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Contributors:

Neil Chamberlain Zachary Moses Brad Loekle Nana Terri Schlichenmeyer Noreen Malarkey

Welcome to Paradise!

Every month in Key West can mean debauchery but Fantasy Fest brings it to a whole new level.

There are events all over town dedicated to costumes, or the lack thereof.

There are even some events for men only!

For a full list of events, go to: www.FantasyFest.com

Enjoy!

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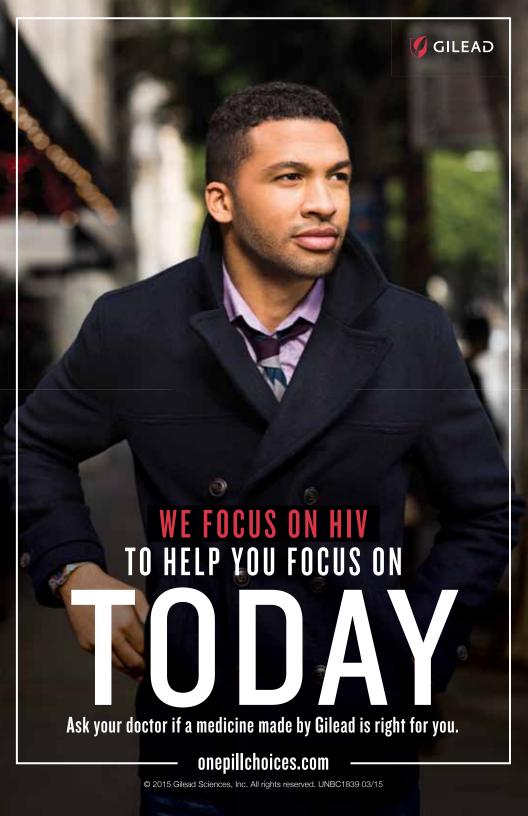


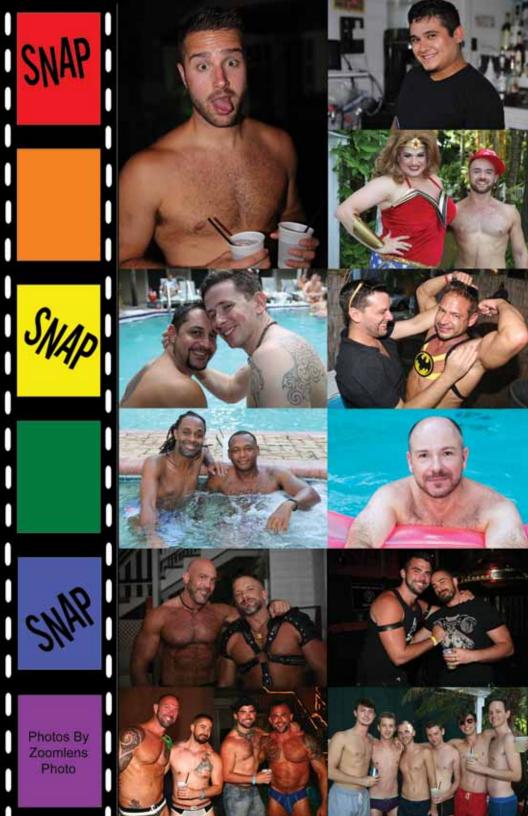
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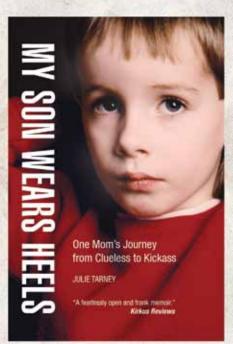
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Beach Reads

LGBT Book Reviews
By:
Terri Schlichenmeyer

"My Son Wears Heels" by Julie Tarney c.2016, University of Wisconsin Press \$24.95 213 pages



The first day your toddler said he could dress himself was a day you'll never forget.

He tried, you have to hand it to him. When he was done, part of his outfit was out of season and the other part was out of style, the colors were painful together, and nothing matched except his bright eyes and proud grin. You figured he'd learn and, as in the new book "My Son Wears Heels" by Julie Tarney, so would you.

Though Julie Tarney had known since he was born that her son, Harry, was a unique

little guy, she was still taken aback when he asked how she knew that he was a boy.

Harry was just two years old then, and Tarney thought it was a normal question for a child that age. But his next comment – that he was a girl "inside my head" – sent her to her parenting books.

Tarney had no real frame of reference, other than a well-used

copy of Dr. Spock. She was the eldest of two girls, born in Wisconsin to a mother who was controlling and distant; even if she could have asked her late mother about parenting concerns, Tarney probably wouldn't. Instinct told her that there was nothing to worry about, though she fretted that Harry was gay; she also worried that she'd somehow ruin him if she didn't completely support his free-spiritedness.

