TVs, a 10' built-in projection screen, a wireless PowerPoint system and a Bose sound system with full club level music capabilities.

Dal Toro's menu offers authentic Italian cuisine from Italy's renowned Chef Fiorenzo Trunzo. Included on the menu are specialty dishes as well as traditional Italian favorites. Chef Fio's use of natural, artisanal ingredients make dining at Dal Toro Ristorante a truly memorable experience.

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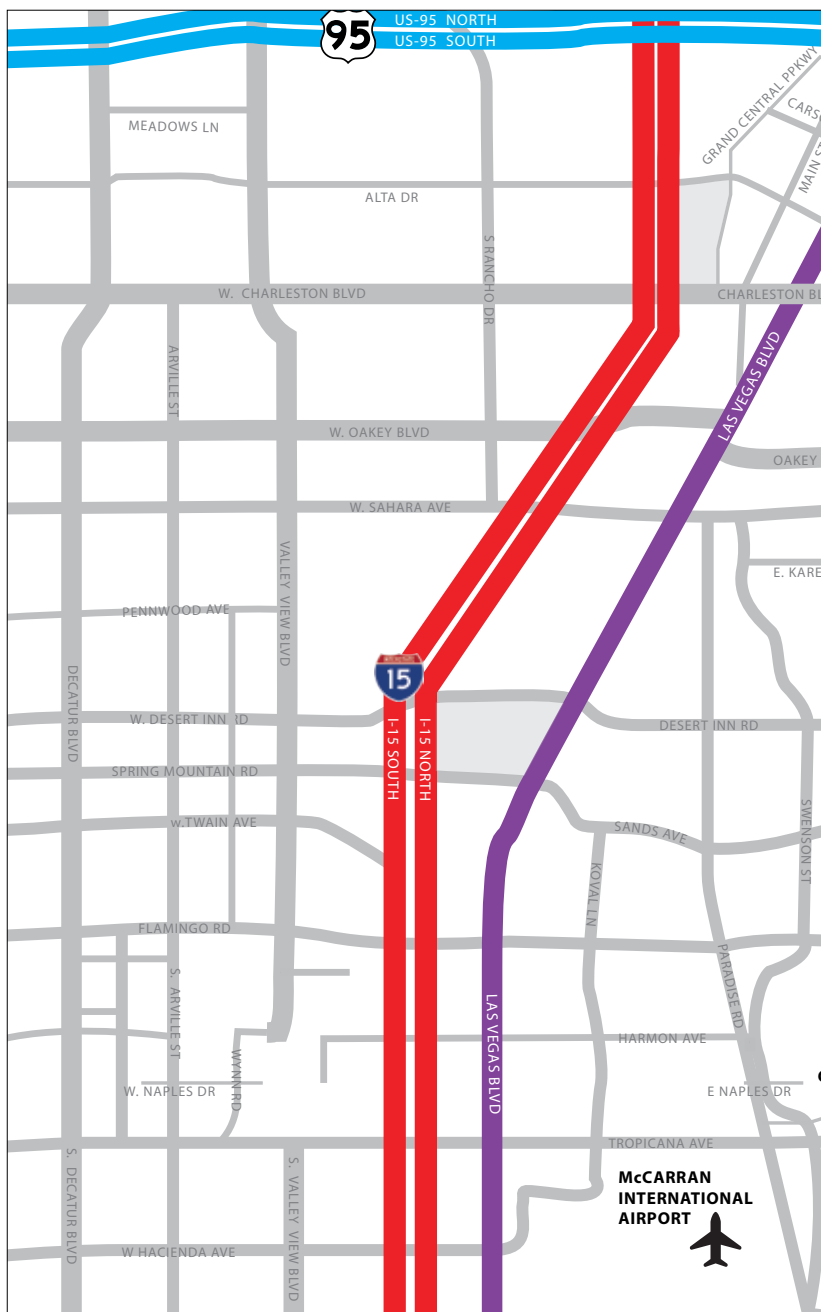
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GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUNE 21)

Party-boi/gal, it is time to get past your happy image that you falsely project to others. The image that you project is out of sync with your true self where only you privately know too well the tears of a clown. Tears wash away outmoded ways of being, connecting you more deeply to your life purpose. Choose authentic friends who will support your needs in deep change and authenticity, leading to spiritual freedom.



CANCER (JUN 22 - JUL 22)

Thoughtful choices lead to greater returns. The choices that you have put off for too long are becoming an emotional burden weighing down your creativity, expression, and happiness. Your sign sees you letting go of old ways of being and relationships that no longer serve your soul. Although emotionally painful, these are the best choices in the long-run.



LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 22)

Laughter and play are on your charted course. Let go of over-analyzation and allow intuitive inspiration to be your guide in the next month. You may have recently gone through periods of solitude as a new you sought to emerge. Cherish pain and anguish as one of your life's greatest teachers and enjoy the newfound freedom and inspiration that lead you to personal fulfillment.



