

THE LGBTQ VOICE SINCE 1978

SEPTEMBER 2014

Q VEGAS

THE
DEADLY
SINS
7
ISSUE

LUST
A POWERFUL JOY

GLUTTONY
EATING OUT: INDULGENCES

GREED
ALWAYS WANTING MORE

SLOTH
EARN YOUR LAZINESS

ENVY
THE GREEN MONSTER

THE
WRATH
OF LARRY KRAMER

TWO FACES OF
PRIDE

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IN THIS ISSUE

8	Editor's Note
10	2 Steps Forward
16	Garrett's Gay Guide
22	Sloth
24	Envy
26	Greed
30	Eating Out: Gluttony
34	Wrath
36	Dot Vegas Goes Gay
40	Lust
46	Las Word: Pride

ON THE COVER

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Cosmetics by MAC

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Makeup by Raquel Royval, LOOK Style Society
Hair by Lyle Malapit, LOOK Style Society



Edie & Garrett Pattiani co-host the new Gay.Vegas website

Photography:

Edison Graff / The G Scene

On Location at Piranha Nightclub



GILEAD: THE SOVALDI TAX

Forbes
com

“The drug Sovaldi is generating enormous profits on the backs of patients...” *June 16th, 2014*

A cure for Hepatitis C is within reach for 170 million people around the world thanks to poor and sick Americans who are picking up the tab.

Gilead Sciences, the manufacturer of the Hepatitis C drug Sovaldi has priced the medication at \$1,000 each in the United States. An entire treatment regimen of 84 of those pills costs just \$900 in Egypt.

Hepatitis C patients in the United States are mostly uninsured, underinsured and/or incarcerated. Medicaid, Veterans Affairs and our prison system bear the brunt of the cost impact, and by extension so do taxpaying Americans.

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Editor's Note

Thank you for picking up this issue of QVegas. September kicks off Las Vegas PRIDE 2014. Come celebrate with the city at the annual festival and parade Sept. 5 and 6 with other festivities during the week, including GayDays.



We decided to make this issue our first Seven Deadly Sins issue featuring each vice in a creative way throughout the issue. From Michael Barbieri's gluttonous Eating Out feature to our Last Word featuring the two faces of Pride by Norma Llyaman. This issue was fun to put together and I thank all of our contributors.

Edie and Garrett Pattiani are featured on this month's cover announcing the launch of Gay.Vegas. Las Vegas and the Internet make history with the launch of .VEGAS. The impact that the Dot Com era has had on modern media is incredible and we are witnessing the next generation of Internet come alive for Las Vegas with the global launch of the new .Vegas top-level domain. The Gay.Vegas launch is expected to help businesses align with the .Vegas domain and benefit directly from the \$100,000,000 spent annually promoting Las Vegas.

Log on the web and 'Like Us' ([f qvegasmagazine.com](https://www.facebook.com/qvegasmagazine.com)) and 'Follow Us' ([@QVegas](https://twitter.com/QVegas)) to be the first to know about new events and happenings around the city. Download the iPhone® App today to have the magazine at your finger tips!

Janise "Noah" Henderson
@NOAHSARTARK

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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?



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2 STEPS FORWARD...

[by Cameron Catton]



Nepalese LGBTQ Celebrate Pride

Nepal is making great strides toward social equity, and the Gaijatra festival to commemorate those who have died, has for several years

been the country's largest gathering of LGBTQ people. The most recent festival, held August 11th, took the theme: "My Country, My Constitution, My Rights, My Identity: My Pride!" and showcased many individuals with posters and banners demanding that the government make good

on all forms and identity documents in the same year.

LGBTQ in the White House

One might not immediately think of thanking President Barack Obama after a same-sex wedding ceremony in Vienna, Austria, but Dan Baer and new husband Brian Walsh shared the sentiment of thanks to President Obama, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Secretary of State John Kerry via Twitter after their

on promises to deliver marriage equality. Nepal took a leadership stance among South Asian countries by being the first to decriminalize homosexuality in 2007, as well as legally recognize a third gender option

wedding on August 2nd. Baer, the US U.S. ambassador to the Organization for Security & Cooperation in Europe, wanted to share his gratitude for the steps current American politicians have made for the LGBTQ community and their commitment to equality. Baer is the seventh openly LGBTQ person appointed by President Obama since he took office, and the first to be appointed in a multilateral institution, meaning a position that requires the agreement of another country.



James Franco shows love on Instagram to LGBTQ

Academy Award-nominee James Franco continues to lovingly tease his LGBTQ following by this time Instagramming a photo of himself with openly gay actor Zachary Quinto and captioning the photo that they were lovers in mid-August. The two do play on-screen lovers in an upcoming film adaptation of the life of ex-gay activist Michael Glatze, but it turns out that Franco's post was merely another



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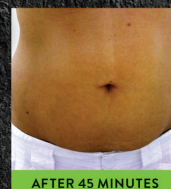
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showing of acceptance and support of LGBTQ people. Franco's career has been highlighted with pro-gay material, including his role in the award-winning film MILK and an art exhibition in Berlin called "Gay Town". Franco's continued interest and compassion of the LGBTQ community is welcome, as his discourse on the serious life stories of gay men has reached a broad range of ears that may not previously have been willing to listen. Last year, he received the "Ally Award" at the 15th annual Miami Gay & Lesbian Film Festival.

First Openly Gay Division I Footballer

Edward "Chip" Sarafin, a senior football player from Arizona State, came out as gay in an August

interview with *Compete*, an Arizona LGBTQ sports magazine. It is believed that Sarafin is the first Division I college football player to publicly come out. Sarafin said that his coming out was, "really personal," and that it has given him greater peace of mind. Like other athletes who have come out, Sarafin told his teammates first, and received tremendous support. "We are a brotherhood that is not defined by cultural and personal differences," Sarafin said. What defines the team, Sarafin said, is the team's commitment to success. Arizona State's coach Todd Graham also expressed his support for Sarafin, stating that he was sure the player is on a path to a successful future. "Diversity and acceptance are two of the pillars of our program," the coach also stated. "...He has full support from his teammates and the coaching staff.



WNBA Players Get Engaged

WNBA player Brittney Griner proposed to her girlfriend, fellow WNBA player Glory Johnson, in mid-August, and brought the world to tears with tender and beautiful photos documenting the engagement on Instagram. Griner, who plays for the Phoenix Mercury, captioned one of the photos that she was, "...The happiest woman on Earth! ...Me and my baby are it for life!" Johnson, a player for Tulsa Shock, also Instagrammed a photo of Griner, asleep next to her, the engagement ring resting on her shoulder. Johnson included the hashtag #LoveMakesYouDoTheCraziestThings. The engagement occurred during a party the couple co-hosted in Atlanta's Halo Nightclub, where Glory Johnson was listed as, "Special Invited Guest." Surrounded by friends and well-wishers, Griner knelt, wearing a pink bow tie, to ask for her love's hand. The couple received immediate support from those assembled, the WNBA, sports fans, and the internet as a whole.

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Let Them Eat Cake

Among the many challenges faced by the marriage equality movement, one that has caught the attention of the media in recent years is the wedding cake. This

popular nuptial item seems to have become the epicenter of controversy for some couples in states wherein marriage is legal. Most recently, a lesbian couple was denied a cake for their wedding in Pennsylvania, where marriage is legal. Wanting to be economically responsible, the couple was anxious to support local businesses with their wedding, and contacted The Cake Pros, a privately-owned business in Schuylkill County. Lorraine Fleming, the owner of the shop, said that although, "...We have homosexuality in our family," and that she had, "...Talked to Jesus for two weeks," on the issue, she could not reconcile the business transaction with her personal beliefs. The couple,

while shocked, now wonders if it will become common for businesses to advertise whether or not they conduct business with LGBTQ people.

Westboro Baptist to protest Robin Williams Funeral

Robin Williams, an actor who touched the lives of millions of people around the globe through his hilarious and whimsical film roles, has died. Williams was found dead in his home on August 11th, and the internet immediately filled with support and fond memories of the actor who was no stranger to playing gay roles. Children of the 90's knew Williams as the voice of Aladdin's Genie, LGBTQ people saw him take on the role of Armand Goldman, a gay drag club owner who is forced to pretend he is straight so that his son can marry the daughter of a conservative senator in The

Birdcage. Williams also appeared in Mrs. Doubtfire, genderbending as an old English housekeeper to see his children after a divorce leaves him crushed, as well as in a memorable cameo scene at a drag bar in To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything! -Julia Newmar. The Westboro Baptist Church, citing that Williams' LGBTQ support made him a, "Fag Pimp," declared their intentions to protest his funeral. Singer Ariana Grande made the news after an Instagram user bashed her brother, Frankie Grande, openly gay contestant on TV's Big Brother US. Frankie recently announced to the cast that he is Ariana's brother, and internet forums and other fans of the show have not been kind to him, regardless of his musical star sibling. Big Brother contestants are known to break the rules and misguide friendships among contestants, and it has become a staple of the reality show's formula and strategy, but the Instagram post that sent Ariana Grande into a tirade referred to her brother as, "that homo," and she felt it was too much.

