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A photograph of two men in a kitchen setting. The man on the left is wearing a light blue dress shirt and a patterned tie, and is leaning in to kiss the man on the right. The man on the right is wearing a red V-neck sweater over a collared shirt, glasses, and is holding a blue and white cup. He is also holding a small piece of food in his other hand. In the background, there are stainless steel pots on a counter and a plate with a dessert.

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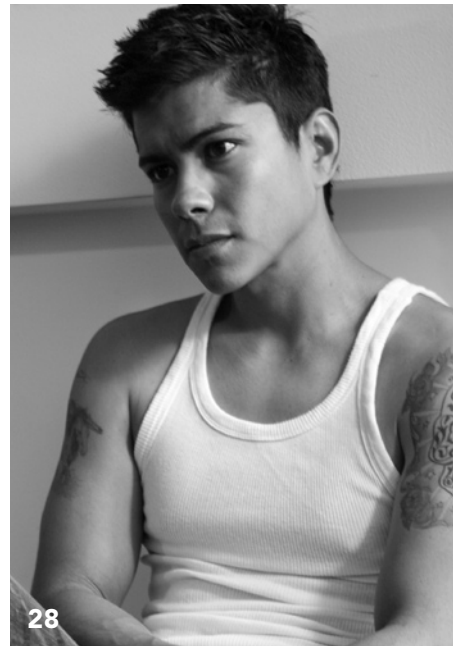
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BLACK & WHITE PARTY



AUGUST 21, 2010
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On August 21, the Black & White Party is back at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, and we're keeping with the hip new style. The party starts at nine in the p.m. and doesn't stop until one in the a.m. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door, and proceeds will go to help AFAN fight HIV/AIDS throughout Southern Nevada. Visit afanlv.org to get your tickets today.

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STUDIOS

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ASSOCIATES



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It's a busy, busy month



What is it about August that makes it such an active time for gay events in Las Vegas? It's not like the temps have really dropped that much to make it truly comfortable outside our air-conditioned abodes. But the various non-profits and event organizers who've planned these activities sure hope you'll forget about the scorching heat and just come out to have a good time. What's going on, you ask? Let's just run down all the options.

First up is FamilyFest 2010, taking place Aug. 6-8 at the Paris Las Vegas resort. FamilyFest was created by former *Arise* magazine co-publisher Glenn Alexander as a weekend celebrating the ethnic diversity within the LGBT community. Activities include an "Everything's Sexier in Paris" Friday night party and numerous guest speakers, including local motivational speaker and *QVegas* contributor, Angela Harvey. *Ru-Paul's Drag Race* season one winner Bebe Zahara Benet is also scheduled to perform. Check out the full schedule at www.familyfestlasvegas.com.

A fund-raiser for openly lesbian Justice of the Peace candidate Kristine Kuzemka will be held at Krave on Aug. 11, 6-8 p.m. Suggested minimum contribution is just \$25, so come out and support one of our own. See the ad on page 27 for more information.

Following closely on FamilyFest's heels is another weekend celebration, hosted by the various properties of MGM Resorts International. Simply called Fabulous, the dates of Aug. 12 to Aug. 15 are filled with art tours, tickets to Cirque shows and cast parties, and various socials and mixers. Some weekend

packages even include tickets to see Lady Gaga perform at MGM Grand on Aug. 13. See more details on page 15 of this issue or visit www.myfabulousvegas.com.

An LGBT phone bank in support of Senator Harry Reid's re-election campaign will be held at the Nevada Democratic Party headquarters on Aug. 18, 6-8 p.m. RSVP to Earl@QVegas.com if you wish to participate.

For more than two decades, Aid for AIDS of Nevada has been hosting a massive fund-raising event, the Black & White Party. Saturday, Aug. 21, it returns to the site of last year's party, the Joint inside the Hard Rock Hotel. Read last month's issue for full details or visit www.afanlv.org to buy tickets.

Our own networking group, QVegas Business Alliance, holds its two monthly events the following week. Match Cosmopolitan Tapas restaurant hosts our luncheon on Tuesday, Aug. 24, and Sedona Restaurant Lounge is the location of our evening social two nights later on Aug. 26.

If you're not already exhausted and broke by this point, please be sure to attend HRC Las Vegas' 5th Annual Gala on Aug. 28. See our cover story on page 44 or visit lasvegas.hrc.org.

Whew. I'm tired just thinking about it all.

M. Cory Burgess
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WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

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

READER LETTERS

My name is Cassie, and I started going to The Center in the beginning of 2010. The first day I showed up, I was a nervous wreck; I did not know how to act exactly. I thought there is no way these people could really understand how I feel.

I showed up wearing something that I felt expressed me and thought to myself as I walked in, god are they going to think I dress or act too gay? Now thinking about those first few times, I laugh because now every time I go to The Center I wear whatever I want, and although I may get stares out on the street from people who find my ties and my way of dress odd, as soon as I walk into The Center I feel at home.

In a span of four months I have made countless friends that will surely have an impact on my life for years to come. I also gained more self-acceptance of myself in a few months then I did the entire time I was in high school. What prompted me to start going to The Center is that I had this self hatred for myself; I was convinced that I could somehow force myself to fit the constraints of what was considered normal.

Upon going to The Center, it gave me this sense of belonging that helped me feel better about myself. I talked to people in all sorts of circumstances and I joined this community that supported one another, which gave me the strength I needed to be myself. The more I started to go, the better I felt and really did not worry so much about what other people thought about me.

I no longer feel the need to label myself in the ways I did because the labels a retrained myself too were hurting me. What started out as just a way to feel more connected turned into a huge self-esteem boost and gaining dozens of new friends. Even if I was unable to go to the center ever again the impact of R.U.12 and 17-24 have drastically changed how I feel about myself and the world around me, and for that I will be forever grateful.

CASSIE

LGBTQ Youth Prom Prince 2010

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LGBT WEDDINGS & COMMITMENTS

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

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

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

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OUR COMMUNITY

Royal Court holds four August events

The Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire is hosting four fundraising events in August: the 2nd Annual Boys Night Out at Badlands Saloon, Friday, Aug. 6; the Entertainer of the Year Competition at Charlie's Las Vegas, Friday, Aug. 20; the King Midas and his Golden Goddess Competition at Spotlight Lounge, Saturday, Aug. 21; and the History of the Court at Charlie's Las Vegas, Friday, Aug. 27.

Chris Reynolds hosts Boys Night Out (Badlands, Aug. 6, \$6 beer bust at 8 p.m., event at 9 p.m.) as part of his weekend of steamy events, appropriate in the dog days of summer! Boys Night Out is an evening of performances by all boys, and the Court's female impersonators get to take a break and enjoy a night out as boys!

The Entertainer of the Year Competition (Charlie's, Aug. 20, 9 p.m.) is always a blast as local entertainers compete for the camp title of Entertainer of the Year. Nominations are

accepted by the Imperial Crown Prince and Princess Royale Council of the Court, and then the nominated entertainers come out and perform for the judges to see who will be crowned Entertainer of the Year!

The King Midas and His Golden Goddess Competition (Spotlight, Aug. 21, \$5 beer bust at 8 p.m., competition at 9 p.m.) is the seventh in a series of competitive camp pageants hosted by the Court to raise money for our community. The only qualifier: King Midas and his Golden Goddess must be of a certain age. The King and Queen of the Desert Competition, the final pageant of the season in which winners of all previous pageants compete, will be in September.

Finally, come on out to Charlie's Las Vegas on Friday, Aug. 27, at 9 p.m. for The History of the Court. This show is always a fun event, highlighting performances by members of the court throughout its almost 12-year history. ●

Concert will benefit Golden Rainbow

Las Vegas residents William Waldrop and Robert Williamson will present an afternoon concert at the Clark County Flamingo Library Theater on Aug. 8 at 1:30 p.m., with a silent auction and reception beginning at noon. The concert is presented by SinCityQSocials and will utilize actors and musicians from *Phantom—The Las Vegas Spectacular*. All proceeds from the concert, as well as the preceding silent auction, will benefit Golden Rainbow, the local non-profit organization that provides housing and financial assistance to Southern Nevadans living with HIV/AIDS.

The concert, with music by composer William Waldrop (Assistant Conductor, *Phantom*) and lyricist Robert Williamson, is a revue of original material the songwriting team has collaborated on since meeting on the national tour of *Cats* three years ago and includes music from projects currently in development—*Red Rover*, *Oktasha: A Legend*, and *Pandemic! A Mini Flusical*. The cabaret-style concert will feature a cast of ten singers and dancers and an eight-piece onstage band.

At *Phantom*, William has access to some of the most talented performers in Las Vegas, all of whom are always eager to support a wonderful charity like Golden Rainbow." Waldrop, who will serve as the concert's mu-

sical director, will also provide arrangements and orchestrations for the 90-minute concert. Choreography is by Courtney Combs.

Golden Rainbow is a local charity known for their tireless efforts in helping to support the Strip's varied and diverse performers. Their annual fundraiser, Ribbon of Life, held recently at The Las Vegas Hilton on June 13, raises approximately \$200,000 each year.

Golden Rainbow Executive Director Lea Clayville says, "Clark County is facing a crisis with cuts in federal funding to HIV/AIDS support services. Now is the time for Golden Rainbow to step up and fulfill our mission: when no one else can, we can. However, we can't do it without the support of our patrons, and we invite everyone to *Listen To Our Song* for an incredible afternoon of entertainment for a great cause."

Waldrop and Williamson's songs have been heard most recently at the Las Vegas Composer's Showcase (Liberace Museum), We Go Together (BC/EFA Benefits in St. Louis and Pittsburgh), and ARTrageous Vegas (Aruba Hotel). Their song 'Beyond' was performed by the Las Vegas Men's Chorus in their recent concert *I Gotta Feeling*.

Purchase tickets online at www.waldropandwilliamson.com. ●

NGRA holds events leading up to World Gay Rodeo Finals in October

The Nevada Gay Rodeo Association (NGRA) will host An Evening of Duets at Charlie's Las Vegas on Saturday, Aug. 14. The \$5 beer bust begins at 9 p.m., and the show begins at 10 p.m. NGRA's Evening of Duets promises to be full of outstanding entertainment, as the city's performers and entertainers join together for a show that is all duets. Come on down to that lil' ole bitty pissant country place.

NGRA is also the host association for the Bud Light World Gay Rodeo Finals, presented by the International Gay Rodeo Association, at the Avi Resort & Casino and the Mojave Crossing Events Center on the banks of the Colorado in Laughlin, Nevada.

Local favorite Winnie Baygo hosts the NGRA River Run to Laughlin on Saturday, Aug. 21. Get ready for World Gay Rodeo Finals and enjoy time at Harrah's private beach on the Colorado. Enjoy a comfortable ride

down to Laughlin leaving at 9 a.m., time on the river, World Gay Rodeo Stampedes the Lariat at 9 p.m. over in Bullhead City, and ride back to Las Vegas.

Then, in October, come on down to Laughlin for the World Gay Rodeo Finals. NGRA is hosting party buses all weekend long—one on Friday, Oct. 22, two on Saturday, October 23, and one on Sunday, Oct. 24. NGRA is also offering transportation down to Laughlin and back to Vegas on Thursday, Oct. 21 and Friday, returning on Sunday. The World Gay Rodeo Finals is "Your Ultimate Rodeo Vacation"; come on down to Laughlin and party with the cowboys and cowgirls from all over the country. The Saturday night concert features young country duo, The Carter Twins. Details will be available on www.ngra.com and www.igra.com/finals. ●

Penn & Teller host AFAN appreciation night

Penn & Teller AFAN Appreciation Night was held Tuesday, June 29, at the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino for team members of the Penn & Teller Challenge who raised \$500 or more for this year's AIDS Walk. The 20th Annual AIDS Walk Las Vegas was held on Sunday, April 25 and raised a total of \$500,000. The famous duo, Penn & Teller served as Grand Marshals and hosted the Penn & Teller Challenge as their AIDS Walk team, which drew in 1,000 participants (of the

8,500 total walkers) and raised \$176,000, including Penn & Teller's donating match.

Over 200 people enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and dessert including an AFAN/Penn & Teller-designed cake by CAKED Las Vegas along with a pre-show meet and greet with Penn & Teller. Teller also walked around and provided magic lessons to children and adults alike. After the private event, the guests all attended Penn & Teller's show in the Penn & Teller

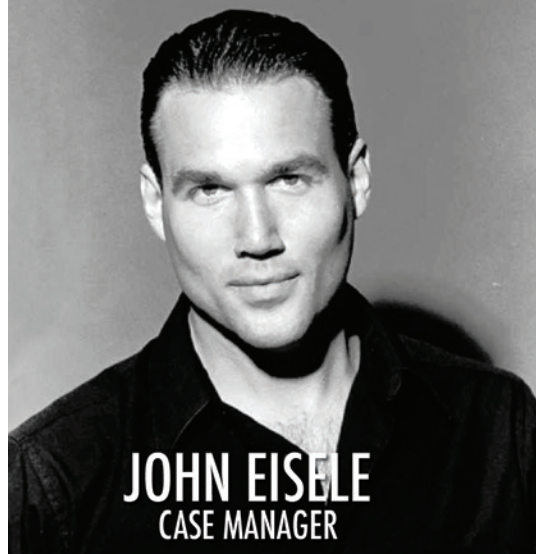


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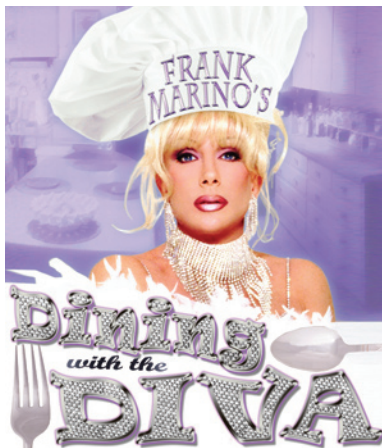
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THAT'S SO VEGAS

Divas
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Frank Marino releases *Dining with the Diva*



Frank Marino, creator and star of the female impersonation extravaganza *Divas Las Vegas* at the Imperial Palace, has released his new cookbook, *Dining with the Diva*.