As he grew up, Harry's creativity grew, too; he loved to play dress-up and experiment through pretend. Wigs and shoes were his passion, but he also liked skirts – all of which Tarney successfully prevented him from wearing in public. Even so, by time he was ten years old, Harry had his own fashion sense and had gotten bullied for it. He knew he was different, but he was too young to articulate how.

At fourteen, Harry came out as gay.

Through the years, while Harry worked to understand more about himself, his mother went through a period of personal acceptance, too. She discovered that she could be a single mom, and survive. She learned that loving herself wasn't a bad thing – and that she could never "screw up" her son by loving him.

At its very basic, "My Son Wears Heels" is a good book. It showcases how one mother encouraged her son to openly explore who he was, and how his journey allowed understanding within hers. And if that was all there was in this book, you'd probably be very happy; instead, there's a lot of plumping-up in this tale.

Author Julie Tarney drops product names like she's in a grocery store, sometimes right down to the ad tagline; that's often followed by minute details that seem inconsequential, as though they're merely filling conversational silence. Add recreated dialogue, quoted from more than 20 years ago and, well, continuing can be a challenge.

Again, great premise, good story, too much fluff, and if that bugs you, too, then take a pass. Unless you can overlook its padding, "My Son Wears Heels" is no shoe-in.



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HALLOWEEN 101-2016

by: Brad Lockle



With Halloween around the corner I feel like we need to go over some of the more popular costumes we're bound to see this year and decide whether they're the best idea. I mean, Halloween is basically Gay Christmas, aside from actual Christmas. It's a much hallowed and revered holiday where gay children around the country, for decades, have been able to finally go to school dressed like a princess.... Or a Tom of Finland Daddy... and not get their ass kicked (as much). So talk about what we all know we're going to see a lot of this All Bottom's Eve, shall we?

TRUMP: We get it. We all hate him. Well, almost all of us. Never underestimate the power of stupidity... even amongst the gays. But he's become Beetlejuice. And the more we say his name, the more real he becomes. Sure it's important to show up in November to make sure he goes down, but until then, let's not sully our gorgeous holiday by tinting our skin with Cheetos and putting a merkin on our heads. The one exception is if you want to get really creative. For instance, make yourself a costume where you look like a giant pile of feces that's been set on fire. And when people say, "So are you just a giant fiery pile of shit?"... You say, "No. I'm Donald Trump." Then you've won the game.

SLUTTY (fill in the blank): It's Halloween and we're gay: we know "slutty" will most likely be implied in everything we do. It's basically only gay men and 6-year-old boys who would tell you that a pair of red underoos and a finger-painted symbol on their chest constitutes an "Iron Man" costume. If you're going to insist on being a "slutty" something for Halloween (other than just being your slutty self, which I 100% support) then mix it up! Throw people off! Be a slutty Martin Luther King Jr!

Freak people the fuck out! Or just confuse them. Be a slutty Jason from Friday the 13th. Get a "Camp Crystal Lake" baby tee & some blood stained daisy dukes and some thigh high stripper boots to compliment your machete and blood lust!

HILLARY: Lesbians, I'm looking in your direction. Just leave her alone. You're allowed to have one gay holiday a year where what you wear and what you do doesn't need to "further the cause". I know it's tempting not just because you support her but because the outfit would be super comfortable and you already have it in the closet. It's what you wore when you were the co-chair of the HRC silent auction and pancake breakfast. Might I suggest a "slutty Eleanor Roosevelt" instead?

BEA ARTHUR: I know she's been gone awhile but early next year a brand new and much needed LGBT youth shelter & center will open in NYC and it's all because she made it happen in her last will and testament. Maude has always come through for our community and she's a great fucking Halloween costume to boot! So I want to see a resurgence of Maudes & Dorothys out there in the streets!

And one last gentle reminder, there are two categories of gay Halloween costumes and you need to choose wisely. You're either dressing to be in costume or you're dressing to get laid. So don't be pissed off when no one wanted to let She-Ra or Dorothy Zbornak blow them. Just saying...

Brad Loekle was a semi-finalist on NBC's "Last Comic Standing". He was just featured in Bianca Del Rio's Comedy Cabaret, which was filmed live at Aspen Gay Ski Week for Logo. He can be seen every week on TruTV's "World's Dumbest", has written for Joan Rivers on E! "Fashion Police" & tours extensively on Atlantis Events & RSVP cruises.

