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Contributors:

Neil Chamberlain Brad Loekle Nana Terri Schlichenmeyer Stephanie Wise

Welcome To Paradise!

It's that time of year again. Time for ghosts, goblins, & g-strings.

October isn't just about Halloween, but also Fantasy Fest!

This 10 day event is when you'll see things you can't post on social media and you won't tell your co-workers about when you get home!

Enjoy!

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LEZ GO OUT



Everyone knows about the iconic festival that has helped make Key West infamous for risqué frivolity, costumes and mostly naked but creatively painted bodies riding a theme so hard that it explodes all over the island. This is Fantasy Fest and if you haven't heard of it

over the island. This is Fantasy Fest and if you haven't heard of it, I'm not sure you're conscious. However, a lesser known and historic festival called Goombay happens just before the latex and glitter take over.

Goombay is the first official event that kicks off Fantasy Fest here in Key West. It is free and family friendly which is a huge draw for those looking to share the 10 day festival with family. You'll find local artists featuring the Bahamian culture, music, food and history that shapes our island's past and present. Located in Bahama Village, there is a daytime street fair with some of the most incredible Bahamian dishes and to find it you just follow your nose as the wonderful smell of spices and grilling cover a great distance. Some of the food features are conch fritters, jerk chicken and the incredible cracked conch which has to be tried to truly say you've experienced Goombay. The music you'll hear stems from calvpso to reggae and there are plenty of opportunities to dance day and night. There is a parade filled with costumes and culturally historic dress showcasing the rich and colorful heritage of the islanders who founded Key West. It starts at noon on October 18th and goes until midnight for a full day of good clean fun. Head to the corner of Petronia & Emma Street which is walkable from Duval and you'll find it without trouble.

If good clean fun ISN'T what you came to Key West for... have no fear. Your kink is welcome and this year the theme is 90's Neon Cosmic Carnival. From October 18-27 there are numerous public and homegrown events that you will find as you make new friends and spy upside down pineapples all over town. Go www.fantasyfest.com/schedule/ for the full schedule of fun and craziness. I love the logo and sincerely hope there are tshirts. I cover my body because I'm prudish but will come down to watch the debauchery to satisfy my voyeuristic side. Just be careful, if you're like me and prefer to enjoy things as a wallflower, you never know when someone will find your cute little shy self and invite you to join their party... for the night. The 'come as you are' and anything goes' rule book is never more visible and celebrated than during Fantasy Fest which is highlighted by parades, costumed events, shows, musicals, ghost tours, Robert The Doll (which is a whole other article unto itself) a fundraiser to crown a Fantasy Fest King & Queen which benefits the Florida Keys SPCA and so much more that isn't fit to print.

October 24th, is an event that is not to be missed - the Headdress Ball. Locals and visitors create absolutely amazing and sometimes interactive headdresses, hats, whole cities that fit on their heads and present them to an audience and judges with local notoriety in a contest to win first prize. This is a huge part of the fundraising activities as tables go for \$320 for 4 people to benefit the Florida Keys SPCA. Randy Roberts is a local celebrity, female impersonator and the host of this years contest! This year is going to be one for the books so get your tickets early or get started on your headdress submission stat!!

Because anything goes, Lez Go Out and celebrate the historic, strange, unique, and absolutely wild side of the island. See you out there under neon lights in a carnival rocking emo vibes and making unforgettable memories in Key West together!



#1 PRESCRIBED HIV TREATMENT

*Source: IQVIA NPA Weekly, 04/19/2019 through 05/19/2023.

ELIAS

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Person featured takes BIKTARVY and is compensated by Gilead.

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BIKTARVY* is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in certain adults. BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.

Ask your healthcare provider if BIKTARVY is right for you.

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IMPORTANT FACTS FOR BIKTARVY®

This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY* and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

(bik-TAR-vee)

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection. Your healthcare provider will test you for HBV. If you have both HIV-1 and HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking BIKTARVY. Do not stop taking BIKTARVY without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months, and may give you HBV medicine.

ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults and children who weigh at least 55 pounds. It can either be used in people who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before, or people who are replacing their current HIV-1 medicines and whose healthcare provider determines they meet certain requirements.

BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS.

Do NOT take BIKTARVY if you also take a medicine that contains:

- dofetilide
- rifampin
- any other medicines to treat HIV-1

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- Those in the "Most Important Information About BIKTARVY" section.
- Changes in your immune system. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that may have been hidden in your body.

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking BIKTARVY.

- Kidney problems, including kidney failure. Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- > Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- Severe liver problems, which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- The most common side effects of BIKTARVY in clinical studies were diarrhea (6%), nausea (6%), and headache (5%).

These are not all the possible side effects of BIKTARVY. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking BIKTARVY.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.FDA.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with BIKTARVY.

Continued on next page.



















Meet a few of the extraordinary people who take BIKTARVY.

Watch their stories at BIKTARVY.com

IMPORTANT FACTS FOR BIKTARVY* (cont'd)

BEFORE TAKING BIKTARVY

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have or have had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
- Have any other health problems.
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking BIKTARVY.
- Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Talk to your healthcare provider about the risks of breastfeeding during treatment with BIKTARVY.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist. BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

HOW TO TAKE BIKTARVY

Take BIKTARVY1 time each day with or without food.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
- Go to BIKTARVY.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5.
- If you need help paying for your medicine, visit BIKTARVY.com for program information.

Please see Important Facts, including important warnings, above and at BIKTARVY.com.





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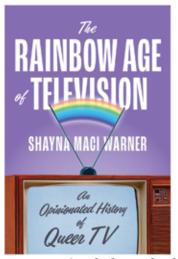


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"THE RAINBOW AGE OF TELEVISION: AN OPINIONATED HISTORY OF QUEER TV" By Shagyna Maci Warner

c.2024, Abrams Press | \$28.00 | 304 pages



Wanna hand over the clicker?

You don't want to miss the season premiere of that show you binge-watched over the summer. You're invested, a fan who can't wait to see what happens next. You heard that this may be the last season and you'll be sad, if that's so. Is it time to start looking for another, newer obsession or will you want to read "The Rainbow Age of Television" by Shayna Maci Warner, and find something old?

Like most kids of the '70s, '80s, and '90s, Shayna Maci Warner spent lots of time glued to a television screen, devouring

programming before school, after school, and all summer long. For Warner, that programming eventually led to a revelation. They saw people that looked like them, for which they formed "a personal attachment."

It was "life-changing..."

It didn't happen all at once, and some of TV's "milestones" are forever lost, since broadcasts were live until the 1950s. Shortly after shows were taped and preserved, homosexuality became a "source of worry and blunt fascination" but certain performers carefully presented gently risque characters and dialog that nudged and winked at viewers.

Some queer representation appeared in the 1960s, but it wasn't until

the 1970s when dramas began to feature more gay and lesbian characters, however subtly. It took awhile for "the 'rest' of the alphabet" to be represented in a meaningful way and – despite that Star Trek and its many versions included gender-diverse characters – it wasn't until 1996 that an intersex infant was featured on a regular television drama.

Since Ellen DeGeneres came out practically on her namesake TV show and Will & Grace became a wild hit, queer representation on TV has ceased to be an unusual thing. And yet, programmers and writers know that caution is still warranted: sometimes, "there can still be hesitation around pushing the envelope and fear that a queer character who burns too brightly just won't last."

Quick: name three after-school TV shows that aired when you were in Fourth Grade. If you can't do it, one thing's for certain: you need "The Rainbow Age of Television."

But get ready for some argument. Author Shayna Maci Warner offers a rabid fan's look at the best and the worst queer representation had to offer, and you may beg to differ with what they say about various programs. That makes this book a critique, of sorts, but Warner offers plenty of wiggle-room for argument.

Tussling over the finer points of queer programming, though, is only half the fun of reading this book. Microwave a box of pizza snacks or mac-and-cheese, demand "your" sofa seat, and dive into the nostalgia of old TV shows, most of them from the later last century. Yep, your faves are here. It's like having an oldies channel on paper, and in your hand.