The book offers a collection of over 120 vibrant photos and delightful recipes. This unique and entertaining cookbook is sure to become a kitchen's centerpiece, with meals fit for a king... and queen!

Dining with the Diva is available for purchase at the Imperial Palace box office for \$20. A portion of the proceeds from this whimsical book will go to the Make A Wish Foundation. ●

Former child star Alison Arngrim brings *Confessions of a Prairie Bitch* to Onyx

Comic, former child star, outspoken activist, and TV Land Award winner Alison Arngrim makes her Las Vegas debut with *Confessions of a Prairie Bitch* this August at the Onyx Theatre. Best known as acid-tongued, pre-Midol meanie Nellie Oleson from *Little House on the Prairie*, Arngrim presents an uproarious evening of storytelling, stand-up, and multi media about life as everyone's favorite toxic pre-teen brat, complete with petticoats and ringlets. The live appearance also marks the release of Arngrim's book of the same title. Never afraid to dish the dirt on TV land, she let all the secrets loose of *Little House on the Prairie*, Hollywood and much more. Recalling her life and career as bitchy Nellie Oleson, Arngrim startles audiences internationally with off-color jokes about child stars and TV icons of the 1970s and '80s.

Confessions of a Prairie Bitch premiered in 2002 and has now become a worldwide phenomenon. It has been performed to packed houses in New York, Los Angeles, Seattle, Maui and an extended run in France, where Arngrim performed entirely in French to a standing room only crowd at the Palais des Congres. The all-French version is titled, *Confessions d'une Garce de La Prairie*.

Born in Queens, New York, Arngrim has been performing stand-up since age 15 at such notable comedy clubs as Laugh Factory, The Improvisation and Comedy Store. In addition to seven years on *Little House on the Prairie*, Alison has guest starred on *Love Boat* and *Fan-*



tasy Island, among others.

After her good friend and *Little House* co-star Steve Tracy died of AIDS in 1986, Alison became a prominent AIDS activist with AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA). In 1988, Alison spoke before the Presidential Commission on AIDS and was the first woman to receive the "Friend in Deed" award at APLA. In 1992 Alison was presented with a resolution by the Los Angeles City Council commending her on her work on behalf of people living with HIV and AIDS. In 2004, Arngrim revealed to the world that she was sexually molested as a child and joined the advisory board of Protect, a group that fights to give children a voice in the war against child abuse.

Confessions of a Prairie Bitch runs Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Aug. 5-14 at 8 p.m. at the Onyx Theatre. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at www.onyxtheatre.com, by phone at (702) 732-7225, or at the box office. For information, call (702) 732-7225. Onyx Theatre is located at 953 E. Sahara Ave., Ste. 16 inside The Rack in Commercial Center. ●



MGM Resorts hosts Fabulous weekend

Las Vegas, known for the best parties, concerts and events, is becoming even more Fabulous during a fun-filled, indulgent party weekend Aug. 12-15. Hosted by MGM Resorts properties' Aria, MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay, The Mirage, Monte Carlo, New York-New York, Luxor and Excalibur, Fabulous Las Vegas will offer special events throughout the four-day celebration including limited access to the sold-out Lady Gaga concert at MGM Grand.

Fabulous' guests can now visit www.MyFabulousVegas.com to select from their choice of MGM Resorts hotels listed above, then choose from four Fabulous packages offering varying levels of VIP access to private parties, preferred entry to the hottest LGBT events and exclusive opportunities with some of Las Vegas' top shows. The four packages, ranging from \$50 to \$575 plus hotel, will provide a flexible approach for guests to be as Fabulous as they want to be.

The Fabulous weekend will serve up drink specials at participating pool bars from noon to 7 p.m. each day. Every day also will feature the LOGO Lounge at eyecandy sound lounge & bar at Mandalay Bay from noon to 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday and from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and a Fabulous Happy Hour across all host properties from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. LOGO Lounge will be the center of activities offering guests meet-and-greets with LOGO TV personalities, sponsors and other Fabulous guests. For guests who have not purchased their package online, LOGO Lounge also will serve as a purchasing location.

Evenings will heat up with concerts, shows and exclusive parties. Select Fabulous packages include tickets to the sold-out Monster Ball starring Lady Gaga, tickets to *Zumanity* and private parties at ROK Vegas and Studio 54.

Further celebrity mingling is an option as guests will have a chance to meet and socialize



with proud out Chef Susan Feniger at her restaurant Border Grill and get up close and personal with the artistic and talented casts from seven Cirque du Soleil shows at the Cast After-Party at ROK Vegas. Fabulous guests also will receive preferential treatment at Las Vegas' most popular LGBT events—Heaven at Bare Pool Lounge, Closet Sundays at The Beatles Revolution Lounge and Temptation Sundays at Luxor's South Pool. Other Fabulous events include blackjack and slot tournaments with the casts of *Thunder from Down Under* and *Fantasy*, docents tours of the Fine Art Collection at CityCenter and fashion events at Crystals, Las Vegas' newest and most extravagant shopping district.

For one weekend, this town is Fabulous, and the LGBT community owns it. Start following @MyFabulousVegas on Twitter and Facebook or visit MyFabulousVegas.com for more information, updates and to book your Fabulous package. ●



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NAKED BOY NEWS



The Naked Truth: Las Vegas for the underaged

This is Sin City, a playground for adults and one of the hottest LGBT tourist destinations. However if you are from 18 to 21 years old you may be scratching your head trying to figure out just what to do. So here is the naked truth about the things you can do even if you're underage in Vegas.

It's a Saturday or Sunday afternoon and you are dying to go to the hottest pool party but you get there and realize it is 21 and up. What to do? Did you know there is a mini water park in Vegas? Yes you heard right, Desert Breeze Aquatics Center (located at 8275 W. Spring Mountain Rd.) is the place for you. They have two water slides and a beach-style pool, and best of all it's only \$3 to get in.

Are you looking for a party on a Friday night and don't have a fake ID? What about getting a few friends together to go on an overnight camping trip? Make the 30-minute drive to Mount Charleston and get a campsite. It'll be cooler up there in the summer and a nice getaway. Bring a radio and party under the stars all night long.

Have you thought about flipping out? Try FLIPnOUT Fun Centers, the largest indoor trampoline arena in Vegas. Just imagine 10,000 square feet of jumping fun. Its only \$10 for an hour, and bring your camera because this giant fun house will have you laughing for the full 60 minutes.

Throw a ball! No, not a dance with tuxedos and prom dresses. Go to one of the many bowling alleys in town and literally throw a ball down the alley and knock down some pins. Some of the bowling centers offer cosmic bowling with black lights and DJs to make it like a nightclub.

So there you have it; those are just a few of the many things you can do to pass the time in Las Vegas until you turn 21 and can hit the nightclubs and the day-life pool parties. Until then, enjoy being a kid, and if you can sucker your parents into paying for your adventures... do so! Hope you enjoyed the naked truth on how to have fun in Vegas and be under age. For more ideas, check out my blog at www.NakedBoyNews.com. ●



J.Son is the host of the popular web series Naked Boy News and has been seen on CNN, A&E and MTV. He also hosts Temptation Sundays pool party every Sunday at the Luxor. For the latest Naked Boy News visit www.NakedBoyNews.com

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**WE SUPPORT THE LAS
VEGAS LGBT COMMUNITY.**

A special place for LGBTQ youth and young adults

It's nearly time for tens of thousands of students throughout the Vegas valley to return to middle school, high school and college.

A sizable percentage of those youth and young adults identify as LGBTQ, and several dozen of them have actively attended the weekly programs designed especially for them at The Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada (The Center) throughout the Summer break. These social and support groups provide a welcoming environment and solace from a sometimes not-so-welcoming world at large.

Every Thursday night, 6-7 p.m., the R.U.1.2. Youth Group meets at The Center (953 E. Sahara Ave., Ste. B-31), especially for 13-19 year old LGBT youth and their allies. The participants are educated on HIV prevention, coming out issues, drug and alcohol abuse and many other topics. The group is about empowering the youth to be everything they want to be. It is also about acceptance, and everyone is treated with respect and dignity. Following immediately after, at 7 p.m., the 17-24 group meets with the same mission but for a somewhat older crowd. The overlap in age ranges means some members actively attend both meetings.

Mel Goodwin joined The Center staff in November 2008 as Youth and Volunteer Services Director. Goodwin's duties include overseeing both these weekly groups as well as the various events and activities held on other nights throughout the year. These include the highly popular LGBTQ Youth Prom, providing an alternative to the traditional school prom, which is generally non-accepting of same-sex dates. The prom hosted by The Center, on the other hand, allows young people to bring whomever they want, dress however they want, and fully be themselves, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. This year's prom attendance numbered in the several hundreds and was likely the largest ever held to date. Read a letter from Cassie, who was voted Prom Prince 2010, on page 11 in this issue.

Another popular program at The Center is Vegas Mpowerment Project (VMP). VMP enriches and strengthens 20-29 year old gay/bisexual men's pride about who they are and

encourages them to explore and celebrate their sexuality by not just focusing on condom use but by including a wide variety of safer sex behaviors. VMP creates settings where young men can express their identities with each other, find support, and band together to take action on issues of importance to them. The group meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 p.m.

Joshua Montgomery is coordinator of Vegas Mpowerment Project. He says, "Younger gay/bisexual men have consistently been at higher risk for HIV since the epidemic began.... We wanted to educate our community on safer sex practices and change the norms of what might be safe and might not be safe to what the facts are so we can reduce the number of new HIV infections here in Las Vegas." VMP began in 2005 after Montgomery attended a 3-day training in San Francisco on Mpowerment, which is part of the Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions (DEBI) project. The local project is funded by the Southern Nevada Health District.

Just this year, Montgomery has seen great growth in VMP. He says, "There has been a lot of growth this past year having reached our goals almost already, and we still have five more months. We have many individuals who come group after group and strive to be a part of the bigger picture by joining our Core Group.... Core Group members are the starting point for the diffusion process that spreads the safer sex message to young gay, bisexual and transgender men throughout the community."

He adds, "It has been amazing working with this group. I have met so many individuals who came with no light at the end of the tunnel to now helping run things in the group. I have been able to share my personal struggles with addictions and have helped a few members to overcome their addictions one day at a time. I never had anything like this group growing up and since finding out my status I have always wanted to give back to help those who might be struggling with substance use, depression and more."

For more information about becoming involved with R.U.1.2., the 17-24 group, or Vegas Mpowerment Project, or perhaps encouraging a friend or family member to attend, contact The Center at (702) 733-9800 or visit The Center at the meeting times above. ●

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Nobody minds a quitter

by Richard Davis

In June, the American Lung Association (ALA) released a major new report that finds that the LGBT community smokes at higher rates than heterosexuals. How much more? The ALA report, “Smoking Out a Deadly Threat: Tobacco Use in the LGBT Community,” reviewed evidence from studies in several states to conclude that LGBT men are more than twice as likely to smoke than heterosexual men. The smoking rates for LBT women were only slightly lower. Bisexual youth have some of the highest smoking rates when compared to both heterosexual and gay youth. This health disparity puts the LGBT population at greater risk than heterosexuals for preventable tobacco-related illnesses.

Charles D. Conner, president and CEO of the ALA, said that there is a “need for additional research specific to the LGBT community and tobacco use.” A challenge for researchers is that most state and national health surveys don’t ask about sexual orientation and gender identity and so cannot report on LGBT health issues. The ALA report calls for the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and all state health departments to end “don’t ask, don’t tell” by including sexual orientation and gender identity questions in state and national health surveys. The report also calls for national quitlines to include the questions as part of quitline intake.

Malcolm Ahlo, at the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), said that before 2005, when the health district launched CRUSH, an LGBT smoking prevention campaign, Nevada

did not include a sexual orientation question in its biennial Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS). Ahlo, who directs CRUSH, said that a sexual identity question was included in the state’s 2005 survey, and this allowed baseline data to be collected which showed that 63 percent of the LGBT community smoked.