For more on Brad, go to: www.BradLoekle.com







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Zachary Moses: Man About Town



It's fall in Key West! I like to think of Key West's fall season as the "better summer." The temperatures are getting cold up north, but down here our island temperatures are just perfect. Soon it will be winter up north, but down here, just slightly colder. Like "a fall that goes straight into spring." Like winter is missing.

With an almost complete lack of seasonal differentiation we've begun celebrating our own "gay-family-style," holidays down here. Let the Gay Holiday Season begin!

Here's a list of some upcoming gay activities in the Key West and the Upper Keys:

Fantasy Fest

October 21st to 30th, 2016

The locals are all busily preparing for Fantasy Fest. This festival is possibly the best dress-up costume party on earth. It goes on for days! Over a week! Also, did I mention the swinging nature of the island during this festival? It's a lot of fun, but bring hand sanitizer. Also, bring eye sanitizer (does this exist?) ...you will see things, things you can't forget. Oh well, good with the bad. Visit: FantasyFest.com for more information.

Florida Keys and Gay Key West Tour

November 26th to December 5th, 2016

Key West is really amazing, but it's only one island among thousands in an archipelago. Join a small gay group as they explore the hidden Gems of the Florida Keys on this multi-sport adventure tour. From Key Largo to Key West, you'll arrive just in

time for the finale of Bone Island Bare it all and the Gay Key West House Party.

Visit: HeTravel.com/keys-tour or call toll free #866-294-8174 for more information.

Bone Island Bare it All

December 1st to 4th, 2016
I love being naked outside.
Anytime nudity is allowed in a public space, I... am... on... board. Come on people, we all have naked bodies. Let's show them off! Sign me up for wherever that naked ship is sailing. Seriously though, there



is actually a clothing optional sailing ship in Key West. Sailing naked, snorkeling naked...just maybe lose the Prince Albert Jewelry. Fish like shiny things. Bone Island Bare it all is how America was meant to be...tropical and full of naked people. I am pretty sure that is what the founding fathers would have wanted. Visit: NakedKeyWest.SquareSpace.com for more information.

Gay Key West House Party

One Day Only: Sunday, December 4

You're invited to sunny Key West for a Party! This Gay Key West house party will have all the frills: live entertainment, VIP hosted bar and scrumptious hors d'oeuvres at one of Key West's hot spots; the Blue Macaw. There will be a silent auction and a raffle with Key West Wildlife Center as the beneficiary.

Visit: HeTravel.com/house-party for more information. Also, make sure to watch the video from the 2015 party. It's Excellent! Thank you Matthew Dockery; founder of Docklight Productions, for sponsoring last year's video!

I hope to see you around the island this fall!

Visit HeTravel.com to read more of Zachary's adventures or to join one of his international gay tours!

HOTNAKED SUNDAYS

A Pre-Tea Pool Party Drink Specials 12pm -4pm



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Until our phone gets turned off for non payment, 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!

Oh the gays and their pocket dogs. There has been an influx in town of these new fashion accessories. Well boys, the pooch may get your hands into a few cookie jars but bringing a dog into a loud nightclub is very bad for your man magnet's ears. It's not a broach and does have needs.

Seems like every column I have to announce some changes in the pink triangle. Well my little angels, today is no different. Yet more changes are coming in the next few months.

Some people in town need to have their Facebook account on lockdown when they're drinking. Fortunately they can find the delete button once they sober up but you all know how it works my sweet, once it's on the internet, it's never gone.

One great thing about this community is how we all support each other. During the slowest periods, the locals come out and support others in the service industry, and they tip well. This is why we love Key West.

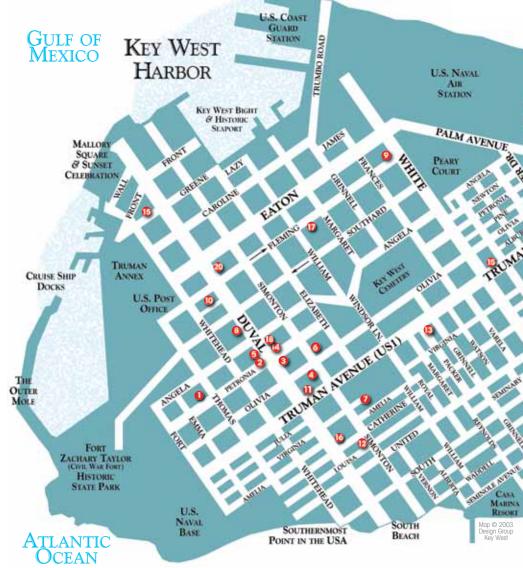


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Key West's official philosophy is "ONE HUMAN FAMILY" which means we believe everyone is entitled to equal rights, dignity and respect. You'll see a lot of these stickers, and you can get your own free "One Human Family" stickers at the Gay & Lesbian Visitor Center (513 Truman), or by sending a SASE to ONE HUMAN FAMILY,