VIRGO (AUG 23 - SEP 22)

Celebration of life is at hand. As you enter a new chapter in life, always realize you are supported by the Spirit-World. Allow synchronicity and seemingly strange coincidences to inspire you to travel outside your comfort zones. As you contemplate new directions, realize it is natural to wish to hold the hand of a familiar someone, to enter an unknown and closed door of fate, however, you must enter this door alone to find the people, places and experiences that are uniquely matched with your individual soul. Feel the fear and do it anyway.



LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22)

Work may seem to become a drag, however, consider the pendulum between passion and profit to choose wisely. You may find picking up old or new interests and activities balanced with the financial freedom from existing work leads to feeling revitalized. To change your reality, change your perceptions through gratitude.



SCORPIO (OCT 23 - NOV 21)

Time was not delayed. Your impatience and unwillingness to realize that others function on their own soul's developmental path, not on your ego's arrogant stopwatch, is at fault. Become aware of your ego's needs to control outcomes to allow you to see the bigger picture. Time, to the Spirit-World, does not exist. It is only when a soul completes a certain life lesson that makes her or him available for the next spiritual adventure. Patience and forgiveness of others and self is beneficial.



SAGITTARIUS (MAR 20 - APRIL 19)

A contact from the past brings bittersweetness. There was and is still a reason that the person, place or thing is an ex. Old memories may become distorted where cherry-picking the good while denying the bad can get you into trouble. Remember, denial is not just a river in Egypt.



CAPRICORN (MAR 20 - APRIL 19)

Financial investment and savings opportunities are available for a rainy day. You are not giving up a better living, you are saving for living more focused on what is truly important. You may feel a calling to look at expenses and realize living with less is, in fact, living with more—freedom. Cut the bills. Happiness is not based upon how much you make or own. Happiness is most often achieved when hard-earned cash is exchanged for meaningful experiences.



AQUARIUS (MAR 20 - APRIL 19)

A deeper need to look inside is at hand. Ask yourself, "What life-lessons are these stalemates bringing into my awareness? What needed actions must I now take to proceed on my own soul's path?" Seek advice from wiser yet older counsel as opposed to allowing inner conflicts to continue.



PISCES (FEB 19 - MAR 19)

Forgiveness is key to feeling at ease with all experiences of life. It is the most releasing of all spiritual practices, albeit the most difficult one. You are not forgiving the hurt or pain caused, or releasing responsibility; you are freeing yourself to recognize your true spiritual resilience in the face of all occurrences, both good and bad. The Spirit-World is on your side and is called to your aid by only a single, simple request for their help. Ask, even if in disbelief of their existence.



ARIES (MAR 20 - APR 19)

Quit sponging off your parents and others. Self-reliance is key to your personal, financial, and spiritual growth. As you falsely believed the universe will provide for you, it only supports your intentions and most importantly, your own specific actions. As support drops, a self-discovery of resourcefulness, self-reliance, and renewal occurs. Take action.



TAURUS (APR 20 - MAY 20)

"I'm so lonely" is a huge boner-buster to your social circle and potential partners. Others cannot recognize within you what you don't recognize within yourself. Potential partners and soul mates are always around, however, without a healthy self-esteem they are invisible to you and more importantly, you are invisible to them. Work on self-esteem to lead to personal and emotional fulfillment.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mike Schopp is a gay Psychic Medium with 20+ years of working via telephone & Skype. He connects directly with clients' spirit guides. His inborn gifts are clairvoyance, clairsentience, & clairsentience which he uses to share messages from the Spirit-World. Educated at the Arthur Findlay College for Mediums in England and the California School of 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 been a "guest psychic" on radio and published quality "how-to" spiritual development articles in various media. He has provided entertaining psychic and mediumship development courses and presentations in China, Thailand, England and USA.

ASK CJ

Is Zoe Saldana a new found "scissor sister"?



GET INTO THIS
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Could it be? Because, if it is in fact true, I know a whole list of women that would line up for the opportunity to make lesbian babies with Zoe Saldana.