Why so high? The national ALA report found that the reasons for the higher LGBT smoking rate varied, but include the stress and discrimination related to homophobia, the tobacco industry’s targeted marketing to LGBT customers and the lack of access to LGBT-friendly tobacco-dependence treatment programs. Gloria Solis of the ALA in California, who developed The Last Drag, an LGBT smoking cessation program in San Francisco, said, “The bar culture normalized tobacco use within the LGBT community.” She added that because same-sex partners often lack access to employer-paid health benefits, they are less likely to seek tobacco-dependence treatment.

With these statistics in hand, CRUSH got busy with a smart and sexy social marketing campaign focused on young LGBT people, who are the primary targets of tobacco advertising (such as big tobacco’s notorious Subculture Urban Marketing campaign, known as SCUM). CRUSH’s smoke-free cuties began to appear in provocative ads with words like “Fresh” and “Playful” painted across the crotches of their snug tightly whiteys. The CRUSH cuties also made popular live appearances at National Coming Out Day and Pride. When

the ATS was conducted again in 2007, the survey showed that the LGBT smoking rate had dropped to 47 percent. While the 2006 voter-approved public smoking ban had an impact on LGBT smoking rates, Ahlo points out that CRUSH was the only program doing direct tobacco use intervention in the LGBT community during the time of the decrease. He hopes the 2009 numbers will show another drop in LGBT smoking rates.

Solis said, “It’s important that people see tobacco use as a social justice issue because it affects the LGBT community at a higher rate.” Silence equals death, and the ALA report calls for LGBT leaders to recognize the significant health threat that tobacco use presents to the LGBT community and to advocate for policies that promote a smoke-free community. Ahlo said that the entire Southern Nevada Association of Pride, Inc. board should be recognized as community health champions for adopting a tobacco-free policy for Las Vegas Pride 2010.

Ahlo says CRUSH hopes to soon partner with FreeZone, Piranha, 8½ Ultra Lounge, The Light Group, and other clubs to offer smoke-free nights. Terry Hernandez of SinCityQSo-cials has also partnered with CRUSH to offer non-smoking events. Hernandez, who smokes, said that a big percentage of LGBT people who go out, don’t. He said that while smokers will attend a non-smoking event, non-smokers won’t go to an event where they will be exposed to second-hand smoke. “People don’t go to bars because of that,” he said.

Rob Schlegel of Lambda Business Associa- ►



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“It’s important that people see tobacco use as a social justice issue because it affects the LGBT community at a higher rate.”

tion agrees. A non-smoker, Schlegel says, “The majority of gay people who don’t smoke would prefer not to be around smoke and so they don’t go to bars anymore. They have discovered other gay-friendly social venues in town.”

“How do I quit?” is a question CRUSH’s Ahlo frequently gets asked. Amy Beaulieu, the director of tobacco control policy with the American Lung Association in Nevada (ALAN), has an answer. Beaulieu said, “We are excited to have recently been awarded a federal stimulus grant, Communities Putting Prevention to Work, that allows ALAN to focus on the LGBT and other communities disparately impacted by tobacco use.” She said, “The tobacco companies have targeted these populations for many years and we want to put a stop to that.”

Beaulieu said that ALAN is committed to making sure that their smoking cessation programs and staff are culturally competent and inclusive of the LGBT community. Currently, she said, ALAN is offering mini-grants to LGBT community organizations who partner with ALAN to offer the ALA’s nationally-recognized smoking cessation programs, Freedom From Smoking and Not-On-Tobacco—a youth program.

Bill Blatt, director of tobacco programs at ALA national headquarters, said, “The ALA is committed to improving the lung health of all Americans.” Blatt said, “The Freedom From Smoking program was revised to remove heterosexual language from the program.” ALAN seeks LGBT volunteers to train as program facilitators to help LGBT smokers who want to quit.

Ahlo said CRUSH is also working with the Nevada Tobacco Users Helpline (1-800-QUIT-NOW) to provide the LGBT community both telephonic and web-based quitting options. He said that if you are not smoke-free and need help quitting, there are free, culturally tailored programs to help. ●

Richard Davis is a regular QVegas contributor. He works as a smoking cessation program coordinator with the American Lung Association in Nevada. Call Davis at (702) 431-6348 for more information about ALAN’s programs in the LGBT community.

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DREAM PINK COLLAR JOBS

By Jeremiah Dover

Wondering how to land that dream job in these troubled times? Don't limit yourself with the typical 9-to-5. Think outside the box and discover where your real passion really lies. Here are examples of gays who found their calling:

■ ■ ■

MERRELL HOLLIS

MAKEUP ARTIST FOR
WENDY WILLIAMS

What makes your job so amazing? • I transform people with my own personal stamp.

Did you always know you wanted to work with celebrities? • I knew I wanted to work in the fashion industry but I wasn't sure in what capacity.

How did you land your job? • I snuck on a music video set when I was 17 and met a make-up artist who took me under his wing and offered me my first job.

Is the money good? • It's feast or famine. Some months the industry is rolling in dough with so many new jobs for artists. Other times, it can be as dry as the Sahara desert! Make-up artists have to be smart with their money.

What fringe benefits does your job offer? • Benefits are fabulous: VIP parties, great

seats in restaurants, travel all over the world. I meet people I would never meet in any other profession.

What's the worst part of your gig? • It's dog-eat-dog. I'm a good ole Southern boy. Sometimes I feel like a guppy swimming with sharks.

What does someone need to do to get your job? • Learn everything you can about applying colors. Education and professionalism is key.

■ ■ ■

BROCK SOUSA

EVENT PRODUCTION
MANAGER, MANHUNT.COM

What makes your job so amazing? • I work for the biggest and best site for men to meet men, and I love that traveling and socializing with men from all around the world is part of the job.

Did you always know you wanted to work in gay event production? • No, I never thought I'd be working in this industry. I grew up in a conservative, strongly religious family where everyone shuddered when they heard the word gay.

How did you get your job? • Five years ago, I came upon a job posting on Manhunt seeking

a Marketing Assistant. I really didn't think in a million years I had a shot, but I applied and got hired.

What fringe benefits does your job offer? • I travel all over the world and meet lots of sexy guys, all on Manhunt's tab. Who else would send me to Key West in the middle of winter to stay in a four-star hotel and throw a fun party?

What's the worst part of your gig? • Being sent to an event in Nebraska in October when there's a foot of snow on the ground.

What does someone need to do to get your job? • You have to be willing to start at the bottom (insert Manhunt joke here) and work your way up.

■ ■ ■

DANIEL LEE

DIRECTOR OF MALE
MESSAGE SITE,
MANWORKS.COM

What makes your job so amazing? • I like to get my hands in everything and with this job, I get to do that: from product development of new user features to marketing and sales. It's great to have input in all areas of the site.

Did you always know you wanted to do your job? • I didn't. I've done so many ►

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Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)



Received **\$426,525¹** from tobacco
HRC Score:² **20%**

▶ Voted **YES** on Constitutional Ban of Gay Marriage

"I believe that traditional marriage, the union between a man and a woman, should be the only form of marriage recognized by law."³

▶ Voted **NO** on Adding Sexual Orientation to Definition of Hate Crimes (S. Amdt. 3035)

▶ Voted **NO** on Prohibiting Job Discrimination for Gays (Sept. 1996)

▶ **AGAINST** repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell

Fmr. President George W. Bush (R)



Received **\$267,770¹** from tobacco

▶ Called for a Constitutional **BAN** of Gay Marriage

"For the good of families, children and society, I support a constitutional amendment to protect the institution of marriage."⁴

▶ Threatened to **VETO** Adding Sexual Orientation to Definition of Hate Crimes⁵

▶ Did not know if homosexuality was a choice or not⁶

▶ **AGAINST** repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell

Senator John McCain (R-AZ)



Received **\$145,682¹** from tobacco
HRC Score:² **0%**

▶ Supported **PROPOSITION 8** in California

"I believe that the institution of marriage can serve its public purposes only when it is understood as being a union between one man and one woman."⁷

▶ Did **NOT** Co-Sponsor Adding Sexual Orientation to Definition of Hate Crimes (S. 1145)

▶ Voted **NO** on Prohibiting Job Discrimination by Sexual Orientation (Sept. 1996)

▶ **AGAINST** repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell

Senator Richard Burr (R-NC)



Received **\$456,175¹** from tobacco
HRC Score:² **20%**

▶ Voted **YES** on Constitutional Ban of Gay Marriage

"None of us ever want to change the Constitution, but I can't think of any institution more important in this country than marriage being between a man and a woman."⁸

▶ Voted **YES** on Banning Gay Adoptions in DC (July 1999)

▶ Voted **NO** on Adding Sexual Orientation to Definition of Hate Crimes (S. Amdt. 3035)

▶ **AGAINST** repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell

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1. CENTER FOR RESPONSIVE POLITICS WITH DATA FROM THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION.
2. 2008 HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN SCORE: HRC.ORG
3. MARRIAGE PROTECTION AMENDMENT - MOTION TO PROCEED. 06/07/2006. SENATE SPEECH.
4. 2005 STATE OF THE UNION SPEECH FEB 2, 2005
5. HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN: FEDERAL HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION TIMELINE.
6. THIRD BUSH/KERRY DEBATE, IN TEMPE AZ, OCT 13, 2004.
7. MARRIAGE PROTECTION AMENDMENT - MOTION TO PROCEED. 06/06/2006. SENATE SPEECH.
8. WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL, "NC SENATORIAL DEBATE EXCERPTS" SEP 28, 2004.

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◀different things in my life. I was a stripper and a dotcommer. I worked for a non-profit, a national gay magazine, then consumer products...

How did you get your job? • I've known the CEO of Manworks.com's parent company for years and with the launch of the new site, he needed someone to head it.

Is the money good? • In this economy, isn't any salary good?

What fringe benefits does your job offer? • I get offered free massages from gorgeous masseurs and bodyworkers. I have never taken advantage of the offer.

What's the worst part of your gig? • There is an incredible satisfaction that comes with having an actual physical product be out in the marketplace that one doesn't get at an internet company.

What does someone need to do to get your job? • A big bag of tricks. A person really has to have a broad, critical and strategic mind and a great sense of humor. There isn't one specific area of the site that I am dedicated to so that requires a whole range of skills: writing, number crunching, editorial direction. I never thought my job promiscuity would ever be an actual asset, but in this case, it has been.

■ ■ ■

JINCEY LUMPKIN LESBIAN PORN CEO, JUICY PINK BOX

What makes your job so amazing? • I own a company that produces lesbian porn. What's incredible about my job is that I get to be around really exciting, out there, wild people who are living their lives the way they want to live them. I work with porn stars who let it all hang out, and that kind of honesty is really cool to be around.

Did you always know you wanted to do your job? • I never imagined I would become a porn producer. After graduating law school and while working at a super boring law job, I started writing a sex blog. Everything grew out of that.

How did you get your job? • I created it. I think that there are two kinds of people in the world: people who do things ("doers") and people who wait ("waiters"). Doers get shit done. They don't sit and wait for opportunities to come to them or for some magical moment where everything becomes clear. I am a doer! I go out and make things happen. I guess that's why I became a producer. I don't think being a "waiter" is bad, but it just means that while you

are waiting, others are creating the very opportunities you might be waiting on.

Is the money good? • Mama don't work for free! Pornography sales are higher than the revenues of ABC, CBS, and NBC, *combined*. In this man's market, I am making my place and creating content by women for women who like women. It's sexy to know that my creativity is rewarded with a loyal, paying customer base.

What fringe benefits does your job offer? • Perks include seeing naked boobs for free all day long, invitations to cool parties filled with colorful characters, and the ability to live glamorously. Life is better when it sparkles, I think.

What's the worst part of your gig? • The hardest part for any boss is managing other people. I hate to reprimand people, but sometimes it's necessary. I also hate it when people are late. People should realize your time is just as important as their time.

What does someone need to do to get your job? • Come and work with me! I'm looking for good interns. You might end up becoming a producer yourself.

■ ■ ■

TIM WILDMAN MEN'S SWIM/UNDERWEAR DESIGNER, WILDMANT

What makes your job so amazing? • I get to be creative, designing products, ads, websites, hang tags. It's not a stuffy office job.

Did you always know you wanted to do design? • I always knew I wanted to be a designer but I didn't know I wanted to be a men's underwear/swimwear designer.

How did you get your job? • Built it from the ground up.

Is the money good? • The money that comes in goes right back out in order to grow the business. Growth is good...and we got plenty of that!

What fringe benefits does your job offer? • My dogs are always with me. There's never a shortage of pool party invitations.

What's the worst part of your gig? • An unhappy customer. I don't like it and we always try to fix it!

What does someone need to do to get your job? • Sleep with the boss.

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A Friend on the High Court?

BY WILLIAM BESSETTE

On July 28, in the case of *Christian Legal Society v. Martinez*, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled, in a close 5-4 vote, that a university can legally deny recognition to a Christian student group that bars gays and non-believers. This was a highly charged case that pitted anti-discrimination principles against religious freedom. Interestingly, this victory comes in a time of conservative dominance on the high court. Of course, there is an answer for that, in the name of Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy.

The past decade has seen many changes in the halls of the Supreme Court, perhaps the most significant of which being the departure of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who was seen as the obvious moderate and swing vote. President George W. Bush would end up replacing her with Samuel Alito, an obvious conservative. Even up through Barack Obama's two recent appointments, the replacement of a moderate swing justice with a hard right-leaning conservative has proven to have the largest impact on the court.