P.O. 972, Key West, FL 33041 or visit OneHumanFamily.info

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- Bobby's Monkey Bar 900 Simonton
- 🏮 In Touch 706A Duval
- Ocean Wellness Spa 829 Simonton
- 🚺 Doug Mayberry Real Estate 1075 Duval
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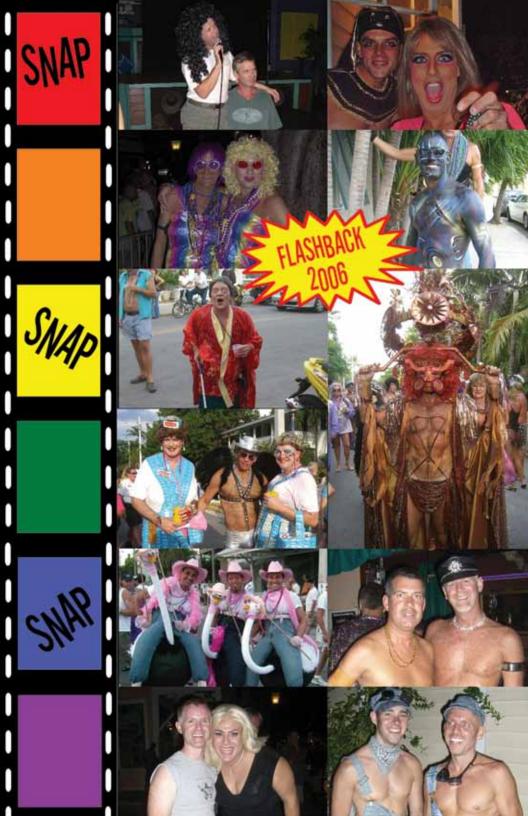
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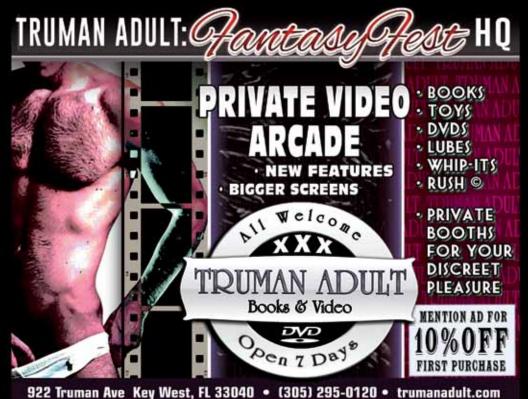


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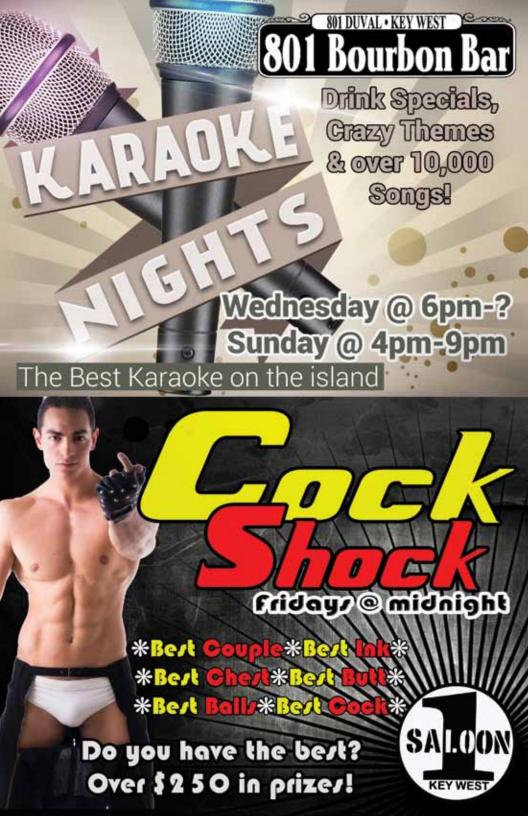
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WEEKLY EVENTS



MONDAY

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Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Dueling Bartenders at 5:30 PM Drag Show at 9:00 PM Karaoke starting at 11:00 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

TUESDA

201

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Aqua Idol at 6:30 PM
Drag Show at 9:00 PM
Karaoke starting at 11:00 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM



WEDNESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM Dragalicious at 1 AM

Aqua

Drag Show at 9:00 PM Karaoke starting at 11:00 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8:00 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Island House