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Frankie's confession of having a, "...Mega, mega pop star," as a sister was attacked by internet users immediately as a ploy to stay in the running on the show, and his claims to being a social media, "mogul" and internet celebrity with 1.5 million followers was also quickly put under scrutiny, as naysayers reported his actual YouTube views and media followers to be far lower. His unfortunate exaggerations and confessions of paranoia have led some online sources to bill him as a wannabe celebrity and poor representation of gay people.



start of the service, while the family was attending Julion Evans-Capers' wake. Kendall Capers, Julion's widower, stated that he had not even been able to grieve since receiving the shocking call from the pastor. The church has not returned any of Capers' calls, and he has not been able to reach any parishioners to speak with him on the matter. While many respect legal rights for churches to deny the service, others have stated that Pastor Jenkins' decision shows questionable character.

Funeral Services Denied to Gay Man

Julion Evans-Capers, a Tampa native who passed away in mid-August, was to have a funeral ceremony at Tampa's New Hope Missionary Baptist Church under Pastor T.W. Jenkins, but the service was halted after some of the church's parishioners read in his obituary that Evans-Capers was married to a man. Pastor Jenkins reportedly called less than 24 hours before the

Gays and Zombies

AMC's popular show The Walking Dead has been under fire since it began for not depicting any LGBTQ characters in its large ensemble, and fans of the series have long questioned the sexuality of one of the lead characters, Daryl Dixon. Series creator Robert Kirkman

1 STEP BACK

directly addressed the rumors after he was asked about Daryl's sexuality in an interview with ComicBook.com, stating that if there were an opportunity in the show's heavy action to allow for the development of Daryl Dixon's sexual orientation, that AMC had expressed their support of developing the character as a gay man. Interestingly, hundreds of straight fans of the series quickly took to blogging and commenting around the web that the character could certainly NOT be gay, even going so far as to cite reasons to validate their stance.

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Garrett Pattiani
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August 2014

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

2 GayDays

Sep 2-7

GayDays returns to Vegas September 2-7. Activities include seven days of pool parties, concerts and special events, hosted by Luxor.

<http://gaydays.com>

6 HIV Testing @ Pride

Southern Nevada Heath District will be offering free HIV testing at the Las Vegas PRIDE festival. Know your status. Get tested. Be safe.

7 Betty's Rock the Park Pride Picnic

12-5PM

The Betty's and our fabulous sponsors Capital One and Country Financial would like to invite the entire Las Vegas LGBTQ community to come out for our 9th Annual "Rock the Park 3" Women's Pride Picnic, featuring special musical guests, Dante's Inferno!

13 Rodeo Pride

9PM Charlie's Las Vegas

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<http://www.ngra.com>

19 Big Boy Bash

9PM

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27 Pride Prom

8PM Artifice

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AUGUST 29

> ONE VOICE - United In Song

AUGUST 30

> PRIDE Kickoff Party

AUGUST 31

> Las Vegas PRIDE BRUNCH

> PRIDE Opening Pool Party

SEPTEMBER 2

> Cocktails & Conversations

> Latin PRIDE Party

SEPTEMBER 3

> Las Vegas PRIDE Family Bingo

> Shedonism Kickoff "Lure"

SEPTEMBER 4

> Shedonism "The March"

> Shedonism "Sin" Girl's Party

> PRIDE Boy's Party

SEPTEMBER 5

> Shedonism "Vice Day Club"

> PRIDE Pre Parade Party

> Las Vegas PRIDE Night Parade

> Official After Parade Party

> Shedonism "Lust" After Party

SEPTEMBER 6

> Las Vegas PRIDE Festival

> Shedonism "Eve" Day Club

> Shedonism "Envy"

> Official After Festival Party

SEPTEMBER 7

> Shedonism "Salvation"