This is a must-have for former kids and current TV addicts who are happy to see themselves represented on TV. If that's you, who brought the chips? "The Rainbow Age of Television" will just click.





ACTUAINE FS

DRAG SHOWS NIGHTLY

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Karaoke

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Reservations



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RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED







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0/20

AQUANETTS DRAG SHOW FEAT. TP LORDS @7&9PM DRAG KARAOKE @11



ROCKY WHORROR
BIRDCAGE SHOW@ 8PM 10/18
"BIRTHDAY BASH" @10PM

SUN

AQUANETTS DRAG SHOW FEAT. TP LORDS @789PM DRACKARAOKE 911

SAT 10/19 HOTDOG CHURCH/SUNDAY'SCOOL

@12-6PM **AQUANETTES DRAG SHOW** @789PM



ROCKY WHORROR SAT 10/19

BIRDCAGE SHOW@ 8PM SNICK-AT-NITE" CARTOON DANCEPARTY @10PM

BIRDCAGE CABARET

W/BEATRIX & EPIPHANY @9PM 10/20 **BIG BAWDY BOUVEE**

AQUANETTES DRAG SHOW I 90'S @9PM





MON W/RICK LEONARD 0/21 @SPM

TUES 10/22 **AQUANETTES DRAG SHOW** DRAG METOTHE 90'S @9PM TUTU KARAOKE @11PM



ROCKY WHORROR BIRDCAGE SHOW@8PM WHATS UNDER YOUR TUTU **PARTY @10PM**

TUES 10/22

WED 10/23

MISS BOUVEEW/ RICK LEONARD #4PM AQUANETTES DRAG SHOW
NOWTHATS W/CALL NEON 90'S
W/HOLLY DAE 9789PM
"ABC" PARTY STIPM



RENEE BRESLIN @SPM **ROCKY WHORROR** BIRDCAGE SHOW @8PM COLOR ME KINKY NEON PARTY@10PM

WED 10/23

AQUANETTES DRAG SHOW WE ARE THE 90'S GEN. @789PM "PAJAMA PARTY®11



HUR:

PORSCHE @7-9PM **HEADDRESS BALL** AFTERPARTY W/ DJ MR.ENJOY

CHAPTER 2: SLAY QUEEN
HORROR DRAG SHOW
W/BEATRIX DIXIE @8PM
10/25 CHAPTER 2: SLAY QUEEN V.S
AFTERPARTY @11



21+

RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED

ROCKY WHORROR BIRDCAGE SHOW@8PM 10/25 AQUAPLEXXX GOGOBOYS PARTY W/HOLLY DAE @TIPM

AQUANETTES DRAG SHOW 90'S ARE OUT OF THIS WORLD @10PM (AFTER PARADE) KARAOKE @MIDNIGHT

10/27

SAT 10/26 SAT 10/26

AQUAPLEXXX GOGOBOYS PARTY W/HOLLY DAE@10PM

AQUANETTES DRAG SHOW SUN 1999

CLOSING PARTY @789PM

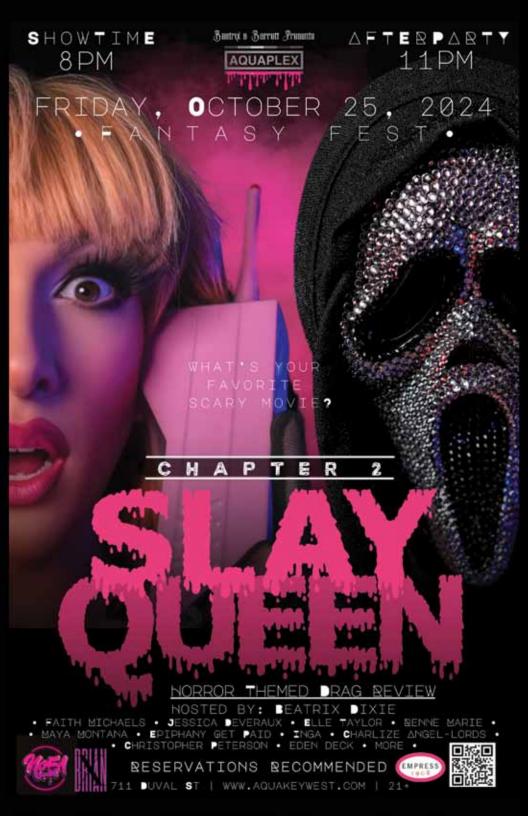


HOT DOG CHURCH / SUNDAY SCOOL ®12-6PM Y2K CLOSING DANCE PARTY W/ MR.ENJOY ® 10PM

SUN 10/27

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Until our minutes run out on our Cricket phone, we'll be here to listen to the latest dish. We'd never use real names but I'll bet if you ask around, you'll find out who's doing who! If you have some hot gossip, email us at tea@qkeywest.com. We'll keep your name out of it because we know how to keep secrets!

As one (guest house) door closes, another one opens. Stand by.

This has been the most active sister season in the 107 years I've been alive! Thank the heavens for DoxyPEP or they would have to add a drive through window at the health department!

It's time you gurls stopped druken posting on social media. All y'all need a breathalyzer on your phone that requires a breath sample before you're allowed to post at 3AM!

Then again, for many of you, it's not alcohol!

More and more locals seem to think that they should be entitled to free entertainment. Sorry hunty, those entertainers have rent to pay too. Pay the cover and don't forget to tip!

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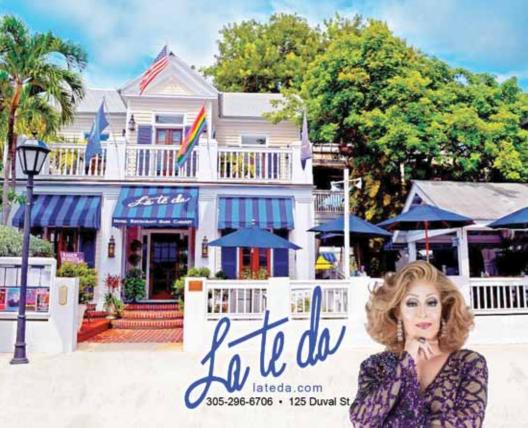
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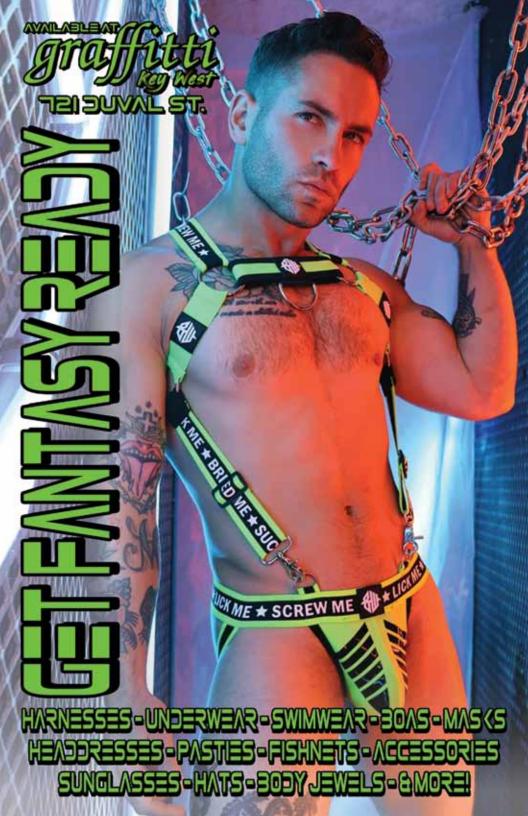