One area where this could have been true, but surprisingly hasn't been, is gay rights, and this is where Justice Anthony Kennedy comes in. Appointed in 1988 by Ronald Reagan, Kennedy has, for the most part, been a right-leaning moderate vote on the court. When O'Connor departed, it was widely assumed the court would shift to the right, and it has.

Perhaps the most notorious example of this is the recent *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* case, in which Kennedy wrote for the majority conservative block, overturning almost a century of precedent in allowing unions and corporations to spend as much money as they would like in order to influence elections.

Kennedy began to burnish his "swing vote" credentials and emerge as a defender of gay rights in the 1996 case *Romer v. Evans*, where he wrote the court's opinion invalidating a provision in the Colorado Constitution denying homosexuals the right to bring local discrimination claims or be recognized as a Protected Class.

Rejecting the state's argument that Amendment 2 merely blocked gay people from receiv-

ing "special rights," Kennedy wrote, "To the contrary, the amendment imposes a special disability upon those persons alone. Homosexuals are forbidden the safeguards that others enjoy or may seek without constraint."

The notable exception to this, however, was his vote in the 2000 case of *Boy Scouts of America v. Dale*. In this case, he voted with the conservative wing of the court in upholding the Boy Scout's organizational right to ban homosexuals from being scoutmasters. This precedent would only stand for three years, as Kennedy would end up again swinging his vote back to the left three years later.

In 2003, he authored the Court's majority 6-3 opinion in *Lawrence v. Texas*, which invalidated criminal prohibitions against homosexual sodomy under the Due Process Clause of the United States Constitution. Part of what Kennedy writes is in regards to personal liberties protected by the fourth amendment: "The intimate, adult consensual conduct at issue here was part of the legitimate state interest was part of the liberty protected by the substantive component of the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process protections. Holding that the Texas statute furthers no legitimate state interest which can justify its intrusion into the personal and private life of the individual."

Then, roughly one month ago, Kennedy does it again in the aforementioned case of the *Christian Legal Society v. Martinez*, upholding a school's right to withdraw support for groups that have discriminatory practices. Though he did not author this opinion, his vote certainly was the deciding factor, much to the ire of the right wing base that supports him and holds a thin edge on the court.

Does a look at Kennedy's past voting record indicate which way he will vote on a potentially contentious issue like gay marriage? No, but it does shed some light on his idea of liberty and judicial jurisprudence. The case that was just wrapped up in California, *Perry v. Schwarzenegger*, which argues for the repeal of the Proposition 8 gay marriage ban, will most certainly end up before the Supreme Court before the end of Obama's first term. With Justice Kennedy recently announcing he will be on the high court for at least another three years, it will be interesting to see whether or not the LGBT community has a friend on the high court after all. ●

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BEAT BOX SUMMER'S HOTTEST JAMS

BY JIMMY NEWSUM

The summer is a record scorcher. We're not talking about the high temps outside. The nation's gay clubs are blazing with super hot new tracks from our favorite artists. Here's a selection of the best new dance tracks heating up floors this summer.



BROKE FREE

TIM LETTEER FEATURING ZHANA (Hades Music)

If you are itching for a brand new diva anthem, look no further than "Broke Free." Zhana's powerful vocals flourish throughout the maxi single, packed with remixes by some of today's hottest gay DJs. Tim Letteer's Extended Club Mix features electro house elements while his Dark Beat Mix is packed with punchy beats. DJ Chad Jack offers pure house while Michael Hades brings a darker, deeper, tech house mix. Nick Harvey's big room remix is massive with multiple builds and soaring energy. This old-school, underground, divalicious anthem will keep gay floors moving well into the fall months.



JOHNNY ARE YOU QUEER?

JOSIE COTTON (Major Who)

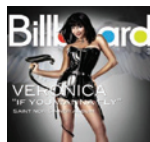
When "Johnny, Are You Queer?" first hit radio in the early 1980s, Josie Cotton was attacked by the religious right and labeled homophobic by the gay community. It was the first time the word queer had been used in a Top 40 song and the world simply was not ready for it. Written by The Paine Brothers, producers of the first all-girl band The Go-Gos, the original track is a fun, bubble-gum song for teenage girls. Thirty years later, Cotton's re-releasing the track with brand new remixes by Donni Hotwheel and Barry Harris. Is today's world ready to accept queer Johnny? Let's hope so because it's a damn catchy, way-fun tune.



WELCOME TO DISGRACELAND

COURTNEY ACT (Cool Kids Club)

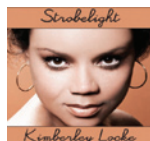
Australian *Idol* finalist and gender-bending sensation Courtney Act is redefining "down-under" to clubgoers with her American debut single, "Welcome to Disgraceland." It's a euphoric pop anthem that never fails to get clubbers jumping, dancing, laughing and celebrating debauchery. It has drawn comparisons to Lady Gaga—and with good reason. Like the superstar, Courtney incorporates elaborate costumes, colorful dancers, and over-the-top fabulousness into her act. She also brings bold originality. "Welcome to Disgraceland" is a perfect introduction to a new Aussie artist we hope to hear a lot more from.



IF YOU WANNA FLY

VERONICA (iTunes)

Veronica's "If You Wanna Fly" is this summer's feel-good beach anthem, reminiscent of last summer's "When Love Takes Over" by Kelly Rowland. It's a joyous, inspiring, hands-in-the-air romp that pulls everyone to the dance floor. Veronica is popular with straight men for her pin-up calendars but it's her voice and fierce attitude that will make her a hero among gays. Veronica can teach the ladies of *RuPaul's Drag Race* a thing or two. The Mike Rizzo remix is a particular stand out.



STROBELIGHT

KIMBERLEY LOCKE (Dream Merchant 21)

Did *American Idol*'s Kimberley Locke channel Michael Jackson for this latest record? "Strobelight" is a delightfully disco-licious return to Jackson's *Off the Wall*. Locke sings about having the time of her life and being on cloud nine, and that's exactly where she takes clubbers—especially in the Tony Moran/Warren Rigg remix. Kimberley is the first artist on Randy Jackson's new dance music label and judging from this record, the Dawg-man made the perfect choice. ●

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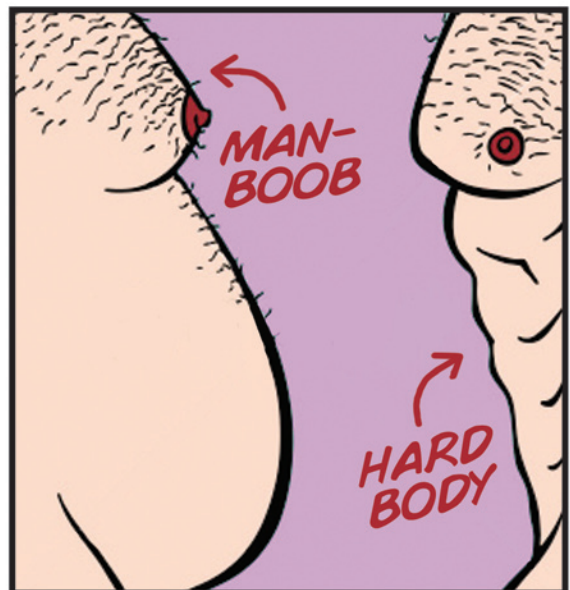
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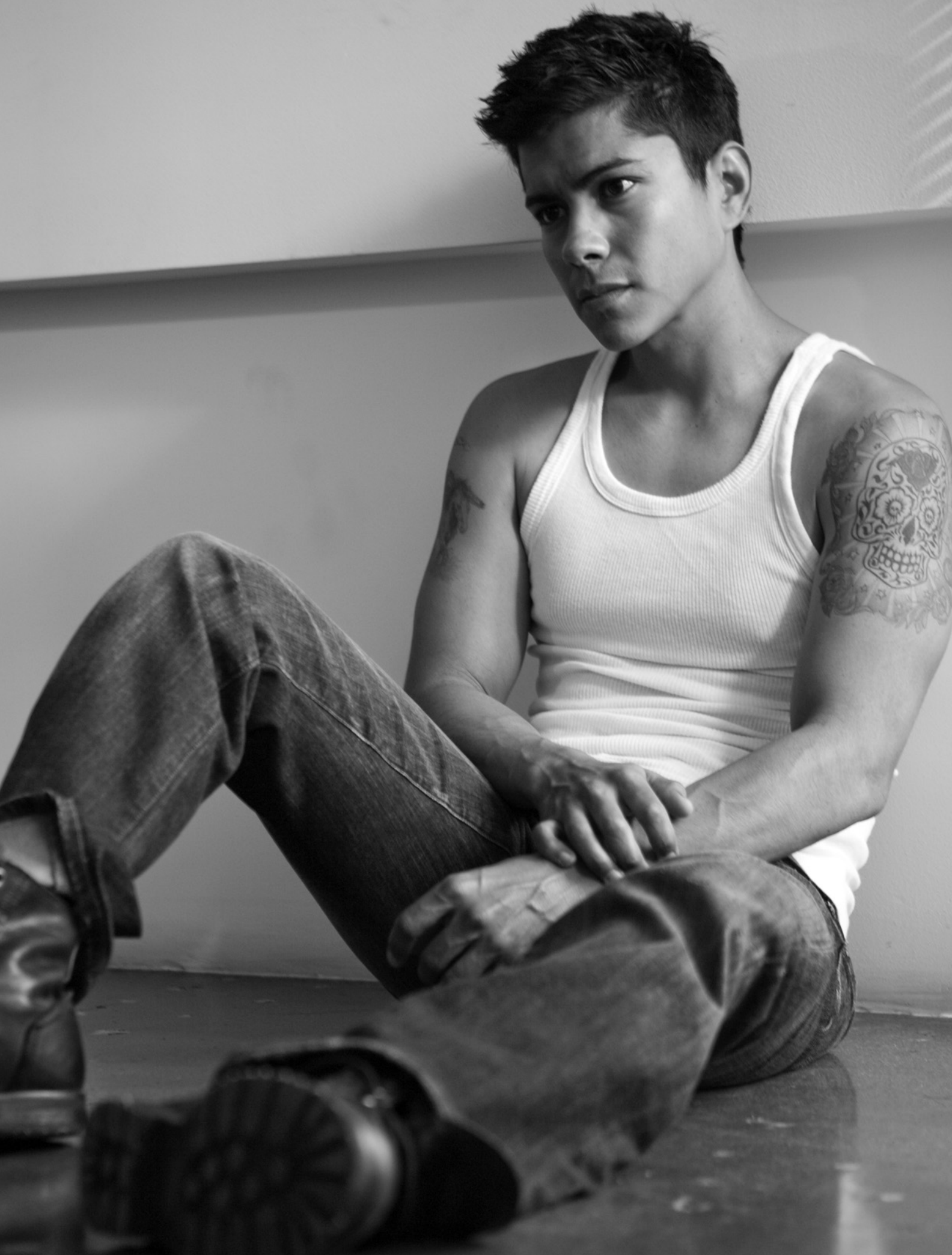


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Father-Son Dynamic

BY ANI BIESADA

“La Mission isn’t about being gay, and it isn’t about being Latino,” actor Jeremy Ray Valdez said. “It has themes that resonate with the majority of people, regardless of their race, religion or their sexual orientation.”

The film, *La Mission*, takes place in the Latin-infused Mission District of San Francisco. The rich Latino cultural influences are found within the confines of gang violence and a struggling economy.

Valdez plays Jes Rivera, the son of Che Rivera (played by Benjamin Bratt). Single-father Che oozes testosterone and has a temper that can devour anything that is the target of his wrath. He is an ex-convict, with an addiction to alcohol and affection for low-riders, who exemplifies the Latin tradition of machismo.

Basically, Che is an all-around badass who is revered in the community. But his reputation in the Mission District is on the cusp of being demolished, when his pride and joy turns out to be gay.

Jes is Che’s Achilles heel. After the passing of his wife, Che raised Jes on his own. Jes is the center of his world, and that world crumbles when the truth about Jes comes out. To add insult to injury, Jes crosses racial boundaries and falls in love with a white man. Jes musters up the courage to come out in spite of these turbulent circumstances.

“Jes has to come to grips with himself, and the choice he has made to be the person that he wants to be,” Valdez said, “and has to be willing to sacrifice his relationship with his father, who is his best friend and confidant, in order to be who he is.”

Amidst these multi-layered themes, the story is really a peek inside the inner workings of a father-son relationship, where the root of their turmoil lies embedded in their characters.

“The core of the movie is a coming of age story of these two men,” Valdez said. “The alcoholism, the homosexuality and the other issues that are involved in this story are all catalyst to these changes.”

Che must find a way to override the deeply ingrained ideas of machismo in order to accept his son.

The script is emotionally charged, but Valdez says that there are lighter moments. In the film, there is a full-range of emotion portrayed. There is a lot of laughter in the story. Valdez says screenwriter and director Peter Bratt is careful to insert humor in the plotline to break up the tension.

“There has to be levity in it, and Peter did a great job of that in the script,” Valdez said.

There is a sense of realism to the story. A lot of first-time actors appeared in the project, which adds a unique element to the film.