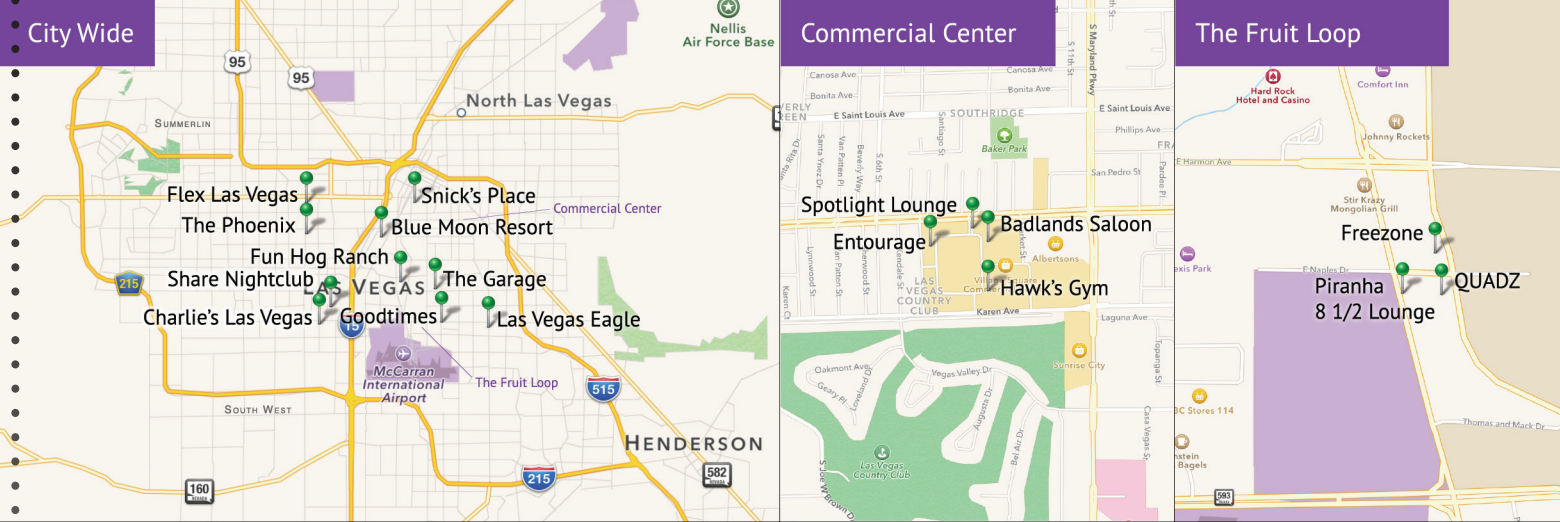
> PRIDE Closing Pool Party

> PRIDE Men's T-Dance

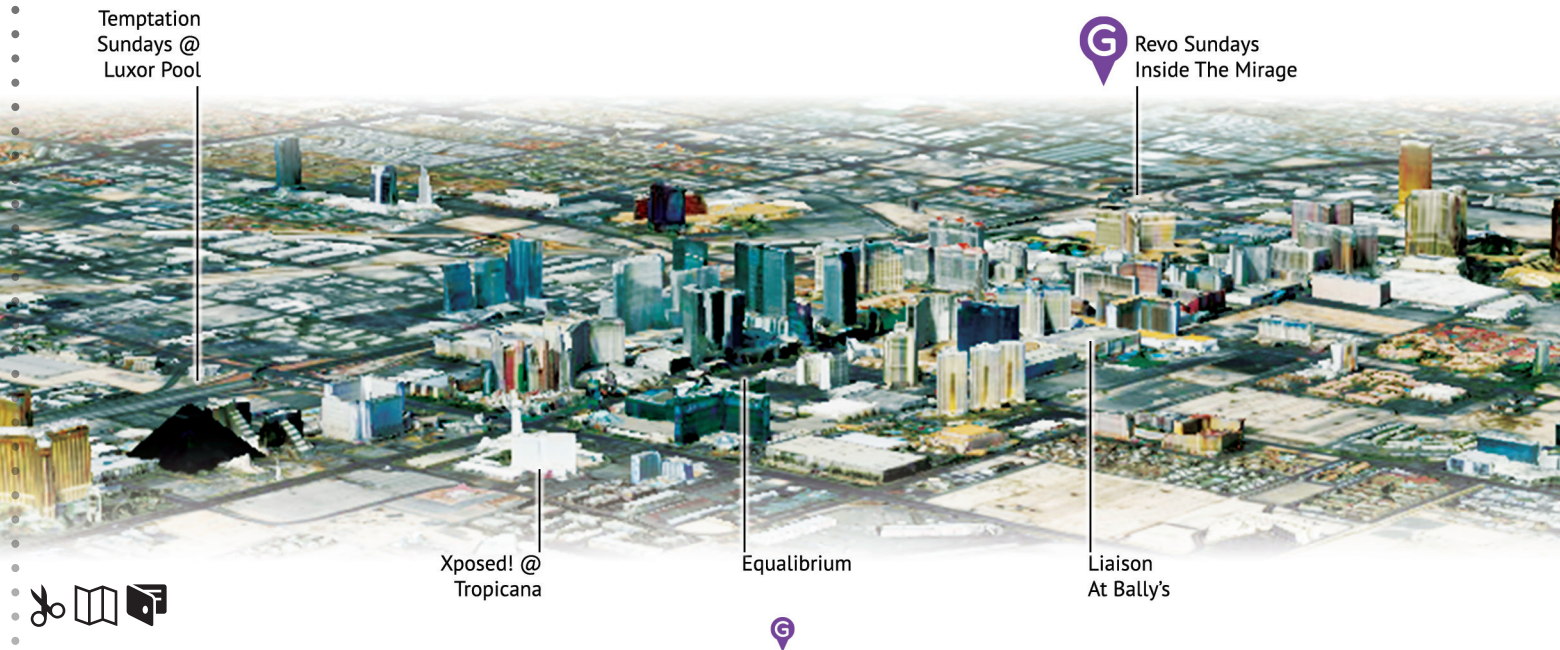
> Latin PRIDE Party

> Official Closing Party

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

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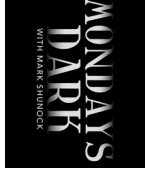
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- 2nd Tuesday
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- 3rd Tuesday
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- John Miller's Sunday Brunch Group
 - 📱 Join the Summerlin Gays Group
- Rehab at Hard Rock Hotel
 - 📱 Get on my Guest List
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- Temptation Sundays at Luxor Pool
- Service Industry Night at Flex Lounge
- Amazing Drag Review at Charlie's
- Broadway Open Mic Night at Onyx Theater
- BBQ at Blue Moon Resort

- Mondays Dark at Hard Rock Hotel (3rd Monday)
- Martini Mondays at Flex Lounge
- Liquor Bust at Spotlight Lounge
- Karaoke at Charlie's Las Vegas
- S.I.N. Mondays at The Garage
- Pigs on Broadway Video Night with Kitty Litter at Fun Hog Ranch
- Volleyball Social BBQ @ Sunset Park

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

- PRIDE Family Bingo (1st Wednesday)
- Karaoke Wednesdays at Flex Lounge
- Skin Mens' Underwear Night at Charlie's
- Game Night at FreeZone
- Boylesque Wednesdays with India Ferrah at Piranha Nightclub
- #WomanCrushWednesdays at Stratosphere

Mondays

Tuesdays

Wednesdays

Sundays

Fridays

Thursdays

Saturdays

- HRC/QVegas 3rd Thursday Boys Night at FreeZone
- Tat Thursdays at Entourage
- Karaoke at The Phoenix
- Line Dancing Lessons at Charlie's Las Vegas
- Volleyball Social BBQ @ Sunset Park
- Liaison Nightclub

- Strippier Circus at Share Nightclub
- Dance Party at Flex Lounge
- F*ck It Fridays at Piranha Nightclub
- Drag Madness at FreeZone

- Xposed! Pool Party at Tropicana
- Rehab at Hard Rock Hotel
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- Goddess with India Ferrah at Piranha Ladies Q Social at Lady Sylvia's (Every 2nd Saturday)
- Drag Madness at FreeZone
- Sin City Sisters Fundraiser at Fun Hog (3rd Saturday)
- Volleyball/BBQ Social at Sunset Park



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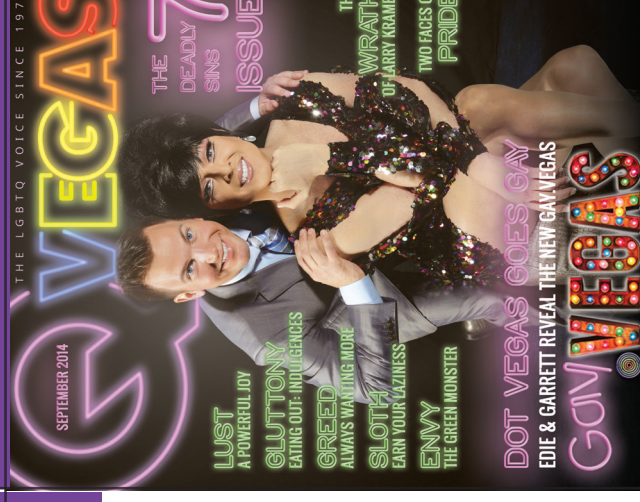


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features

Riley

Our September Baby of the Month



Photographer: Meghan Poort

Riley's Story

Our beautiful September Baby of the Month is Riley. She healthily made her debut into this world very tiny at four pounds; however, conceiving wasn't so easy for her moms. Both are of advanced maternal age and in a same-sex relationship, so they knew they would need the help of a fertility doctor in order to achieve their dreams of growing their family. After meeting with Dr. Mark Severino, they knew he was the right one for them. By using donor sperm, they attempted two Intrauterine Inseminations with no success. They then decided to move on to In Vitro Fertilization and on their first cycle had success and their little girl was on her way! Congratulations to Riley and her moms, our September Baby of the Month.

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Sloth

[by Cody Dean]

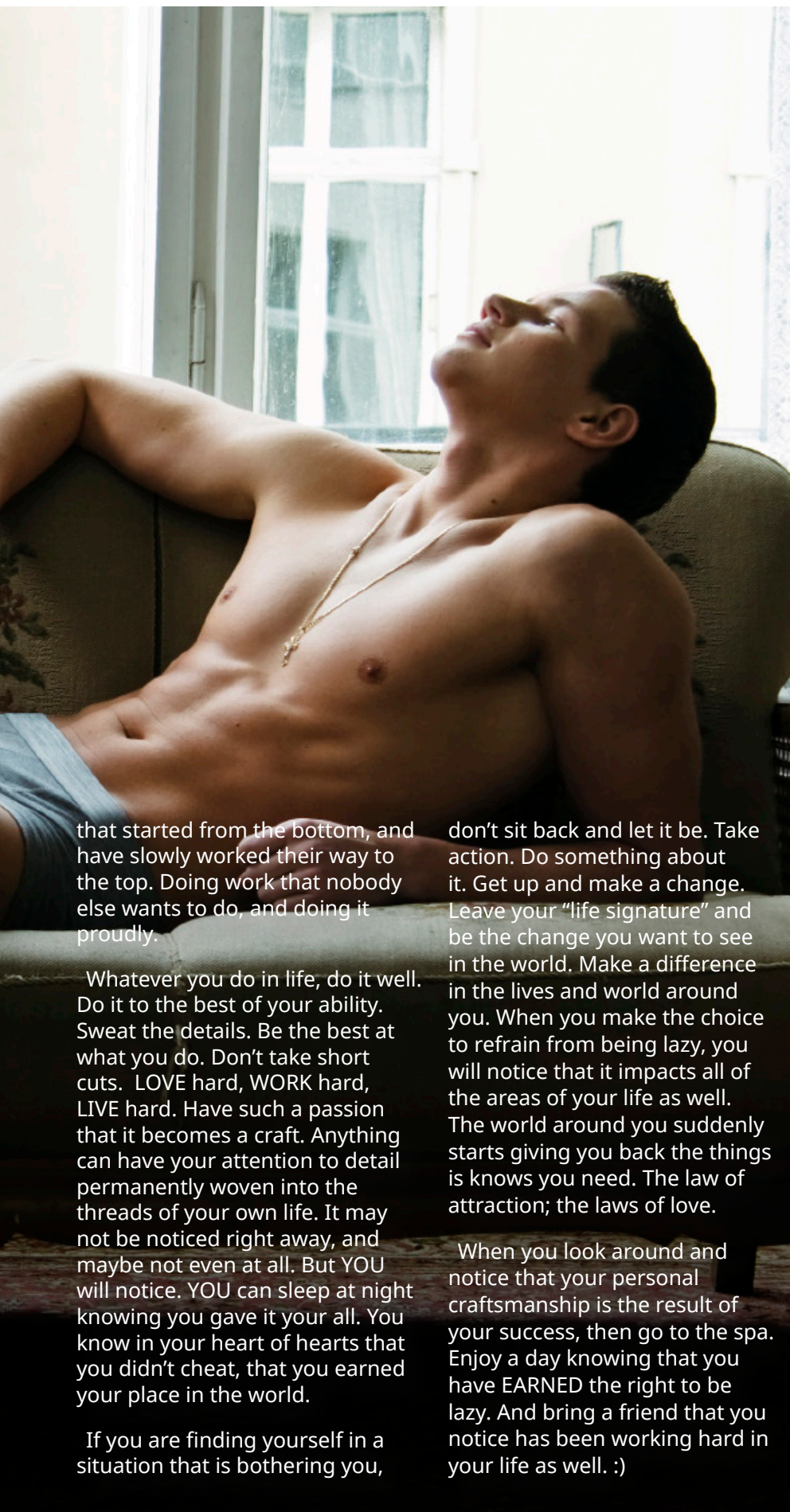
The animal we all know to be one of the slowest moving animals on earth, with a reputation of being slow and in essence, lazy.