Speculations came out in an interview she had with ALLURE magazine. The stunning actress showed the world a different side. Not only was she baring all 115 lbs of her nude body for the photo shoot, but she confidently expressed her newfound relationship perspective. Saldana, who is the ex-girlfriend of Keith Britton, and the ever so handsome Bradley Cooper with whom she has been on-again, off-again with, states, "Been there, done that, got the T-shirt...I might end up with a woman raising my children. ...That's how androgynous I am." How do I feel about this statement you ask? Well, even if you didn't ask, I'm going to tell you anyway. CJ's response: WHAT ZOE!? Maybe it's just me, but I've never viewed Zoe



Saldana as being anything close to androgynous. Maybe a little closet freak, but never androgynous. My guess is she's having that mid-success celebrity breakdown. You know, that thing that Brandy went through when she faked her marriage. Or that flamboyant episode that Tom Cruise had on Oprah's sofa with his shoes still on might I add (poor sofa). I mean, there's nothing wrong with Zoe coming out about her being open to alternative lifestyle, but the only thing about that is...SHE DIDN'T COME OUT AT ALL. She has yet to confirm that she is in fact lesbian, bisexual, "trisexual," or any other sexual for that matter. In fact, it's almost as if she peeked her head out of a rainbow painted closet into a room full of people, just to scream out "Don't look at me!"

This has definitely been one of the most talked about stories in the celebrity gossip world. When asked for clarification about the statement, Zoe responded with "No, it wasn't a generalization. It was a statement that I strongly stand by. As of today, I've been attracted to the male species, but if one day I wake up and want to be with a woman, I will do that because it is my life, therefore it is my decision." I must say, that as a celebrity it's quite rude to tell us juicy gossip without elaborating into even juicier details. Zoe needs to understand that we are human, and in order for our small minds to interpret her orientation to determine what flag she's going to carry during PRIDE, we need to give her title! So what's it gonna be our little androgynous Columbian drummer lover? Inquiring lesbians are anticipating. :) ■

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last word!

BY LEA CARRASCO-ZANINI

Celebrating An Achievable Dream Of Helping Men And Women Living With HIV/AIDS At The 27th Annual Ribbon Of Life

Twenty-seven years after its founding, Golden Rainbow continues to fight against HIV/AIDS on a daily basis. One of the longest running AIDS service organizations in Nevada, this year Golden Rainbow celebrates 27 years of service to people living with HIV/AIDS.

You could say we are a small agency, only ever having two paid employees for 27 years, but that's the only small aspect about us. The agency itself provided direct financial assistance to more than 500 men, women and children in 2012 while also providing permanent housing to men, women and children with its eight, two-bedroom apartments, three-bedroom house and two-bedroom townhouse. I believe in the agency's community based approach, which has always been an important aspect of this organization. I think that is something to be valued.

Golden Rainbow was created because an entertainer battling AIDS was forced to live and die in his brother's garage. Entertainers, by doing what they do best, put on their first show to raise money for supportive services. That first show was called Golden Rainbow and eventually renamed as *Ribbon of Life*. The agency's largest source of revenue and main fundraiser, "Ribbon of Life," is celebrating its 27th anniversary this year at The Smith Center for the Performing Arts on June 30, 2013 at 1PM.

inside Reynolds Hall. The show is produced by hundreds of Las Vegas' best entertainers each year, all of whom are volunteering their time and talents to the cause. With such star power, these performers easily make this the best fundraising show in Las Vegas. The continued support from performers is evidence that this organization is deeply rooted in the community with roots stretching all the way down the Las Vegas Strip through every showroom.

In 2012, *Ribbon of Life* drew a record-setting crowd of 1,630 during its debut event in The Smith Center for the Performing Arts. The performance raised more than \$200,000, topping the previous year by \$40,000. Memorable numbers included "Rhythm Of Life" by Phantom – The Las Vegas Spectacular, "Circle of Life" by children's group Broadway in The Hood, "Rock of Ages" by the famous Las Vegas Tenors, "Suite From Porgy and Bess" by Clint Holmes and more.

This year's extravaganza, "Tributes," will feature a wide spectrum of tribute-themed performances from contemporary to classic, Broadway to film, pop to hip-hop, music videos, television and political comedy. Patrons will be treated to performances by Clint Holmes, George Wallace, Josh Strickland, Human Nature, MoSaic and many more.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge that the talent behind



Golden Rainbow Executive Director
Lea Carrasco-Zanini

the scenes is as equally important as the talent you see on the stage at *Ribbon of Life*. I'm talking of course about the agency's Board of Directors. A group of sixteen people make up Golden Rainbow's Board of Directors, all of whom would probably consider Golden Rainbow to be their second job. The time and effort that they put into the agency and its fundraisers is astounding. They are true stars in my eyes. Because of their unwavering commitment, Golden Rainbow continues to be able to serve those in need. I know Las Vegas thanks them and I thank them.

I encourage everyone in the community to come out and support the 27th anniversary of *Ribbon of Life* on June 30, 2013 at The Smith Center for the Performing Arts. It's only with the help and support of our community that we can continue to make a difference every day in the lives of others. ■

TICKETS Starts at just \$38 and can be purchased by calling The Smith Center Box Office at 702.749.2000 or by visiting Golden Rainbow's website, GoldenRainbow.org or The Smith Center website, TheSmithCenter.com.



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Photographs by Alex Thompson



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