“They were hand picked off the streets of the Mission District,” Valdez said. “There’s no bravado to them; there’s real honesty in their work.”

The raw energy of these debut actors extends onto the set, says Valdez. To make his character come to life, Valdez spoke to Peter Bratt in preproduction about his vision of the character.

The father-son dynamic is at the hub of the movie; however the background issues offer an opportunity to open a dialogue between the LGBT community and the Latino community.

“The LGBT community has been so gracious with this film, and they’ve backed it 100 percent. And the Latino community has as well,” Valdez said. “And these are two commu-

nities that are often at odds with each other.”

Valdez says he has received a positive response from audiences. They are all thankful that the story is being told from a Latino perspective, which has not been done before.

“It validates what I’ve done, and makes me really proud of this film,” he said.

The film debuted two years ago, and the cast has been on the road since, doing grassroots promotions for this low-budget feature film. “It has just been one great experience after another going on the road with the cast, producers and directors,” Valdez said.

“When it’s all over you just hold your breath and hope that it’s good work and it turns out to make a successful film,” Valdez said.

And it has been a success. *La Mission* has won a slew of awards in the independent film circuit, including Sundance Film Festival Official Selection 2009 and Outfest Opening Night 2009.

The actors of *La Mission* have also enjoyed individual acknowledgements. Valdez is a nominee for Best Supporting Actor in a Feature Film, for the IMAGEN awards. Benjamin Bratt was nominated for best actor. *La Mission* was nominated for Best Film. Peter Bratt was nominated for Best Director.

Peter Bratt is also being honored with the Norman Lear writing award. The accolades keep piling on for this heartfelt work of art. ●

At press time, La Mission was playing at Century 18 Sam’s Town and Regal Village Square 18. Be sure to catch the film before it leaves Las Vegas.



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From Plate to Glass

In the middle of the desert you may not expect to find a bustling farmers market, but the Las Vegas Farmers Market, now in its tenth year of operation, has changed that. Since its opening in 1999, the Las Vegas Farmers Market has more than tripled in size and has over 5,000 visitors each week. White-coated chefs peruse the stands and families stock up on fresh fruits and vegetables.

Eating in season promises not only support for local farmers, but provides greater flavor in what we create, so it should come to no surprise that farm-to-table cuisine would morph from plate to glass. Patrón, the ultra-premium tequila, has joined forces with mixologists from across the country to create flavor-focused cocktails that represent the best summer-grown fare the markets have to offer.

Utilizing produce found at a summer greenmarket, each ingredient in the following cocktails was carefully selected for its compatibility with Patrón Silver, Reposado and Añejo, taking advantage of the refined flavor portfolio and smooth taste that the renowned tequila has become known for. Like Patrón itself, the recipes are handcrafted, and are not only intended to embody the spirit of summer, but also to celebrate a season of locally sourced experiences.



Outside Living

- 1 1/2 oz. Patrón Reposado Tequila
- 3/4 oz. strawberry consommé
- 3 basil leaves
- 2 strawberry slices
- 1 lemon slice

Muddle Patrón Reposado Tequila and basil in mixing tin. Squeeze 1 lemon slice and discard. Add consommé, ice, and strawberry slices. Shake, and then pour with ice into old-fashioned glass. Top with club soda. Garnish with strawberry slice. *(To prepare strawberry consommé: Wash 1 pound of strawberries with stems removed, and place in bowl with 1/2 cup sugar; cover with saran wrap and place in double boiler. Cook over low heat for one hour, or until juices are released; remove from heat. Let cool and strain through a fine mesh strainer with a damp towel. Chill.)*



Ground to Glass

- 2 oz. Patrón Reposado Tequila
- 1 oz. fresh lime juice
- 3/4 oz. agave mix (1 part water to 1 part agave syrup)
- 3/4 oz. red pepper puree (or muddle 3 slices red pepper)
- 1 cucumber round
- 2 dash orange bitters
- Hickory salt

In a cocktail shaker, muddle one cucumber round. Build rest of ingredients. Add ice. Hard shake for 10 seconds. Rim half of glass with hickory smoked salt. Double strain on ice in double old fashioned or rocks glass.



Green Market Cooler

- 2 oz. Patrón Silver Tequila
- 1/2 oz. ginger simple syrup
- Juice of 1/2 lime
- 2-3 peeled fresh cucumber rounds, skins removed
- 3-4 mint leaves
- Seltzer or mineral water

In a high ball or Collins glass, muddle cucumber, lime juice, ginger simple syrup and mint. Add Patrón Silver Tequila and fill with ice. Top with seltzer and stir well. Garnish with mint leaf.



Patrón Pimiento

- 2 oz. Patrón Añejo Tequila
- Variety of best-of-market bell peppers—cored, seeded and sliced into strips
- Serrano or jalapeño pepper—cored, seeded and sliced into strips*
- 4-5 leaves of fresh cilantro
- Juice of 1/2 lime

In cocktail mixing glass, add 9 slices bell pepper strips (preferably 3 red, 3 orange and 3 yellow), 1 strip Serrano or jalapeño pepper, cilantro leaves and lime juice. Muddle well to bring out pepper and cilantro flavors. Add Patrón Añejo Tequila and ice. Shake well and strain into chilled martini or flared cocktail glass. Garnish with bell pepper strip and cilantro leaves. *(*This gives the cocktail a nice kick, but of course, can be left out for the faint of heart.)*

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HRC's annual gala reminds our community there are **No Excuses**

Our children are our future, and right now we have the chance to make the world a truly free place for them to grow up. It's time that we have a call to action for our community to demand equality face to face. Now more than ever, support from Human Rights Campaign (HRC) members and allies is critical in the progressing fight for equality. We all have the ability to make changes to better all of our lives.

The Las Vegas chapter of the HRC will hold its 5th Annual Gala Dinner on Saturday, August 28 at Paris Las Vegas, with the theme "No Excuses." This will be an evening filled with a silent auction, entertainment, moving messages and dinner. Ask your friends, coworkers, family members and neighbors to join you at this amazing night of celebration. The event begins at 5:30 and the fun continues until 10 p.m. The featured speaker is Nevada Congresswoman Dina Titus. Honorees being recognized at the dinner are Candice Nichols, recipient of the HRC Community Leader Award, and Tom Skancke, recipient of the HRC Pioneer Award.

As a native of Las Vegas, Nichols has always been committed to giving back to her community. For more than 20 years she has worked with several non-profits, beginning with her work as Director of Public Affairs at Planned Parenthood of Southern Nevada. Nichols then became Director of Prevention Education for Aid for AIDS of Nevada (AFAN). Since 2004, she has been the Executive Director for the Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada, where she is using her experience to increase visibility and awareness of the com-

munity center movement, as well as to the new challenges we face as a community in the arena of social justice.

In 2003, Skancke invited a group of six people to his home to explore the idea of starting a Steering Committee for HRC in Las Vegas. He worked long hours recruiting friends and colleagues who would be committed to making Las Vegas one of HRC's strongest communities. Skancke's efforts were hugely successful and HRC Las Vegas was formed. He never stopped his mission to mentor and grow the Las Vegas LGBT community. As a result of his own career dealing with local and national government, Skancke became the "go-to person" for political advice and counsel. He has not only been the pioneer of HRC Las Vegas but has served on the HRC's National Board of Directors for four years. He has made a profound impact on the lives and hearts of so many both in Las Vegas and across the country.

Opening remarks will be given by Rev. Dr. Yvette Flunder. She is much sought after as a preacher, educator, conference speaker and singer. She has been invited to minister and serve throughout the nation and many points abroad. She founded the City of Refuge United Church of Christ in 1991 in order to unite a gospel ministry with a social ministry and is the presiding Bishop. Preaching a message of action, the church has experienced steady numerical and spiritual growth and is now located in San Francisco. Responding to the needs of the AIDS epidemic, Bishop Flunder and her staff opened Hazard-Ashley House and Walker House in Oakland and Restoration House in San Francisco through the Ark of Refuge, Inc., a non-profit agency which provides housing, direct services, education and training for persons affected by HIV/AIDS in the Bay Area, throughout the USA and in three countries in

Africa. She has received many awards for her work in the HIV/AIDS epidemic, with the elderly and youth.

Human Nature, a quartet deemed "The Ultimate Celebration of Motown," will be providing special entertainment. Visit www.human-naturelasvegas.com to learn more about their show at Imperial Palace. Also performing are the first and only youth glee club in Las Vegas, On With the Show. Learn more about them at www.onwiththeshowlv.com.

Tickets for the Gala begin at \$185 for Las Vegas Federal Club members, \$250 for non-members, and VIP tickets are available for \$275, which includes access to a VIP reception with hosted bar. The dress code for the event is business, black-tie optional.

This year, HRC has partnered with Paris Las Vegas to offer a very special weekend package that includes tickets to a Barry Manilow show on August 27 (100 percent of proceeds supports HRC), two nights in the hotel and tickets for the Gala, all for \$485 plus taxes and fees. The hotel has a limited number of rooms available for this deal, so you must book by August 7. Other packages are available for Manilow and Gala tickets only.

Helping make the Gala a success this year are Harrah's Entertainment, Cirque du Soleil, Virgen Advertising, The Morris Group and Stiletto Entertainment (Signature Sponsors); MGM Resorts International, *QVegas*, The Greenspun Corporation, R&R Partners and LT Evention (Champion Sponsors); AEG Live and Wells Fargo (Supporting Sponsors); NV Energy (Benefactor Sponsor); as well as Barneys New York and United Healthcare (Partner Sponsors).

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DANTE AND REBEKAH

AMERICA'S FAVORITE COMEDY COUPLE

BY JODI NELSON-SPRINGBERG

Dante and Rebekah Kochan are two of the funniest comedians working out of Los Angeles today. Often called "America's favorite comedy couple," Dante and Rebekah each have a unique style. Audiences have compared Rebekah to Margaret Cho or Kathy Griffin, often times saying she is funnier than either of them. Dante and Rebekah often travel together and are on the road 40 weeks out of the year. They recently returned from a two-week tour that took them to Montana and Washington and ended in Reno.

Dante and Rebekah met in a typical Los Angeles fashion. She says, "Dante was running an open mike comedy room in the valley, a real shit hole. I came in to audition for a spot; it was love at first sight." That was three and a half years ago. They have been together ever since.

Rebekah is a native of Las Vegas. She moved to Los Angeles at the age of 17 to follow her passion and become an actress. She has appeared in a number of movies, including the *Eating Out* series. The part of Tiffani was written specifically for her. She quickly became a young gay icon. She is currently working on the film, *Finding Mr. Wright*, with Matthew Montgomery. It is set to be released in 2011.

Rebekah's father, Mel Kochan, is more than happy to share his memories of his daughter's passion for acting. He loves telling the story of her first major Las Vegas play, *Annie*. "She was

in elementary school when she got the part of Annie. The day it closed, Rebekah sat in my lap and cried because she didn't want it to end. The next thing you know, I come home one day and she has a line of kids out the door. She was auditioning them for a production she was going to put on in my living room. I have kept every playbill from everything she has done." He beams with pride as he speaks about Rebekah.

Dante was a cast member and finalist from *Last Comic Standing*. He proudly states that he also holds the record for winning the most BET comedy awards even though he is not black. Dante has also preformed for more U.S. troops than any comedian since Bob Hope.

Dante likes to remind people, "a lot of gays are afraid to see male comics because of the homophobia some comics portray." He stresses that their show is a gay-friendly.

Ken Pringle, their opening act, is known from various spots on MTV, Spike TV and his own website, ChuckleMonkey.com. Dante and Ken were the writers behind the infomercial promoting Eminem's new album, *Recovery*, starring Vince Offer, better known as The Sham-Wow Guy. The video recently received a mention by Perez Hilton, sending it viral.

Dante and Rebekah will be performing at the South Point Hotel (9777 Las Vegas Blvd. S.), August 6-8. For tickets, visit www.SouthPointCasino.com or call (702) 797-8055. ●

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Topping the unemployment list

Hot off the presses, the numbers are in. Nevada now has the dubious distinction of highest unemployment in the nation. Our grand state's unemployment rate set a new record in June, hitting 14.2 percent statewide compared with the national average at 9.5 percent. With an economy heavily reliant on casino taxes and tourism, the deep recession has resulted in a domino effect, hitting other industries like construction and services particularly hard.

With an estimated 193,300 people out of work and a decrease of 1,400 jobs in June, the downward spiral initially would not appear to be letting up. Even with the addition of 3,400 private sector jobs, the month still saw a net decrease, with another big hit in the area of government jobs, where 4,800 jobs were shed. In metro Las Vegas, the unemployment rate sits slightly higher than the state average, at 14.5 percent and is the highest in the state.

Now that everyone reading—or writing—this is sufficiently depressed, there has got to be some light at the end of the tunnel, right? Between the stimulus and overall improvement in the broader economy, surely there is good news? There is. The biggest news was the Senate finally passing the extension of unemployment benefits on July 21. With Nevada's unemployment rate where it is, this is an obvious and fast-acting benefit, though by no means is it a long-term solution.