What if the opposite is true? What if the inability to slow down, take time and pay attention to detail means that you are lazy. We live in a society where instant gratification and results need to happen at the drop of a hat. There are many areas of life where things are instantly available. We have fast food, microwave ovens and even the Internet pans results within minutes. All of these things have lead people to believe that craftsmanship is no longer alive, and that hard work is no longer needed to enjoy this thing we call life.

Well I'm here to tell you that the turtle does in fact when the race. We should live our lives like an old-fashioned typewriter. You see, it takes a true craftsman to construct a letter on a typewriter or by hand written ink. There's no backspace; there is no delete;

there is no edit button. We have become lazy. TV shows glorify the lifestyle of people that actually don't work for a living: housewives living off of their husbands. Rich children living off of their parents. They have no story to tell that led them to their success. Their looks, beauty, and potentially plastic surgery have placed them in the spotlight. Hair done, nails done, everything done. There are Drag Queens that have less work done!

There's a fear that somehow being hard-working means that you're lower in society. At times we hire people to do the things that we know we could often do ourselves. We have maids, gardeners, nannies, etc. But who do these people hire to do the jobs that they are themselves hired to do? No one. They do it themselves. The hardest working people in our society are the ones



that started from the bottom, and have slowly worked their way to the top. Doing work that nobody else wants to do, and doing it proudly.

Whatever you do in life, do it well. Do it to the best of your ability. Sweat the details. Be the best at what you do. Don't take short cuts. LOVE hard, WORK hard, LIVE hard. Have such a passion that it becomes a craft. Anything can have your attention to detail permanently woven into the threads of your own life. It may not be noticed right away, and maybe not even at all. But YOU will notice. YOU can sleep at night knowing you gave it your all. You know in your heart of hearts that you didn't cheat, that you earned your place in the world.

If you are finding yourself in a situation that is bothering you,

don't sit back and let it be. Take action. Do something about it. Get up and make a change. Leave your "life signature" and be the change you want to see in the world. Make a difference in the lives and world around you. When you make the choice to refrain from being lazy, you will notice that it impacts all of the areas of your life as well. The world around you suddenly starts giving you back the things it knows you need. The law of attraction; the laws of love.

When you look around and notice that your personal craftsmanship is the result of your success, then go to the spa. Enjoy a day knowing that you have EARNED the right to be lazy. And bring a friend that you notice has been working hard in your life as well. :)



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ENVY

[by Dan Russell]

A WORD THAT NEVER GOES OUT OF STYLE.

A word that originated from being jealous of ANYONE ELSE'S style. In a word, Envious. Why is it that anywhere people travel, they seem to find themselves envious of others? I don't think that question can be answered, only explained. The explanation I'm about to give you is based on my sole experiences and only an opinion of what I feel represents the true meaning of envy.

Not long ago I relocated to the fabulous city of Las Vegas aka "Sin City." I came from the Midwest and experienced a huge culture shock. I liked the "hustle and bustle" of the city's flow. I remember being asked how I felt about the transition of living in different cities.. "I'm just happy to be here," was always my automatic response. I really was and still am. I want to live here. I want to make a new life for myself out west. I'm a straight shooter. What you see is what you get. Which isn't the case I have come to find with a lot of folks out here. I must say I haven't been envious of most people so far, but inspired.

I had a terrific experience as working goes. I was hired at a the popular Share Night Club and really found a lot of genuine and decent people there. I have had a lot of help from locals and staff

during my employment at Share and it's still one of my favorite clubs to visit!

You never know who you're going to meet in this city. I have been blessed thus far in

meeting the right people and I am very much mentored by many of them. These people have come to be my friends and my second family. I feel good, healthy and strong around them. Many envy the people I surround myself with. How do these local socialites react? Humble, honest and grateful. Paying it forward is SO important here. I really believe that.

Some of my friends have opened there homes to me on occasion, there couch, what's in there refrigerator and even there cars at times. I'm not one for a hand out-never have been. I do appreciate the generosity of others though. Mostly because someone once helped them in life.

People need help, they need a boost. Even if its just a compliment, pat on the back or real life advice you can't pay to hear. It's up to me now to take that advice and run with it! Learn what I can, teach what I have learned. I don't want to ever be ungrateful. I have a long ways to go and will achieve my goals. Or die trying.

THEY BUILD THE VERY WALLS WE WALK BESIDE AS WE VENTURE THROUGH TOWN IN SEARCH OF EXCITEMENT, PASSION, AND GREED.

One of my best friends here taught me a lot about the Vegas. I look beyond the "SIN" in it and see the good. I don't mind being public with my actions either. I have nothing to hide. Leading me to my next point... What happens in Vegas Stays in Vegas....or does it?

I think that everyone searches for an escape when they come to this city. It doesn't take a specialist to say what everyone thinks, addictions run this city. They build the very walls we walk beside as we venture through town in search of excitement, passion, and greed. All of which tie together forming what I believe the definition of Envy really is.

I admit that I have done things here in Las Vegas that I could not, and certainly would not ever do anywhere else. I have heard the term "what happens in Vegas, Stays in Vegas" as far back as I can remember. Growing up in a day and age where everything is blasted on social media sites certainly makes the famous saying irreversible. The question is now, "Why are we developing this characteristic that makes us want to 'blast' our personal lives to the world?" Is it for our own development as a person? Is it for money? Is it for a sense of closure we get when we prove to others that we are actually living?

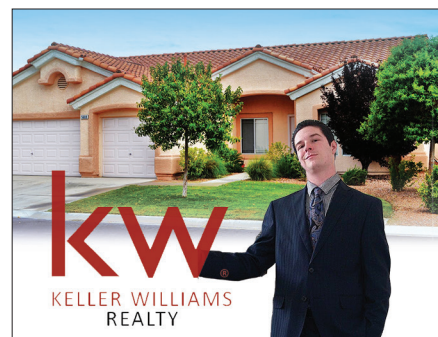
These reasons all seem to be true, and all fall under the category of what Envy really stands for. I think people want what they can't have.

Once a person obtains it they need to let everyone else know that they actually got it! They did it! It's theirs!

I have been guilty of this, although I do separate my own happiness for others compared to being envious of them. More people need to be happy for their own friends' successes. Not envy them.

Everyone wants to be surrounded by beautiful and powerful people until they actually reach that status level themselves and then they seem to go a separate direction. Leaving behind the old, and bringing in the new.

We need to remember those old days. The old faces that have guided us and helped us get where we are in life. Pass it along and pay that shit forward! I moved to Vegas at a good turning point in my life. I've matured and grown up a lot over these few years. I'm ready for Sin City! If it can create my fantasy at times, that's great. I will always separate that fantasy with my own reality.



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A close-up photograph of a hand holding a red apple. Overlaid on the image is a glowing orange circuit board with multiple parallel lines. The word "GREED" is written in large, bold, red, distressed capital letters across the middle of the image, partially obscuring the apple and the circuit board.

GREED

[by Frank Del Toro]

Gordon Gekko, the main character in the 1988 movie *Wall Street*, is a well known symbol of American corporate greed. "Greed," he says, "for lack of a better word, is good." The movie is fiction. But greed, is very real.

Greed remains at the forefront today, bouyed by the almost decade of malaise brought on by Enron's stock manipulation, Bernie Madoff's ponzi scheme, and the bursting of the housing bubble--all built on the desire of investors, banks and buyers to make the greatest possible profit.

When people are hurting, they are outraged and out for blood. "How could this happen?!" everyone seems to ask. In reality, it's been happening every day. It's nothing new. Greed is not only one of the biblical seven deadly sins, but even a circle of hell in Dante's *Inferno*. Buddah alludes to it as the over attachment to the material world and its pleasures—the root of human suffering.