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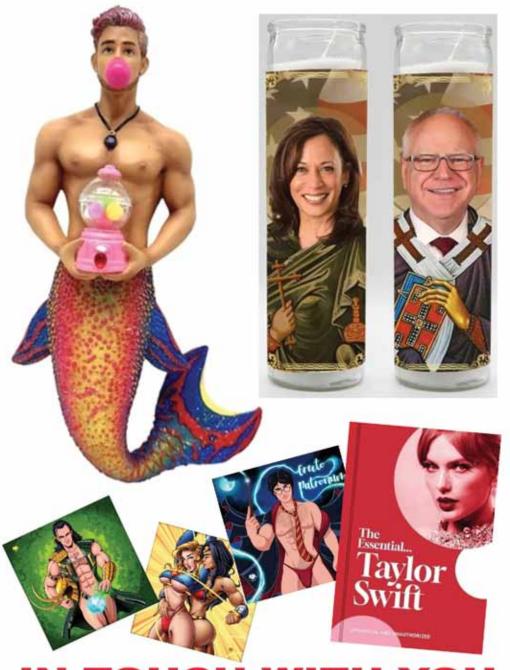
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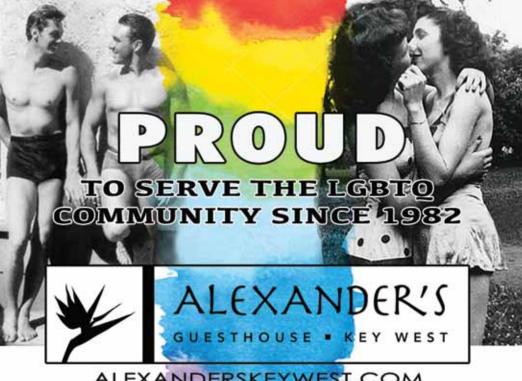


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MYBIG GAY LIFE Brad Toekle



DRESS CODE

With Halloween around the corner, I have some ideas on how to really make your costume count this season. Just because most of us aren't full-time drag queens doesn't mean we can't be turnt-out this October. After all, if Trump gets re-elected, they'll probably ban Halloween and rename it "White Jesus Night." So, get your kicks in while you can!

First up, there's always the solid choice of taking any profession or character and making it slutty. Sure, there's the traditional slutty doctor and nurse; but what about some more obscure choices? Where are all my Slutty Skeksis? (That's a Dark Crystal reference if you're not a nerdy Gen X'er.) I want to see some slutty hobbits. You're all out there selling your feet on OnlyFans anyway, so don't be shy at the Halloween party. If you're both lazy and a twink, nothing is easier than Slutty Harry Potter. Just draw a lightning bolt on your forehead and be a trans ally. BAM! You're done!

If you're going to go political, make sure to have fun with it. You attract more votes with sugar than shit. At least that's what we're all hoping for in next month! Might I suggest creating a hybrid costume and go as JD Vance pretending, he's actually as rural as his book. You can call this costume "Hillbilly Vanilli!" Some daisy dukes, too much mascara,

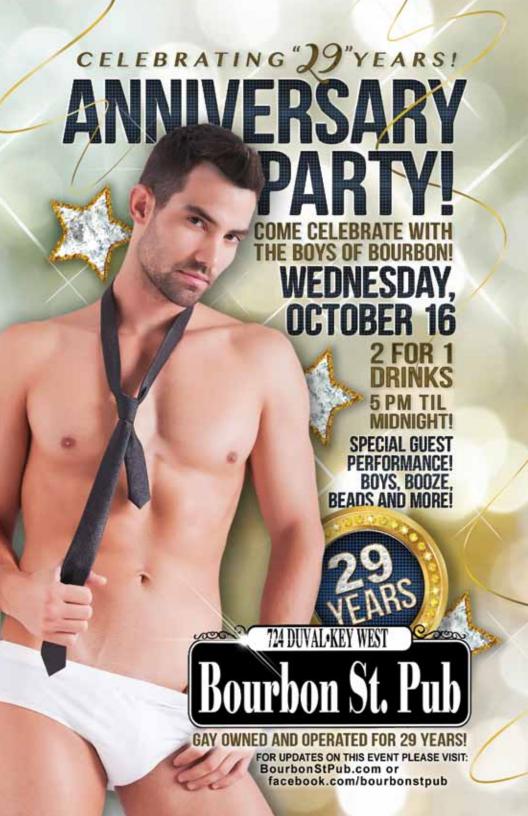
MY BIG GAY LIFE

mountain dew in a martini glass and you're just as realistic as he is!