Hotel occupancy and convention activity has marginally increased over last year's num-

bers, and many talking heads are cautiously optimistic. Of course, there are detractors who point to a lackluster earnings season, a possible "double dip" recession, and Obama's latest victory: financial regulatory reform. Yes, they spin it as something bad! Imagine that. Sure, these are all unknown variables, but are they cause for alarm?

One thing that many Nevadans have come to realize during the current recession is that economic forces beyond our borders have the potential to significantly impact what happens in the Silver State. Along those same lines, policy decisions at the national level can potentially have significant ramifications here in Nevada. This is something that we know all too well.

With elections coming in November, it is important to get out there and find out who it is that we are voting for, and what they stand for. In the coming months, *The Political Q* will be highlighting many of the races these races that are so important, not just for Nevada, but for the country. The focus will be on tough issues like the economy, the war(s) and equal rights for all. Though answers might not always be readily forthcoming, it's about getting as close to *the truth*, as possible. ●

William Bessette is a long-time contributor to *QVegas*, often covering topics of a political or economical nature.



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Come join the LVGA³ fun!

The spring LVGA³ softball season came to an end with Fun Hog winning the D Division. They will be heading to the Gay World Series in Columbus, Ohio, to play August 17-21. The Las Vegas Rat Pack won the C Division and will also be going to play in Ohio. Congratulations to both teams on an outstanding season.

In D Division, Fun Hog was followed by LV Mafia in second place, Blue Moon took third place, Cedar Pharmacy took fourth place and Charlie's finished fifth. In C Division, Rat Pack took first place followed by FreeZone in second place. Congratulations to all the players who made this season a huge success. Thank you to all the fans that came out and supported our softball program at Doc Romeo Park.

The Center has entered a team that will be playing in the Fall League. We are asking for donations of used gloves and softball bats if you have some you are not using and would like to donate. If you would like to make cash or check donation, please contact Larry O'Halloran at lohalloran@lvga3.com.

New teams are forming for next season, which will begin toward the end of September. Softball clinics will begin sometime in mid August. We are looking for people like you, who want to have fun and meet a new group of people. Calling all ladies; come out and join the fun. Visit the LVGA³ Softball website for exact dates and times at www.lvga3softball.com. Games and clinics are held at Doc Romeo Park, located at West Cheyenne Avenue and Ronemus Drive. For more information on joining a team, email Larry O'Halloran at lohalloran@lvga3.com.

Come out and support our LVGA³ Athletics on Monday nights at Charlie's Bar off Tropicana and Arville, for Jock Mondays.

The fifth season of volleyball will be announced soon. The league is currently playing at Mirabelli Center. For more information about registering a team, visit www.lvga3volleyball.com. Outdoor recreation volleyball will resume on Saturdays soon. Watch the website for details. ●



Congrats to the Fun Hog Ranch basketball team

The Fun Hog basketball team finished off the season on a high note with a come-from-behind win to come out in fifth place in the Clark County Basketball League. Going into this season, the Hogs had very high hopes of placing in the top three teams. It was a very competitive league, and for a group of six gay guys and four straight guys, we did fantastic. Our MVP of this season goes out to Jesse with an outstanding performance on both the defensive and offensive end of the court. Other honorable mentions go out to John and Thomas for their reign of terror they had with their three point shooting ability. Great job, Hogs!

If you are interested in playing basketball, we are putting together teams now to form our own LVGA³ Basketball League. We need a minimum of four teams with eight players on each team. For more information on joining a team, please contact Thomas Bogle at (702) 498-5531 or visit www.lvga3.com.

For more information about other LVGA³ sports such as tennis, bowling and golf, please visit www.lvga3.com. ●

ABOUT LVGA³

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

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QVEGAS BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

COLLEEN O'NEILL O'NEILL PRINTING

A long-time friend of the LGBT community, Colleen O'Neill is known as the go-to person when it comes to business networking, either for her successful printing company, O'Neill Printing, or her new position as the Sales Manager for the Clarion Hotel & Casino.

O'Neill has lived in Las Vegas for over 33 years and started O'Neill Printing in 1980. She quickly discovered in Las Vegas, it's not what you know but who you know. A self-starter, O'Neill quickly learned that by attending business networking groups and joining powerful organizations, she could accomplish her goal of creating a successful business. "If they don't know you, you don't know them. Business networking is important," O'Neill said.

"One of the best groups I ever joined was QVegas Business Alliance," O'Neill said. "They are professional, serious business-minded, fun, business go-getters!"

Along with her business knowledge, O'Neill takes pride in providing the highest-quality business cards, posters, post cards, flyers, and all types of signage as well as promotional items including silk screening and embroidery. She also offers mass mailing with the most up-to-date lists in town.

As if she doesn't have enough to do, O'Neill recently joined the Clarion



Hotel & Casino, near the Las Vegas Strip, as sales manager. Her responsibilities include booking local meetings and catered events as well as soliciting out-of-area groups for their rooms business. The Clarion Hotel & Casino (formerly the Greek Isles, Debbie Reynolds Hotel and Paddlewheel) features private meeting rooms for groups up to 130 people, two showrooms and an outdoor pool and garden that may be booked for private events, a full service restaurant and catering operation. ●

Colleen O'Neill
702-469-2216
colleen@oneillprinting.com
www.oneillprinting.com
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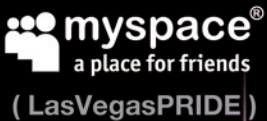
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The logo for Las Vegas Pride 2010. The words "LAS VEGAS" are at the top in white, spaced-out capital letters. Below them, the word "PRIDE" is written in large, bold, capital letters, each a different color from the rainbow spectrum (blue, purple, pink, red, orange, yellow, green). At the bottom, the word "2010" is written in white, bold, capital letters. The entire logo is set against a black background.

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Q NIGHT OUT

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

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8½ and PIRANHA 4633 Paradise Rd. 702-791-0100	El Seseo Latin Night DJs Vago & Auner Las Sirenas 12a	Circus DJ Mikey Swift \$10 Liquor Bust	La Noche w/DJ Vago Sirenas Show 2a	Lingerie & Lace A Ladies Only Event	Boystown Liquor Bust DJs Mikey Swift & Chris Adams	Visit piranhavegas.com for details	Sex Saturdays DJ/VJ Scott K & DJ K Drag Show 11:30p
BACKDOOR 1415 E. Charleston Ave. 702-385-2018	Noches Nortenas (Latin Country Night) 9p - 2a	Karaoke Night 2-4-1 Drinks 10p - 4a	Happy Hour 2-4-1 Drinks 10a - Noon	Underwear Night 2-4-1 Drinks 10p - 4a	Happy Hour 2-4-1 Drinks 10a - Noon	Noches Latina (Latin Night) 10p - 6a	Noches Latina (Latin Night) 10p - 6a
BADLANDS SALOON 953 E. Sahara Ave. 702-792-9262	\$3.50 Beer Bust 9p - Midnight	Happy Hour 2-4-1 4p - 7p	Happy Hour 2-4-1 4p - 7p	Happy Hour 2-4-1 4p - 7p	Happy Hour 2-4-1 4p - 7p	\$5 Liquor Bust 7p - Midnight	\$5 Beer Bust 7p - Midnight
CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS 5012 S. Arville St. 702-876-1844	\$5 Beer Bust 4-7p \$2 Long Isl. 7p - Mid Sunday Show 9pm	Beginner Dance Lessons 7-9pm and Ginger Grant 10pm	Drag Queen Bingo 9p Happy Hour 2a-10a	Underwear Night Gogo Boys Free Pool from 9p	1/2 price Drink Night 9p-12a, Line Dance Lessons 7p-9p	Line Dance Lessons 7-9p \$1.75 Happy Hour 7-9p \$10 Liquor Bust 9p-12a	\$1.75 happy hour 7-9p \$5 Beer Bust 9p-12a
ENTOURAGE VEGAS 953 E. Sahara Ave. 702-650-9191	Open 24 Hours Salsa Sundays Latin music & videos	Open 24 Hours Boys Night Ages 18-21 in free	Open 24 Hours Dark Night All lights are off	Open 24 Hours Wise Wednesdays Ages 40+ get in free	Open 24 Hours Inked Show off your tats	Open 24 Hours Freebie Fridays Exciting giveaways	Open 24 Hours Packed House Our busiest night
ESCAPE LOUNGE 4213 W. Sahara Ave. 702-364-1167	\$2 Wells/Dom 8a-4p Happy Hour 3-5a/5-7p Karaoke 9p-1a	Poker Tournament 6, 7:30 & 9p No buy in!	\$2 Wells/Dom 8a-4p Happy Hour 3-5a and 5-7p	\$2 Wells/Dom 8a-4p Happy Hour 3-5a and 5-7p	\$2 Wells/Dom 8a-4p Happy Hour 3-5a and 5-7p	\$2 Wells/Dom 8a-4p Happy Hour 3-5a and 5-7p	\$2 Wells/Dom 8a-4p Happy Hour 3-5a and 5-7p
FLEX 4371 W. Charleston Ave. 702-385-FLEX	Bloody Marys with Darrin	Karaoke with Tara King 10p-2a	Underwear Night 10p-2a	The Grand Tea Room Desirae Penda'vis Midnight	The Boom Room with DJ K Midnight	Confessions with JewDi Vine and DJ Ricoche 11p	Rhinestone'D with Ryan Zink and guests 11p
FREEZONE 610 E. Naples Dr. 702-794-2300	Karaoke Happy Hour 4 - 8p Beer Bust 8p - 1a	Karaoke Happy Hour 4 - 8p Beer Bust 8p - 1a	Ladies Night Happy Hour 4 - 8p Beer/Lick-Her-Bust 8p - 1a	Beer Bust 8p - 1a Wicked Wednesdays 11:30p-1:30a	Naked Boy Frat Party Beer Bust 9:30p - 2a \$7 Liquor Bust	Queens of Las Vegas Show/Dance Party Beer Bust 8p - 1a	Queens of Las Vegas Show/Dance Party Beer Bust 8p - 1a
FUN HOG RANCH 495 E. Twain 702-791-7001	\$5 Beer Bust 6-9pm	Happy Hour 3-7p \$1.50 Long Island Iced Teas 9p-2a	Happy Hour 3-7p \$5 Beer Bust 9p-2a	Happy Hour 3-7p \$1.50 Margaritas 9p-2a	Happy Hour 3-7p \$5 Beer Bust 9p-2a	Happy Hour 3-7p	Come in, drink up and just have a great time.
GIPSY 4605 Paradise Rd. 702-666-8661	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Visit gipsyvegas.com for details	Ghostmachine DJs Protokol & Romeo Romantic
GOODTIMES 1775 E. Tropicana Ave. 702-736-9494	Showtunes 12-4p Fuego Latino 8p with Liquor Bust	"In the Trenches" comedy show with Schree & Baby 8p	Game, drink, make new friends!	Karaoke with Sheila 9p-1a Goth Night 10p	Retro Escape Disco with \$10 Liquor Bust 8p	Vaquero Night with \$10 Liquor Bust 10p	Noche Caliente "Hot Night" 10p
KRAVE LAS VEGAS Harmon Ave. at LV Blvd. 702-836-0830	SINdaze: Vegas' 8th Deadly Sin hosted by JewDi Vine	Closed	Kouture DJ P.A. \$2 wells/\$5 premiums	WTF? Wednesdays DJ Earwaxxx 11pm Win up to \$1000	Back to the Eighties with DJ Crime and Drag Show	Flesh with VJ Alpyne (main room) and Dollhaus (lounge)	World-class DJs in main room and Girl Bar in lounge
LAS VEGAS EAGLE 3430 E. Tropicana Ave. 702-458-8662	\$5 Well or Draft Bust 12 - 5p and 10p - 2a	Monday Night Football with Brett	Karaoke with Mark & Brett 7p	Jock Strap and Underwear Night 7p - 3a	\$5 Well or Draft Bust 12 - 5p and 10p - 2a	Jock Strap and Underwear Night 7p - 3a	\$5 Well or Draft Bust 12 - 5p and 10p - 2a
SNICK'S PLACE 3rd St. off Las Vegas Blvd. 702-385-9298	Open 24 Hours	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	Happy Hour 2 - 4a and 2 - 4p	\$5 Beer Bust and \$6 Liquor Bust 9p - Midnight
SPOTLIGHT LOUNGE 957 E. Sahara Ave. 702-696-0202	\$1.50 Bloody Marys 8a - 4p \$5 Beer Bust 4 - 7p	\$5 Beer Bust Noon - 4p 2-4-1 9p - Midnight	\$5 Beer Bust Noon - 4p 2-4-1 9p - Midnight	Hump Day \$1.50 Well Screws or Margaritas 8a - 4p	Come hang out at the Spotlight Lounge	\$5 Liquor Bust 1 - 4p \$5 Beer Bust 8 - 11p	\$5 Beer Bust 12 - 3p Couples Night 6 - 9p Jock Night Mid - 3a

WE ALSO RECOMMEND THESE MAINSTREAM NIGHTLIFE OPTIONS, SOME WITH LGBT-ORIENTED NIGHTS

BARE POOL LOUNGE The Mirage 702-791-7442	One of the sexiest resort pools on the Strip during the daytime, Bare Pool Lounge at the Mirage really shines on Saturday nights as Eduardo Cordova presents his Heaven gay night poolside.	GHOSTBAR The Palms 702-942-6832	This silver and lime green indoor/outdoor bar on 55th floor of the Palms resort hosts Down, "a night for curious women," one Thursday night each month, with tunes by DJ Lisa Pittman.
BEATLES REVOLUTION LNG. The Mirage 702-692-8383	For you technology junkies, this has to be the coolest place in town with touch screen cocktail tables and great music. Eduardo Cordova presents Closet Sundays for the LGBT crowd.	LAVO The Palazzo 702-791-1800	Check out the newest patio on the Las Vegas Strip by the Tao Group. Gays abound on Label Junkie Wednesdays with fashion shows taking place throughout the space.
BLUE MARTINI Town Square 702-949-BLUE	This new local hot spot is situated in Town Square and is always packed with great eye candy. Every night from 11 p.m. until close is hospitality pricing—half off drinks!	RHUMBAR The Mirage 702-792-7615	Designed in a style reminiscent of a mojito, with its white and green decor, Rhumbar is a new venue at The Mirage with a beautiful outdoor patio. Captiv8 is a gay night on Wednesdays.
CATHOUSE Luxor 702-262-4228	This swanky burlesque club/restaurant has hosted several gay events and is located in the Luxor. Great décor, sassy cocktail uniforms and fabulous lighting and sound.	TAO The Venetian 702-388-8338	Restaurant, nightclub and ultra pool, this celebrity hang out is just hot. Found in the Grand Canal Shoppes at The Venetian.