Society loves to think it gets it. Greed is in reality, really bad. But are we just

kidding ourselves in thinking it can be eradicated? Shocking as it may seem, the answer is yes. We all like to feel we are righteous, and seem to characterize those with more--those who WANT more, as selfish and greedy. The reality is that every single one of us is greedy.

Disagree? How many of us do not negotiate for the highest possible salary when we get that job offer? You don't need the top of the pay scale, but for the majority, we sure do try. We can live on less, but we want more. That is greed.

When someone is looking for a job... how many times does a person not get offered work because the hiring party is afraid the candidate is a threat to them? Or that one would like to keep it open for their friends—who aren't as qualified, instead? That is greed.

Ask yourself, how much money do you spend on gambling while having a beer or cocktail? How many people around you do that? Why isn't it considered greedy when we know a friend or acquaintance lost his or her job and is in need—but

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our losing \$100 on a machine for entertainment is a better option than giving the friend the money. Why don't most of us first think, "Hey, this could buy food for the week for two, or gas for so-and-so" until they're back on their feet? That's greed too.

Greed makes us selfish. We will gladly take money lent to us, but are slow to pay it back. When selling a business, an owner may over represent its value—but becomes acrimonious when an auditor renders it worthless. When selling our homes, we want the highest—not necessarily the best, offers. Even our addictions are a form of greed. We want more of what gives us pleasure, whatever that may be: drugs, alcohol, pornography, gambling, food, power, fame, exercise, money, all of which give us as an escape from anxiety and

stress. Individually and for ourselves. That is greed.

In the end, greed is consuming and for it we like to condemn or we are judged. I personally am no stranger to how greed can knock someone down and knock them down hard. I still believe, though. I believe people are good. We are good. That when we peel the layers of perception off, we find reality. That when we find perception is a gross misrepresentation of reality, we recognize and correct it. That is how we can get right back up again in the face of adversity.

If a little bit of greed is going to make you demand being paid what your worth, then so be it. It is preservation of yourself. Just don't hurt anyone. Never forget to be benevolent or generous. Show that something good can—will, always accompany the bad.

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Funding for this publication was made possible (in part) through a grant from the Federal Department of Health and Human Services HIV AIDS Bureau and Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act.

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INDULGENCES

[by Michael Barbieri]
www.myvegasobsession.com

Okay...So you're in Vegas and you've hit it big! You've won millions and suddenly money is no object. Ah! Let's see...Where do you want to stay? A 9,000 square foot Sky Villa with a cantilevered pool jutting from the side of the building, giving you the perfect view of the Las Vegas Strip? DONE! Need a new outfit? Maybe a few diamond trinkets from Cartier? Have the personal shopper send up a selection. You'll check them out later... But how will you get around? A classic stretch limo? Nah! Just hit the Ferrari dealership at one of the big-name hotels and drive away with your own Italian sports car!

Las Vegas is a world of fantasy, and people the world over know of the fabulous luxury hotels, extravagant parties, and no-limits shopping sprees, affordable by only the rich and famous, usually. The Las Vegas culinary scene is much the same - celebrity owned restaurants offer up outrageous and often very expensive treats, each seemingly trying to out-do the other, in attempts to satisfy their customer's wild desires.

Here then, are some of the most remarkable foodie indulgences I've encountered on The Strip. And while I've tried many of these, there are others that will always await a diner with a larger bankroll than mine!

The Seasonal Discovery Menu at L'Atelier de Joel Robuchon

At about \$200 per person, this tasting menu is more like 10 treats in one. Sit back, and watch as the fantastic food keeps appearing over the next

two hours! From the foie-gras parfait that begins the meal, to the scallop cooked in it's own shell and served with micro-chives, to playful desserts featuring tequila gelee, cotton candy, or pop rocks, you'll marvel at the presentation and be blown away by the flavors from Chef of the Century Joel Robuchon!

The Maine Lobster appetizer at Gordon Ramsay Steak

A divine butter poached lobster tail, stuffed with chorizo and served with a luscious brandied lobster cream sauce, you'd swear this was a main course, not just an appetizer. The sweet, buttery lobster meat will make your eyes roll back and all you'll be able to say is "Wow!"

The Yamato Roll at SushiSamba

The most indulgent sushi roll I've encountered: Rice, topped with raw tuna, a slice of seared foie-gras, a dollop of osetra caviar, and flakes of gold leaf. At \$19 for three pieces, it's one of the more affordable items on our list, and with a rich, silky, mouth-feel, you can't help but feel like a big shot when you're eating caviar and gold in the same bite!

Caviar Tacos at R.R.R

Speaking of caviar, some of the best can be found over at the Cosmopolitan, where the social experiment known as Rose. Rabbit.Lie dazzles its customers by blurring the lines between restaurant, bar, environmental theater, and nightclub. The menu features small plates, including the caviar tacos. At \$15 each, you might balk, thinking "That's fifteen bucks for one mouthful of food!", but with fresh, clean, black sturgeon caviar in a Yukon Gold potato shell, it's one HELL of a mouthful!! As my friend said when he tasted one: "I felt that down to my TOES!!!"

The Rossini at Burger Bar

In the Mandalay Place shopping plaza, you'll find a most unlikely spot for a pricey, indulgent treat: Burger Bar; a noisy, bustling burger joint/sports bar with a young clientele and a very casual vibe. Thing is...this joint belongs to Hubert Keller, owner of Fleur in Mandalay Bay and a rock star in the culinary world. Named after a famed composer and food lover, the Rossini is about as decadent as a burger can get - Kobe beef, sautéed foie-gras, and shaved truffles served on an onion bun with a rich brown sauce. At \$60, it's worth the splurge! Oh, and if you want an upgrade, you can always go to Fleur for the Fleurburger 5000 - same burger, same fixings, but accompanied by a bottle of 1995 Chateau Petrus. That'll only run you \$5,000!

The Queen's Lobster at Hugo's Cellar

Behind the slots and tables at The Four Queens in Downtown Vegas, is Hugo's Cellar, enchanting its customers with old-world ambience and upscale continental fare. While there are many indulgences to be found here (Filet de Boeuf Atlantis, with bacon, crab meat and béarnaise sauce, or the Chateaubriand and Lobster for Two), my favorite is the Queen's Lobster - succulent

lobster tail meat, dredged in flour, sautéed in a white wine and cream reduction, with mushrooms, sun dried tomatoes and red pepper flakes! Heaven on a plate!

Duck Fat Fries at StripSteak

Don't fill up on the bread!! That's what your parents always told you. At Michael Mina's StripSteak, that's not a problem. Instead of the usual bread basket, diners are given three metal serving cups filled with delicious french fries fried in duck fat - each tossed with different flavors, and each with it's own dipping sauce including garlic ketchup and truffle aioli! They're insanely addictive!

There are even pricier treats to be had, of course: A bowl of Chef Guy Savoy's signature Artichoke & Black Truffle Soup will run you a mere \$70.

The Golden Opulence Sundae at Serendipity 3

This is served in a crystal goblet lined with sheets of edible gold leaf, and made with Tahitian vanilla bean ice cream, chocolate syrup made from Amedei Porcelana, one of the worlds most expensive chocolates, exotic candied fruits from Paris, gold covered almonds, chocolate truffles, marzipan cherries, Grand Passion Caviar (a sweetened dessert caviar infused with essence of passionfruit!), whipped cream, a gilded sugar flower and a dusting of gold leaf flakes! Price tag? \$1,000!

And you can finish off the evening at Joel Robuchon's flagship restaurant, where there's a cozy cognac lounge serving Hardy's Perfection Cognac from the Essential Elements series dating back to the 1870's. Only \$990 for a 1.5 ounce pour.

Or better yet, have a scotch - the Macallan 1947 is a steal at \$3,800 a shot!

Just remember...You're in Las Vegas. Find a little splurge and treat yourself. You deserve it!



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STAY IN TOUCH

A person wearing a red t-shirt and dark pants is holding a large, black megaphone with both hands. The megaphone is positioned in front of their face, and its large, flared end is the central focus of the left half of the image. The person's arms are visible, holding the handle of the megaphone. The background is plain white.