If you've put back on some of that Ozempic weight you lost. Or if you're just looking to be comfortable and cool at the same time, just paint a giant cardboard box red, draw some lines on it, poke your head out one end and you too can go as "The First Brick Thrown at Stonewall!" This costume is also really handy for sneaking your own booze, food, drugs, or even a small twink into the Halloween events you go to. Boo-tastic on a budget, Honey!

And finally, if all else fails, just go out wearing your favorite outfit, get hammered with your friends, and if someone asks you what your costume is, just say, "I'm gay. And I'm really committed to my costume."

Brad Loekle's latest comedy special & album, "Brash Boys Club" is available on Amazon, AppleTV, iTunes, and other platforms. He was a semi-finalist on NBC's "Last Comic Standing". He can be seen every week on TruTV's "World's Dumbest", has written for Joan Rivers on E! "Fashion Police" & tours internationally. His book, "My Big Gay Life" is available on Amazon. For all this and more, check out: www.bradloekle.com



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Waterfront Playhouse - 407 Wall St White Tarpon - 700 Front St

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WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Aqua Idol at 6 PM Drag Show at 9 PM

Back Bar

Monday Night Football at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Pub Style Trivia at 6 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

TUESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Show at 9 PM

Back Bar

Movie Night at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

Tiger and River playing at 8.30



WEDNESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Back Bar

Watson Wednesday at 3 PM Service Industry Night-at 6 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

René Břeslin singing live at 5:30 PM Western Wednesdays at 9 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Island House

Hot Naked Pool Party starting at 5 PM

La Te Da

Tiger and River playing at 8.30

THURSDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM Throwback Thursdays at 10 PM

Bourbon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM

FRIDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Happy Hour with Bria at 3 PM Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM Karaoke at 11 PM

Back Bar

RuPaul Viewing Party at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM Late Night Dance Party at 11 PM

Bourbon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM
Boys Night Out starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

Saloon 1

Cock Shock contest at Midnight

SATURDAY

801

Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM

Aqua

Live Singer at 1 PM Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM Karaoke at 11 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM Dance Party at 10 PM

Bourbon

Naked Pool Party at Noon Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM -Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM - Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM

SUNDAY

801

Karaoke starting at 4 PM Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Back Bar

Hot Dog Church at 3 PM Sunday Night Football at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Kingdom at 7 PM BirdDrop Open Mic Night at 8:30 PM

Bourbon

After Tea 7 PM - 10 PM
Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Island House

Hot Naked Pool Party starting at Noon

La Te Da

Tea Dance at 4 PM 3Sum at 8:30 PM

LOCATIONS

801 - 801 Duval Street

Aqua - 711 Duval Street

Back Bar - 711 Duval Street

Birdcage - 504 Angela St

Bourbon - 724 Duval Street

Island House - 1129 Fleming St

La Te Da - 1125 Duval St

Saloon 1 - 504 Petronia St









EPIC PARTIES FOR GAY MEN!