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AUG 08

DJ PAPI CHULO EVENT!
LATINO AIDS BENEFIT
DJ CYBERKID &
DJ ALBERT GRUVE

AUG 15

SPECIAL BENEFIT TBA
DJ CYBERKID,
DJ ALBERT GRUVE AND
GUEST DJ FRANK CHARLES

AUG 22

AFAN CHARITY EVENT
DJ CYBERKID AND
DJ ALBERT GRUVE

AUG 29

SPECIAL BENEFIT TBA
DJ CYBERKID AND
DJ ALBERT GRUVE

SEPT 05

JEFFREY SANKERS
WHITE PARTY VEGAS!
DJ CYBERKID AND
DJ ALBERT GRUVE

SEPT 12

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

Jekyll & Hyde
Onyx Theatre, 5pm
www.onyxtheatre.com
Final show, a fundraiser for The Center.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

Free HIV and STD Testing
The Center, 1-6:30pm
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Monday of the month.

NGRA Finals Planning Committee Meeting
The Center, 7pm
www.ngra.com

Vegas Improv S.E.T.
Onyx Theatre, 8pm
www.onyxtheatre.com
Repeats every Monday of the month.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

IRSCDEI Court Meeting
The Center, 7:30pm
www.desertempire.org

SinCityQSocials Trendy Tuesday
Location TBA, 8-10pm
www.sincityqsocials.com
Repeats every Tuesday of the month.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

Karnival: A Collection of Oddities
Onyx Theatre, 8pm
www.onyxtheatre.com

LVPT Casino Buffet
Texas Station, 11:30am
www.lasvegasprompttimers.com

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

Free HIV and STD Testing
The Center, 1-6:30pm
www.thecenterlv.com
Repeats every Thursday of the month.

Confessions of a Prairie Bitch
Onyx Theatre, 8pm
www.onyxtheatre.com
Additional shows August 6-7 and 12-14.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

FamilyFest Las Vegas
Paris Las Vegas, 7pm
www.familyfestlasvegas.com
*Continues through August 8.
Celebrating ethnic diversity in the LGBT community.*

IRSCDEI Boy's Night
Badlands Saloon, 8pm
www.desertempire.org

Ultimate B-Boy Championship
MGM Grand, 8pm
www.ticketmaster.com

Naked Boys Singing
Onyx Theatre, 10pm
www.onyxtheatre.com
*Additional shows every Friday and Saturday
at 10pm and Sundays at 3pm.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

Tea Dance
Poolside at Blue Moon, 10am
www.blumoonlv.com

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

**Listen to Our Song:
The Music of Waldrop and Williamson**
Clark County Flamingo Library Theater, 12pm
www.goldenrainbow.org

Sin City Sisters "Club O-69" Bingo
Silver Nugget Casino, 4:30pm
www.sinscitysisters.org

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

NGRA Fundraising Committee Meeting
The Center, 6:30pm
www.ngra.com

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

LVPT Dine Out Night
Buffet Asia on Flamingo, 6:30pm
www.lasvegasprompttimers.com

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Fundraiser for Kristine Kuzemka
Krave Las Vegas, 6-8pm
RSVP to Earl@QVegas.com
*Ms. Kuzemka is an openly lesbian candidate
for Justice of the Peace, Dept. 6.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

Deployment Vegas
Blue Moon Resort
www.blumoonlv.com
*Continues through August 15.
For gay military men and their admirers.*

Lady Gaga
MGM Grand Hotel, 8pm
www.ticketmaster.com
We wouldn't miss this for the world.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

LVPT Mt. Charleston Luncheon
Mt. Charleston Ski Lodge, 11am
www.lasvegasprompttimers.com

An Evening of Duets
Charlie's Las Vegas, 7pm
www.ngra.com

Rob Thomas
Red Rock Casino, 9pm
www.ticketmaster.com

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

NGRA Board of Directors Meeting
The Center, 6:30pm
www.ngra.com

NGRA General Membership Meeting
The Center, 7:30pm
www.ngra.com

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

Bob Dylan and John Mellencamp
The Colosseum At Caesars Palace, 7pm
www.ticketmaster.com

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

LVPT Casino Buffet Lunch
Sam's Town Casino, 12pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

4th Annual Big Muscle Weekend
Blue Moon Resort
www.blumoonlv.com
Continues through August 22.

Weird Al Yankovic
Henderson Pavilion, 6pm
www.ticketmaster.com

IRSCDEI Entertainer of the Year
Charlie's Las Vegas, 9pm
www.desertempire.org

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

NGRA River Run to Laughlin
Laughlin, all day
www.ngra.com

LVPT Potluck and Meeting
The Center, 4pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

Cyndi Lauper
House of Blues, 6:30pm
www.ticketmaster.com

IRSCDEI King Midas and Golden Goddess Competition
Spotlight Lounge, 8pm
www.desertempire.org

Stampede the Lariat
Bullhead City, Arizona, 8pm
www.ngra.com

AFAN Black & White Party
The Joint at the Hard Rock Hotel, 9pm
www.afanlv.org
Due to last year's fun, it's back indoors this year.

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

Norah Jones
Pearl Concert Theater
www.ticketmaster.com

MONDAY, AUGUST 23

IRSCDEI Board of Directors Meeting
The Center, 7pm
www.desertempire.org

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

QBA Networking Luncheon
Match Cosmopolitan Tapas, 11:30am-1pm
www.qvegasba.com/events

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

LVPT Cocktail Night
Spotlight Lounge, 6pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

LGBT Phone Bank for Harry Reid
Nevada Democratic Party HQ, 6-8pm
RSVP to Earl@QVegas.com

QBA Evening Social
Sedona Restaurant Lounge, 6-8pm
www.qvegasba.com/events

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

IRSCDEI History of the Court Show
Charlie's Las Vegas, 8pm
www.desertempire.org

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

LVPT Meet & Greet Brunch
Eureka Casino Café, 11am
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

LVPT Committee Meeting
The Center, 1pm
www.lasvegasprimetimers.com

"No Excuses"
5th Annual HRC Las Vegas Gala
Paris Hotel, 5:30pm
lasvegas.hrc.org
Honoring Candice Nichols & Tom Skancke.

Michael Buble
MGM Grand, 8pm
www.ticketmaster.com

IRSCDEI Pumps and Pearls Event
Badlands Saloon, 9pm
www.desertempire.org

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

SinCityQSocials Champagne Brunch
The Broiler at Boulder Station, 10:30am
www.sincityqsocials.com



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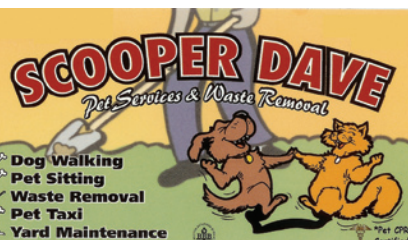
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Strippers Wanted. Apply in person at FLEX Nightclub 4371 W. Charleston or call 385-3539 to make an appointment.

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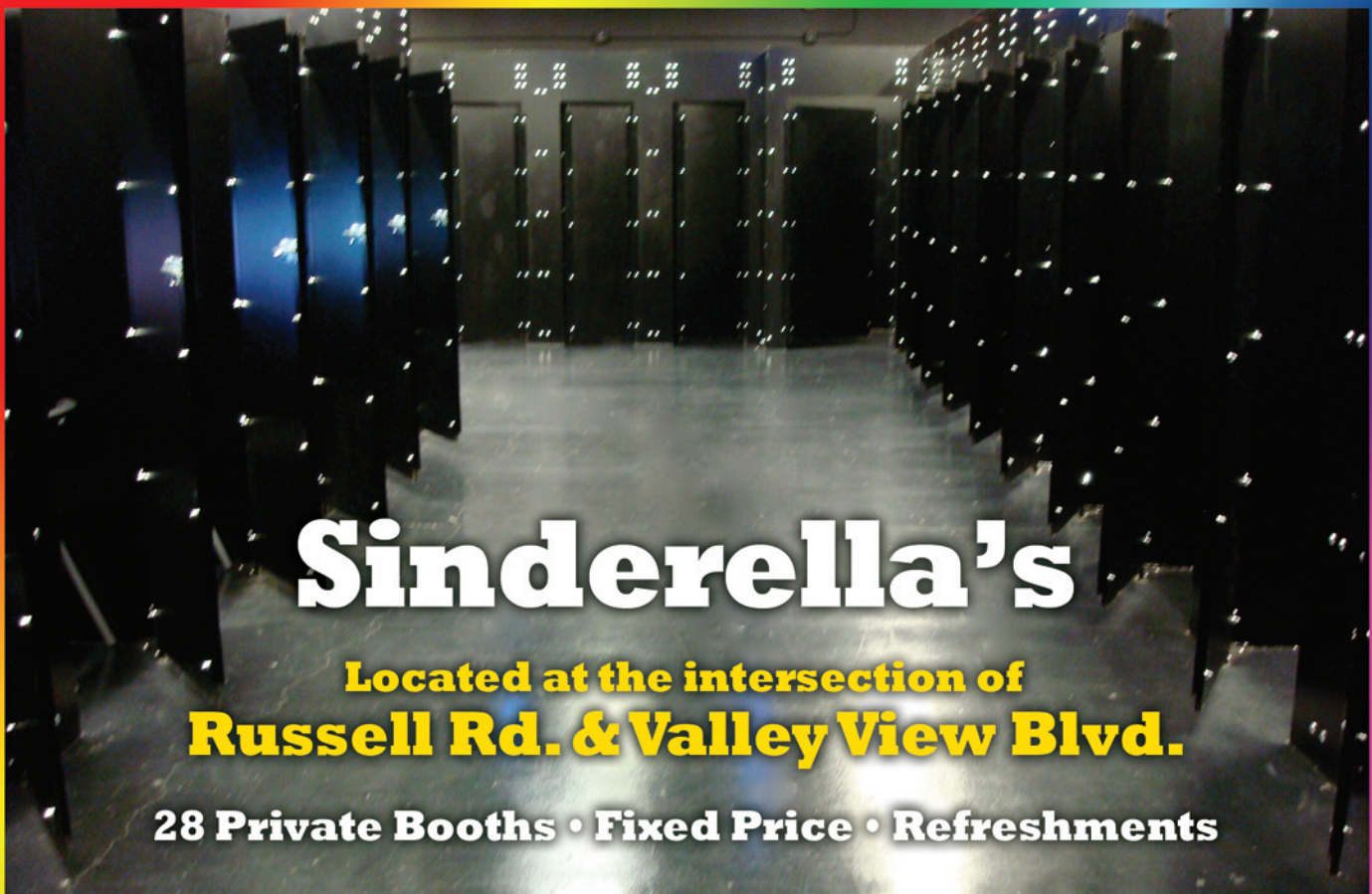
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- 3 Charlie's Las Vegas, 5012 Arville St, 876-1844**
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- 6 Escape Lounge, 4213 W Sahara Ave, 364-1167**
- 7 Flex, 4371 W Charleston Blvd, 385-3539**
- FL FreeZone, 601 E. Naples, 794-2300**
- 8 Fun Hog Ranch, 495 E Twain Ave, 791-7001**
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- 13 Krave, 3663 Las Vegas Blvd S, 836-0830**
- 4 Revolution Lounge inside the Mirage, lightgroup.com**
- 14 Snick's Place, 1402 S 3rd St, 577-3648**
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16 The Coffee Bean/Tea Leaf, 4550 S Maryland Pkwy, 876-6629
17 Freakin' Frog, 4700 S Maryland Pkwy, 597-9702
18 It's A Grind Coffee House, 8470 W Desert Inn Rd, 360-4232
19 Qdoba Mexican Grill, 5045 W Tropicana Ave, 871-7022
20 The Cupcakery, 7175 W Lake Mead Blvd, 835-0060
21 The Cupcakery, 9680 S Eastern Ave, 207-2253
22 Keva Juice, 605 Mall Ring Cir, 898-2844
23 Java Detour, 6087 S Pecos Rd, 450-0025
24 Mundo, 495 S. Grand Central Pkwy, 272-4400
26 Paymons Mediterranean Café, 8380 W. Sahara, 731-6030
27 Paymons Mediterranean Café, 4147 S. Maryland, 731-6030
28 Paymons Mediterranean Café, 107 E. Charleston, 272-0020
24 Whole Foods, 6689 Las Vegas Blvd S, 589-7711
24 Whole Foods, 8855 W Charleston Blvd, 254-8655
92 Yolies Brazilian Steakhouse, 3900 Paradise, Ste. 2, 794-0700