THE WRATH OF LARRY KRAMER

[by Jamie Morris]

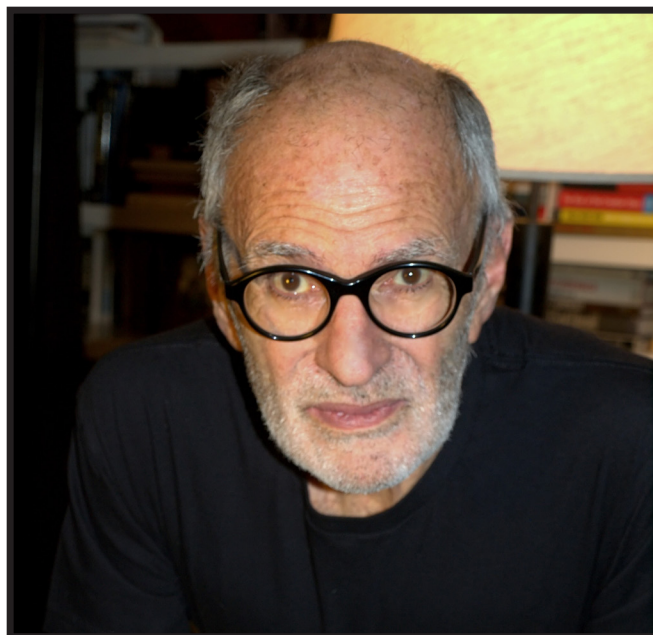
In an effort to make some room on my very crowded DVR and to catch up on some some saved programs I've been meaning to watch, I finally got to experience HBO's heart-wrenching drama "The Normal Heart," based on Larry Kramer's semi-autobiographic Tony Award-winning play about the early days of the AIDS epidemic. Kramer's in-your-face account resonates the fear and the frustration when no one was listening, when no one seemed to care, and when no one from local government to Ronald Reagan would even say the word AIDS. One of the strongest (and loudest) queer voices of his time, Kramer created a movement that took to the streets in protest to demand action. And all because he was angry. He was mad as hell that our community was being ignored. He was angry that his friends were dying. He was pissed off. And God help those who encountered his wrath. The man was relentless. He made America wake up and listen. And he got results. And this got me thinking. Where's that kind of anger today? What happened to that kind of wrath? Is it generational? Are we too afraid to ruffle some feathers to get stuff done, to illicit change?

A mere 12 years prior to the first case of AIDS in 1981, members of the gay community - including some rather feisty drag queens - took to the streets in lower Manhattan in front the West Village gay bar the Stonewall Inn to protest a police raid of that bar. The Stonewall Riots in the summer of '69 ushered in the Gay Rights Movement and served as a catalyst for LGBT rights in America. At the time, being gay wasn't only considered a sin, it was illegal. Even New York City had laws prohibiting homosexuality in public. There were very few places where you could be openly gay and those places were regularly raided and shut down. So, yeah, those drag queens were fighting mad. And we all know what it is like to feel the wrath of a cranky queen. Those cops didn't stand a chance. But where is that passion now? Maybe we have come so far that it isn't necessary. Thanks to advancements in medicine, people with HIV are living long, normal lives. Gay marriage is

Kramer's in-your-face account resonates the fear and the frustration when no one was listening

legal in 19 states and the District of Columbia, and federal judges are striking down same-sex marriage bans it seems like every other day. We have come a long, long way.

So is that kind of wrath obsolete? Or maybe that kind of fighting spirit is gone in today's world. Wrath today is seen less in street protests and more in courtroom battles, less in shouting from the rooftops and more in quietly casting your ballot in a voting booth. Kramer's squeaky-wheel-gets-the-oil approach now seems to be as antiquated as the rotary dial telephone or the VCR. We've traded in our megaphones and hand-painted signs for laptops and ipads. Instead of taking to the streets, we take to our phones. When we get our panties in a twist today we post to Facebook and we tweet about it. So, maybe wrath isn't gone, it's just delivered in a different way. If only Larry Kramer had social media at his disposal. It would have made it so much easier to piss off a lot more people a whole lot faster. And that's not a bad thing. His



actions taught us many things. Most importantly, he taught us that wrath doesn't have to be a deadly sin. Sometimes, it can be a Godsend. And for that, Mr. Kramer, thank you.

Jamie Morris is a local actor and playwright known for his plays Mommie Queerest, The Facts of Life: The Lost Episode, The Silence of the Clams, and Re-Designing Women.

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We're Getting Tur

DOT VEGAS GOES GAY

[by Russ White]

August marked an important milestone for Las Vegas and the Internet. After waiting in the wings for several years, the new .VEGAS top-level domain officially launched on August 15. This new top-level domain (or TLD) will usher in new websites with a direct focus on Las Vegas. With over \$100,000,000 spend each year on marketing Las Vegas, this new domain is poised for explosive growth.

WHERE DID .VEGAS COME FROM?

Starting a new TLD is no easy task. I should know, I tried a few years ago. It's an expensive, time consuming, and highly competitive process. But the management team at Dot Vegas, the company that owns and manages the .VEGAS domain, was successful in garnering support from the City of Las Vegas and was awarded the TLD by ICANN, the governing organization for most of the Internet.

When a new TLD launches, there's a very specific process that must be followed to protect the rights of personas and trademark holders. A new TLD is rolled out in 3 phases.

The first phase is the Sunrise period. During this time, the new TLD registrar sets aside high-value names and certain trademarks. High-value names can be sold by

the registrar at a premium price so the registrar can recuperate its costs in establishing and operating the new TLD. Some reserved names are sold for several hundred dollars, others go for tens to hundreds of thousands.

The Sunrise phase also allows any trademark holders or personas to claim rights to their mark, though the registrar can still charge a premium fee for trademarked names held during the Sunrise period.

The .VEGAS Sunrise period ended August 1 and shifted into the second phase, called the Land Rush. During the Land Rush, anyone interested in buying a domain can pre-register their domain

in the hopes of getting it when the Land Rush phase ends on September 10. If more than one registrant claims a domain name during Land Rush, the domain name goes to auction and the price can escalate quickly. Starting September 15, anyone will be able to register a .VEGAS domain.

TURNING ON GAY.VEGAS

Shortly before the end of the Sunrise period, Garrett Pattiani and I met with .VEGAS to make our case for the GAY.VEGAS domain name. Garrett and I have been working together for over a year and we were excited at



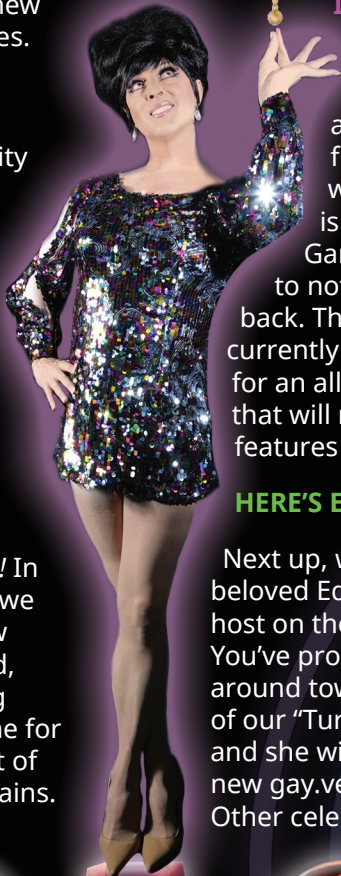
GAY.VEGAS Hosts Edie and Garrett bring you an all new guide to Gay Las Vegas when the website goes live this month.

Turned On. Are you?

the potential of the new .VEGAS domain names.

With Garrett's background in VIP hosting and hospitality and my background in technology and publishing, we knew we would be good stewards of the .VEGAS domain and would be able to distinguish .VEGAS from .COM in the marketplace.

We had no time to waste. *Carpe Domain!* In less than two weeks we had developed a new website, a new brand, and a new marketing campaign, just in time for the August 15 rollout of the first .VEGAS domains.



IT'S GOOD FOR BUSINESS

Starting a new brand and a new website from the ground up without any funding is a daunting task, but Garrett and I have learned to not let a challenge hold us back. The GAY.VEGAS website is currently accepting registrations for an all-new business directory that will roll out as our first features on the site.

HERE'S EDIE

Next up, we've invited the beloved Edie to join Garrett as co-host on the GAY.VEGAS website. You've probably already seen Edie around town and online as part of our "Turned On" campaign, and she will be turning on her new gay.vegas/edie page soon. Other celebrities will be adding

their pages as well. Garrett and Edie will traverse the town seeking out way to educate and inform you about Gay Las Vegas through playful and instructional videos.

ARE YOU GETTING TURNED ON?

Businesses interested in leveraging the power of the .VEGAS domain can register for their business directory listing in the GAY.VEGAS business directory. Search engines distinguish the difference between descriptive top-level domains and other .COM addresses, so search results will tend to favor .VEGAS.

Businesses can also pre-register for their own .VEGAS domain now through select registrars before .VEGAS opens up to general availability on September 15.

Get Turned On

www.gay.vegas/register

As a new domain and a new website, we're starting off small and growing fast. We want to make the GAY.VEGAS website the premier destination website for LGBTQ locals and tourists. But we can't be comprehensive without everyone's involvement.