WED, OCTOBER 23RD FROM 5-8PM

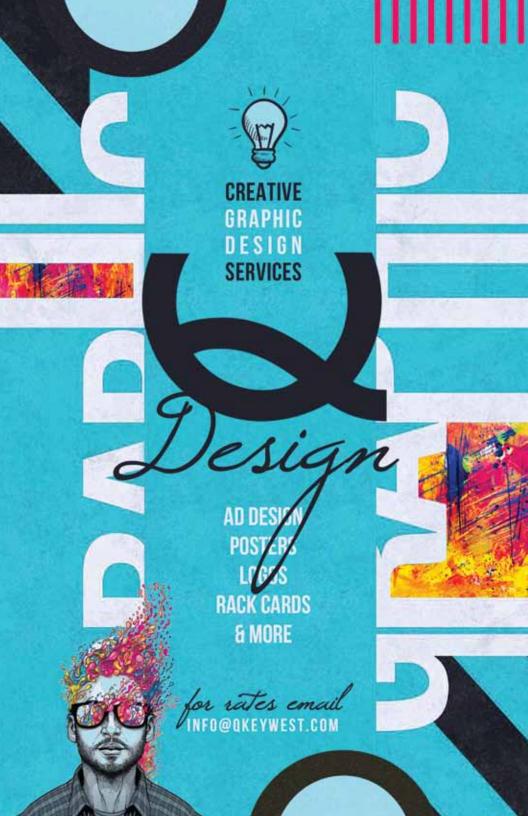


FRI, OCTOBER 25TH FROM 10PM-2AM



SUN, OCTOBER 27TH FROM 12 NOON-4PM After CHURCH POOL PARTY

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Whether it's about prevention or pleasure, we're here to talk-all in confidence.

Message a local health educator anytime, even if it's After Hours.





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ASK NANA

E-mail your questions to nana@keywestgayrag.com



Dear Nana,

I'm really into Halloween and my boyfriend isn't at all. For me it's Gay Christmas and for him it's just a huge hassle to even put on a smile more or less a costume. How can I get him more into the Halloween spirit? Or should I just accept that he's a scrooge when it comes to this holiday?

Oh, Pumpkin, it's always hard on couples when one person's yum is another person's yuck. At least if this were just about ass eating, you could see his point from a food safety standard. But this is all of Halloween?! First of all, have you spent any time digging in the graveyard of his youth to see if there's a reason he doesn't have the same spooky feelings



as you? For you, Halloween was probably your chance to dress up (you giant, adorable sissy) and get your sugar high on. But maybe for him it was a tense time of year. Maybe his family couldn't afford costumes or candy and so he felt left out? Maybe a bottom shit on his chest in a pumpkin patch once and it's ruined fun-sized snickers for him forever. Whatever it might be, you won't know until you spend more time trying to see Halloween from his perspective. Now, if it turns out he's just a miserable person who hates holidays, well, then you have to come to terms with the fact you're in love with a real fright of a man.



Dear Nana,

My laptop is always somewhat lubey from the silicone lube I use when I masturbate. (To be totally honest, I'm a bit of a goon.) You've helped others in the past with how to get lube spots out of sheets and off walls. Any tips for electronics?

You know, in my day, we didn't have all these lube options. We had spit and bacon grease and we were grateful just to have those! But, nowadays, you kids have your silicone and your hybrid and your water-based lubes. I've seen vegan lube. Which makes me laugh, as an old lady, because you'll eat an ass and swallow loads like a Maytag washing machine, but your lube better not have honey



in it! And then there's cruelty-free lube. Which I think all lubes should be because I don't think a bunny should have to suffer just so you can cum smoothly. I'll give you some leeway as silicone lube is the most effective for friction, but sure is a bitch to get out of fabrics and off of floors. If you ever want to kill your partner, and make it look like an accident, I've always thought just spilling some silicone lube near a flight of stairs would do the trick. My only real advise to you is alcohol-based electronics and glass cleaners. It seems to be the only thing that cuts through.

Send your questions to: nana@keywestgayrag.com



HOT NAKED POOL PARTIES



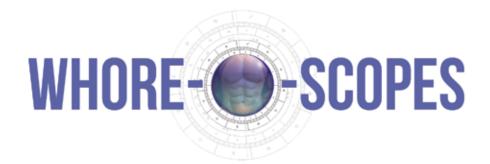
(2-4-1 EXTENDED HAPPY HOURS)

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AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18

It's too late to lose that excess weight before Fantasy Fest. Just go as a circus tent.

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20 Just say no to Spandex!

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19
You light up a room when you leave it.

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20
Nabisco wants to name a cookie after you. It's called a Whoreo.

You're sex life is so sad that you're

starting to look at the sofa with lustful eyes.

CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22

If you ever have an intelligent thought, it's going to be very lonely in your head.

LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22

Your weight goal should be one chin.

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22

You must be on fire because when people see you, they stop, drop and roll away!

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22

You're about as useful as a back pocket on a t-shirt.

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21

If you're standards were any lower, they could clean under the couch.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21
Some people are wise. You are otherwise.

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19
It's OK to be young and stupid.
You're not young so you have no excuse.





BYOB



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