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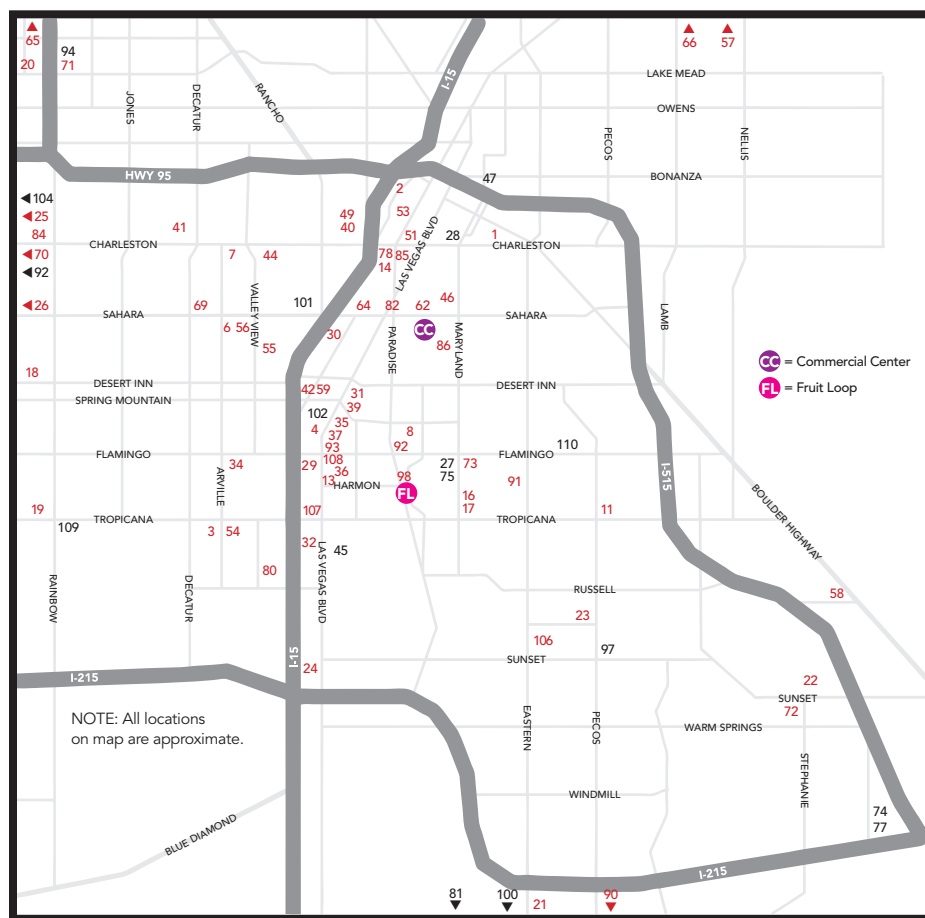
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30 Blue Moon Resort, 2651 Westwood Dr., 361-9099
31 Encore Concierge, 3131 Las Vegas Blvd S
32 Luxor Hotel Concierge, 3900 Las Vegas Blvd S,
34 Mandalay Bay Hotel Concierge, 3950 Las Vegas Blvd S
34 Palms Hotel & Casino Concierge, 4321 W Flamingo Rd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

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

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- 53** A-Action Adult & Video, 1016 S 1st St, 382-1076
- 54** Adult Déjà Vu Emporium, 4335 W Tropicana Ave, 367-8002
- 55** Adult World, 3781 Meade Avenue, 579-9735
- 56** Bare Essentials, 4029 W Sahara Ave, 247-4711
- 57** Desert Adult Books, 4350 Las Vegas Blvd N, 643-7982
- 58** Fantasy World, 6760 Boulder Hwy, 433-6311
- 59** Industrial Rd. Book, 3422 Industrial Rd., 734-7667
- 60** Glamour Boutique, 714 E Sahara Ave, 697-1800
- 64** Peep Land, 2424 Western Ave, 383-4993
- 65** Rancho Adult Bookstore, 4820 N. Rancho Rd, 645-6104
- 66** Sin City Adult Superstore, 4440 E Cheyenne Ave, 643-696
- 68** Sinderella's, 5570 S. Valley View, 736-9700
- CC** The Rack, 953 E Sahara Ave, 732-7225



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26 Body Fuel, 7960 W. Sahara Ave., Ste. 110, 255-3996
29 Borders Books & Music, 6521 Las Vegas Blvd S, 383-6734
64 Borders Books & Music, 3232 S Decatur Blvd, 258-0999
70 Borders Books & Music, 10950 W Charleston Blvd, 382-6101
71 Borders Books & Music, 2190 N Rainbow Blvd, 638-7866
72 Borders Books & Music, 1445 W Sunset Rd, 433-6222
73 Buffalo Exchange, 4110 S Maryland Pkwy, 791-3960
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FL Get Booked, 4640 Paradise Rd, 737-7780
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84 Psychic Eye, 6848 W Charleston Blvd, 255-4477
85 Retro Vegas, 1211 S Main St, 384-2700
86 Sam Ash Music, 2747 S Maryland Pkwy, 734-0007
73 TeNo, 3355 Las Vegas Blvd S, 369-2736
73 TeNo, 3667 Las Vegas Blvd S, 735-8366
62 Tiger Lily, 700 E Sahara Ave, 737-7077
90 Vignettes Art, 1714 W Horizon Ridge Pkwy, 221-8350
91 Zia Record Exchange, 4225 S Eastern Ave, 735-4942

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93 Alexandria's Salon, 3555 Las Vegas Blvd S
94 American Male, 2021 N. Rainbow, 405-0500
94 Arcs Salon, 3930 Las Vegas Blvd S
28 Azimi, DDS, 820 S. 7th St., 759-0005
100 Belle Ange Salon, 8630 S. Eastern Ave., 307-0173
97 Blush Salon, 6360 S Pecos Rd, 851-3100
98 Bronzed, 4480 Paradise Rd, 737-8266
102 Kim Vo Salon, 3400 Las Vegas Blvd S

101 LV Defense Group, 2300 W. Sahara, Ste. 800, 333-3673
36 Mandara Salon, 3655 Las Vegas Blvd S
104 NV Fertility C.A.R.E.S., 653 Town Center, Ste. 206, 341-6616
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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Thursday: 2 pm Pool Party at AVI Lagoon Pool • 4 pm Slot Tournament • 8 pm Kick Off show hosted by IGRA Royalty at The Lariat Saloon in Bullhead City

Friday: 2 pm Bingo • 4 pm Bud Light Pool Party at AVI Lagoon Pool • 6 pm contestant registration \$10 Beach BBQ and show with singer Mike Schikora • 7 pm western dancing in the Ballroom with DJ Rosa • 8:30 pm special IGRA Video Presentation followed by a Fashion Show and performances by the DC Cowboys sponsored by Byusha Agave Drink • Additional Entertainment and Dancing follow.

Saturday: 8 am Bud Light World Gay Rodeo Finals 1st- Go at the Mojave Crossing Event Center - Vendors on the esplanade and Entertainment in the VIP skybox • 2 pm Slot Tournament • 8 pm Rockstar presents the Carter Twins in concert at the AVI Resort • 10pm Social at the Lariat

Sunday: 8 am Bud Light World Gay Rodeo Finals 2nd-Go at the Mojave Crossing Event Center • 2 pm Bingo • 9 pm Finals Award Ceremony & \$20 Banquet • 10 pm Social at the Lariat

Monday: 11 am Survivor's Brunch at the Lariat

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LEO 07/23-08/22

The month gets off to a wild and woolly start. New Moon in your sign on the 11th may have you climbing the walls (or on that hot new neighbor). Either way, it'll be a night to remember. Stay clear of moody family members on the 19th or you'll surely regret it.

VIRGO 08/23-09/22

Though Summer is in full swing (and sizzle), you'll likely want to spend more time in solitude than usual. No problem with this idea. Just don't fall off the end of the earth or close buds may worry. Full moon on the 24th and 25th is ideal for a romantic mini getaway.

LIBRA 09/23-10/22

Your creative/imaginative side shines like a supernova all month long. Don't be shy about showing off what you can do. Besides the ego boost, there's money to be made. Listen closely to what a roommate has to say on the 29th. You'll be amazed.

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21

As usual, you'll be the glue that holds it all together at work during a crisis (there may be several). But, you'll be rewarded for those efforts and talents. Keep to yourself on the 26th to avoid parting with more cash than you'd need or want to.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21

You'll need two heads and four arms to take care of career workload this month. That's what you get for being so popular (and over booking). At least two personal loans will be paid off to great relief. Now you'll be able to book that dental exam. Have a Taurus drag you there.

CAPRICORN 12/22-01/19

Ever hear the song, "Fly Me to the Moon"? Well, you can't go quite that far, but exotic destinations beckon and you're way overdue for a leisure trip. The 18th-22nd look best for this. Full moon on the 25th may set off a series of pleasant chain events.

AQUARIUS 01/20-02/18

Like Sag, there'll be more work this month than you can handle. Don't hesitate to sub-contract enough of it, so you don't blow a fuse. Financial vibes look strongest between the 21st and 25th, especially where real estate deals are concerned. Start looking for a new car too.

PISCES 02/19-03/19

The sky is the limit should be your personal motto/mantra for August. Anything is possible and if you can visualize it you can manifest it. Social life may need to be put on hold, but next month there'll be so much extra cash to play with. Sound good.

ARIES 03/20-04/19

Like Pisces, your imagination shall be in a very high gear. It's not the time to sit and fantasize. Roll up those sleeves and get out there to get things done. Part of this involves a financial investment that suddenly appears to come back to life. We have two words: *sell it!*

TAURUS 04/20-05/20

Expect much of this month to flow in a perfect balance of energies and events. All you need do is allow things to happen naturally and keep out of the mix with those usual fears and doubts nagging away. They serve no purpose. Be confident and happy. You're way overdue. A necessary family rift may actually set you free.

GEMINI 05/21-06/21

It's essential to take optimum care of yourself this month. Like gassing up a car, the tank will need to be full in order to get things done properly. We suggest that you take only Sundays off to chill. Pisces full moon on the 25th triggers the urge to do the town. Please suppress it!

CANCER 06/22-07/22

A relocation this month brings about decidedly mixed emotions. But, logic and financial matters must take the upper hand. Don't let naysayers bring you down. Remember that the world is your oyster and it's there for the taking, so start shucking and enjoying it.





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The countdown has begun

The repeal of the insidious law known as “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” this year is an issue that I consider quite personal. In March, 2003, during the initial push into Iraq, I became the first Marine injured when I stepped on a land mine that broke my right arm and injured my leg so badly that it needed to be amputated. I was awarded a Purple Heart. After serving thirteen years in the Marine Corps, I was discharged in 2004. Since leaving the military, I have worked tirelessly so that gay and lesbian service members can serve their country openly and honestly. Repeal is within reach but it will only happen with your help. That’s why the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) has launched the Countdown 2010 campaign to make sure we contact our elected officials now to demand action this year.

With the summer heat in full swing and Pride celebrations wrapped up, many Americans are set to fall into their comfortable summer routine of staying indoors and avoiding the record temperatures gripping the nation. However, for many active-duty military, their families and veterans, late summer means eagerly awaiting the Senate’s return from its summer recess to take up the repeal law as part of this year’s Defense Authorization Bill. The bill has already passed the House.

While the exact time frame for the Senate’s consideration this fall is unclear, our mission is not: we must reach out to our senators now to make sure that they understand that repeal is a national security priority for our country. Since being enacted in 1993, over 14,000 qualified and dedicated gay and lesbian service members have been discharged for nothing more than their honesty. Our national security is hurt when our country is denied the talents of competent officers and enlisted personnel who want to do nothing more than serve their nation.

That’s why Countdown 2010 is so important. An equally important part of the effort is for us to reach out to our legislators and ask them to pass the Employment Nondiscrimination Act or ENDA. In a majority of states, we can still be fired for being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. That’s just wrong. LGBT people need and deserve federal protections from workplace discrimination.

Whether it be pushing corporate America for more inclusive workplaces or ensuring safe and welcoming schools and healthcare facilities, I am pleased to work with HRC because I know that they are fighting for our equality every day across this country.

I urge you to get involved. Go to www.hrc.org/countdown2010 to learn how you can reach out to legislators and tell them that the repeal of DADT and the passage of ENDA must occur this year. ●





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