We have business listings for every budget, including free. Annual plans are available as well, and are deeply discounted until September 15.

As we expand our resources section, all local non-profit and not-for-profit organizations serving the LGBTQ community will be eligible for a listing.

And there's even more coming. We can't wait to share some of the exciting things we have planned.



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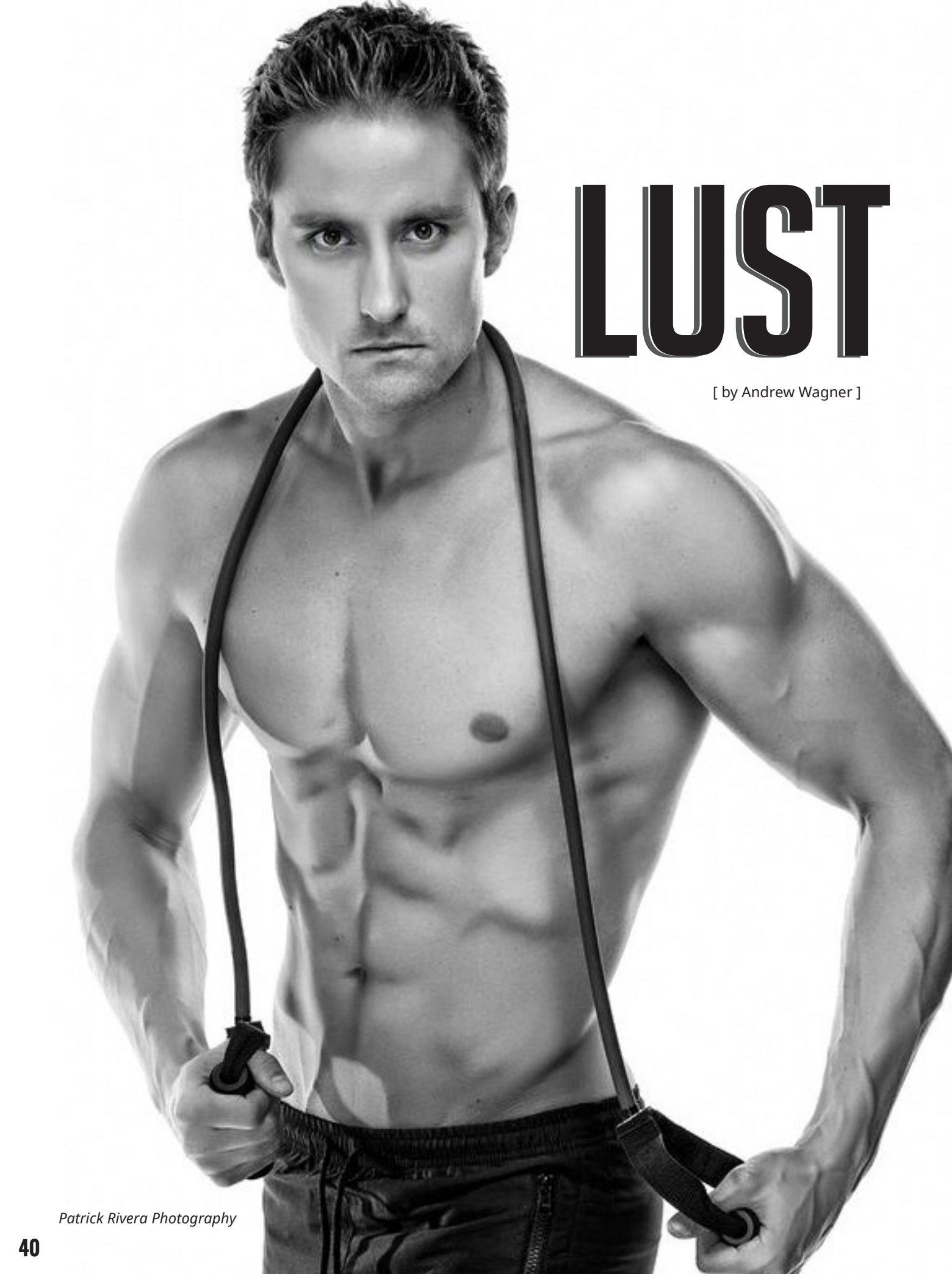
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LUST

[by Andrew Wagner]

Patrick Rivera Photography

When you think of the word lust what do you think of? Something taboo? Something forbidden? Maybe lust to you might be sinful because we want someone in your life like Andrew Wagner from Burnfactor Fitness .

If *lust* by its definition is an emotion or feeling of intense desire my question to all of you is what is wrong with that? Is it wrong to want to have a physical body that is desirable? Is it wrong to want to make love to a handsome sexy fit man? Is it wrong to want to look in the mirror and know I am as hot as hell? If *lust* is suppose to be a deadly sin then let me tell you this, put me to the front of the line and sign me up honey.

Now, don't get me wrong we can always have too much of something. The term *lust* consists of the powerful psychological force producing intense wanting for an object. If that intensity drives you to become something you are not *lust* can turn into a deadly sin. If *lust* has you up at night and not sleeping because the psychological force of wanting or having the object you crave, than *lust* can be a deadly sin. For the most part, anything in life that can be beautiful can turn ugly.

Here are 2 simple questions to ask yourself that the *Lust* in your life is a positive thing.

1. Are you using *Lust* to make yourself a better person?
Because you have a craving and a wanting for something it might push you to become a better person. Because the business owner (Andrew Wagner from www.burnfactorfitness.com) has a look that makes you *lust* over him it might inspire you to obtain that same look. It might inspire you enough to make changes to your body for the better. Using *lust*, in this way, then can become a positive thing.
2. Is *Lust* causing you to awaken something inside you?
Life can get boring. For real! We can let our Monday through Friday rat race of life become so routine we forget to live in the moment. *Lusting* over something or someone can make you present in life. *Lusting* over a new person in your life can cause you to try new things and awaken something inside of you that might be dormant. Enjoy this new found energy and excitement about your life and make it a positive thing.

If you answered YES to these two questions then the *Lust* in your life is not one of the 7 deadly sins. The *Lust* in your life is one of the 7 powerful joys!

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* Casino worker rear-ended in motor vehicle accident where insurance company argued the force of impact could not have produced the injuries. Client had injuries to one disc in neck and one disc in lower back. 40% Contingency Fee.
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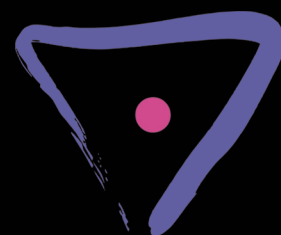
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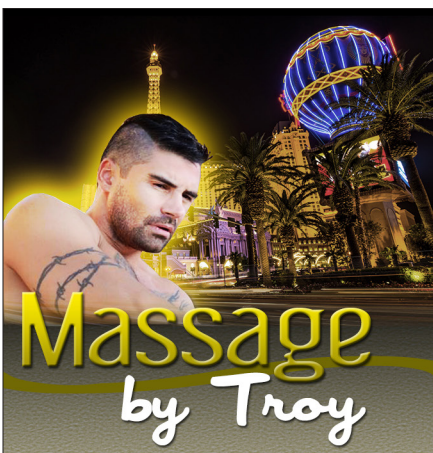
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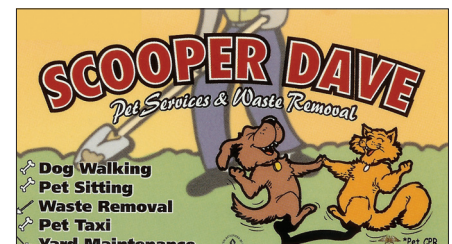
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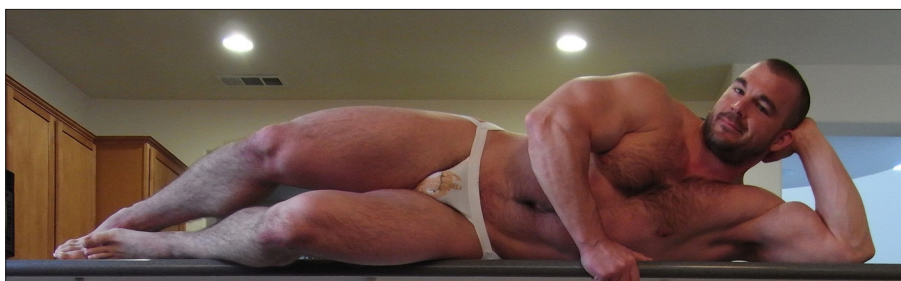
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Pride

The Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde of our sins comes to us as a two way mirror

[by Norma Llyaman / Jim McCoy]

Do you look and see your reflection of gratification or do you fall into the looking glass and succumb to the narcissism awaiting you there. The jokester Pride masks itself with genuine compassion and satisfaction then turns and walks into the shadows of elevated ego and superiority. This alter ego effect gives us pause to comprehend and fully realize the power one has with pride. What do you see when you look upon the mirror?

Pride can be that feeling of honor experienced when you walk away from a situation with an overwhelming sense of pleasantness. Knowing what you just experienced or accomplished, alone or with a group, heightened your sense of dignity and honor. It is a personal sense of well being and gratitude. You have looked into the mirror and the self-reflection you see has given you the sense of fulfillment and belonging. You are happy with yourself, your actions, and your community.

Pride can be a very positive emotion, mental or physical, it gives us completion. Some may call it a whole soul syndrome, others soul enhancement. Pride will come to you at home or in the community daily. You will experience a sense of pride everywhere you go. No matter what pride does for you personally, it should be a cherished emotion that needs continual nurturing and protection. It is a key component to the ingredients of life!

The other reflection of pride within the looking glass is Mr. Hyde. His manipulating actions, deceitful methods and cunning process are absolutely expected. Gaining strength by personal promotion and agendas. Not only wanting to be the first, the fastest and the greatest, but also to be given the recognition and credit. Proudly wearing the crown or the badge of vanity and conceit, the other pride maneuvers through the masses. Intermingling within normal processions and accomplishments until ready to strike like a venomous snake. The darker pride is not full of sunshine, rainbows and unicorns.



It is powerful and raging. Full of zest and deception, it grows like a cancer within a soul or community and takes control. Pride inflates the ego, raises the level of self-absorption and belittles the truthful facts of integrity and accomplishment. It can overturn a soul so fast that others entangled within have no choice as to feel its wrath of humility and guilt. It is this personal pride that is developed from a weakened sense of importance and relevance. Boastful and excessive are strong characteristics of pride that manipulate a person to place themselves high atop a pedestal structured with a weak foundation.

"The love of one's own excellence." stated St. Augustine.

"Send forth the child and childish man together, and blush for the pride that libels our own old happy state, and gives its title to an ugly and distorted image."

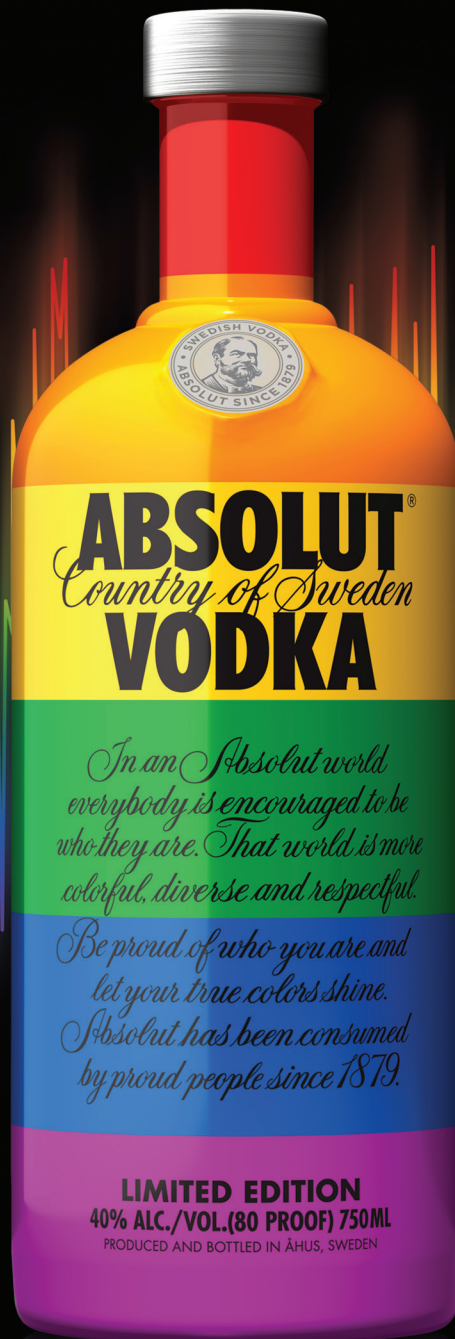
—Charles Dickens

Pride is a double edge sword and your interpretation of how you convey your pride is a personal choice. Recognizing your pride as a state of accomplishment and value for your dedication and achievements is honorable and worthy of admiration. A balanced individual has established pride in their behaviors, triumphs and community. This deep-seated and positive pride builds strength within your soul and the others you have around you.

A healthy village is a community filled with pride for who they are and what they represent. They have a communal pride in their individual and group accomplishments but they also have a commitment to the enrichment of merit and respect for all.

Pride is a two sided coin to be personally flipped. What side will you land on?

EXPRESS YOUR PRIDE

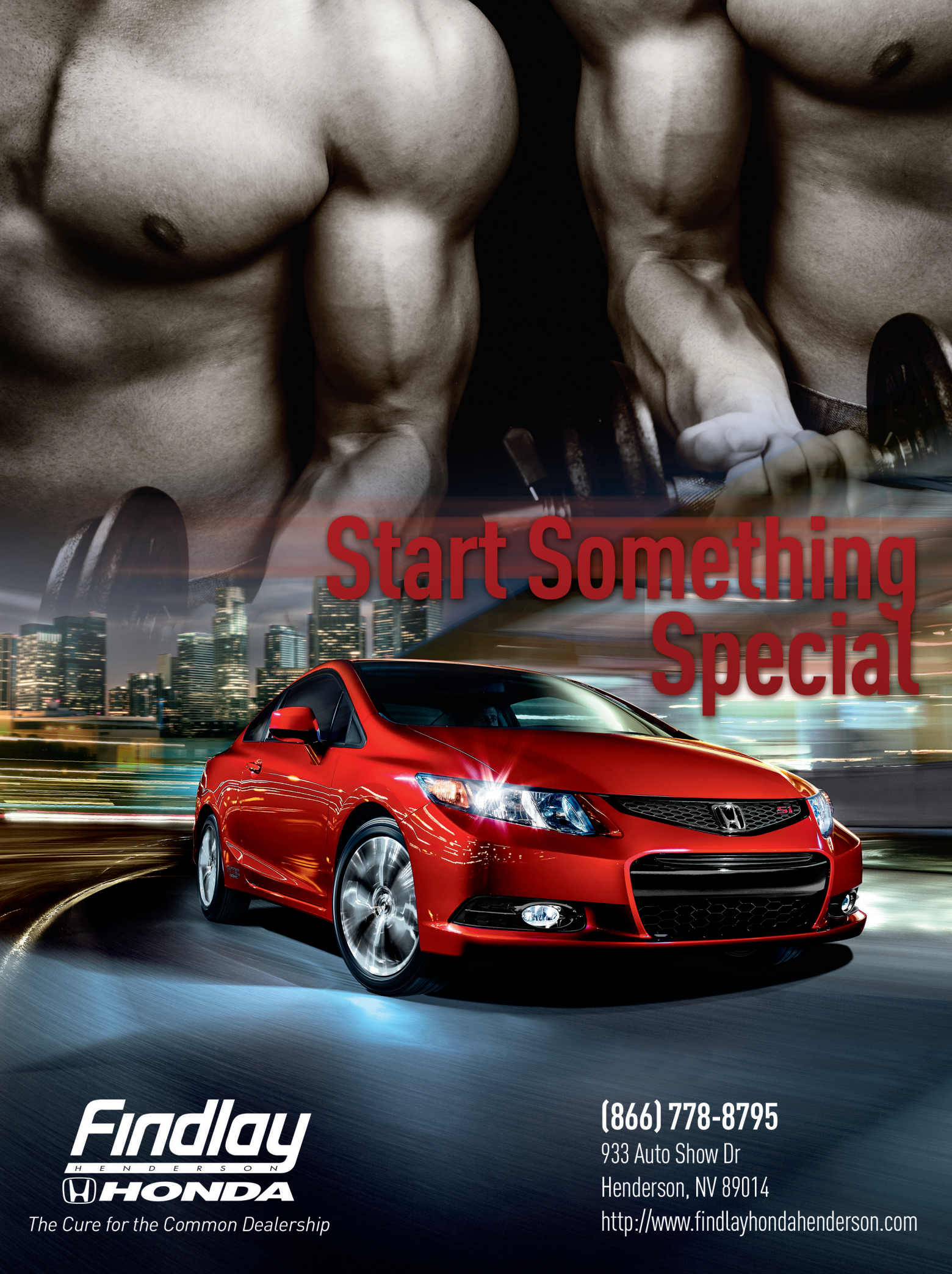


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