Hot Naked Humpdays starting at 5 PM

THURSDAY

801

Karaoke starting at 5 PM Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM Karaoke starting at 11:00 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Jessica Grabbit singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

FRIDAY

801

Drag Shows at 5 PM, 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Happy Hour & Trivia at 5:00 PM Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM Dance Party starting at 11:30 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Jessica Grabbit singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

One Saloon

Cock Shock contest starting at Midnight

SATURDAY

801

Drag Shows at 5 PM, 9 PM & 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM, 9 PM & 11 PM Dance Party starting at 11:30 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Pool Party starting at 12 PM
Jessica Grabbit singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

SUNDAY

801

Karaoke starting at 5 PM
Gay Bingo starting at 5 PM
Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM
SIN night starts at 10 PM

Aqua

No Limit Texas Hold 'Em Poker at 2:30 PM and 4:30 PM Drag Show at 9:00 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Jessica Grabbit singing live at 7 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Island House

Pre-Tea Pool Party starting at Noon

La Te Da

Tea Dance starting at 4 PM

LOCATIONS

801 - 801 Duval Street

Aqua - 711 Duval Street

Bobby's - 900 Simonton Street

Bourbon - 724 Duval Street

Island House - 1129 Fleming St

La Te Da - 1125 Duval Street

One Saloon - 514 Petronia St

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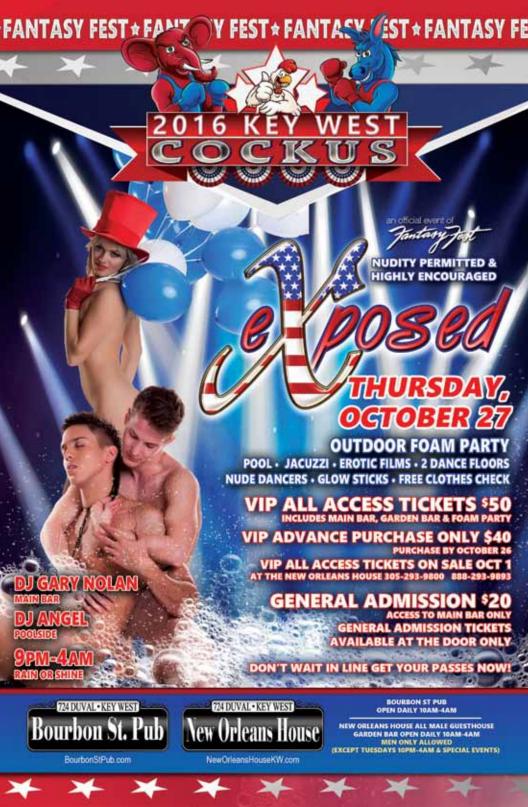


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Ask Nana

E-mail your questions to nana@keywestgayrag.com

Dear Nana,

With Halloween around the corner what's the biggest scare you've ever gotten?

Well, the morning I woke up and realized my tit could fit into my slipper was a pretty scary morning! Though now I'm glad it can because the slipper prevents them from getting dusty when they drag on the ground. The truth is pretty much everything about getting older is scary. Kids have it easy when all they have to worry about is a monster under their bed. By the time you're in your 30's your usually inviting the monsters INTO your bed and that's when stuff really gets spooky. Then, slowly but surely, your body starts to unravel like some haunted mummy. You're bones creek like floor boards in a haunted house and you moan like the dead getting in and out of bed in the morning. Bette David was right



when she said, "Growing old isn't for sissies!" Though I will say I know more than my share of old sissies. Somehow they always seem to age more fabulously. So I'd say old age is probably the biggest fright I've ever had. But just like that monster under your bed... you eventually learn there's nothing to fear but fear itself. Well fear and the idea of Donald Trump having the nuclear codes.

Dear Nana,

My boyfriend went to Southern Decadence last month with his friends and I feel like he hasn't told me everything that happened there that weekend. I don't want there to be secrets between us but I also don't want to make a mountain out of a mole hill if nothing really bad happened. How do you think I should handle this?

Okay, sugar plum, there's a lot to sort through here. First of all, what would constitute something "really bad"? I mean are you two supposed to be completely monogamous to each other, so that even a kiss or hand job in the bathroom would be "really bad"? Or is it more you think he and his friends might have fucked and killed a hooker and then buried the body in a swamp? I'm going to assume it's more a "cheating" really bad than a "dead hooker" kind of bad. And if so, here's the thing about that sort of thing. You'll never really know so you have to decide how much really knowing everything means to you. People lie. You and your boyfriend included. Hell, your parents lied to you about Santa and the tooth fairy just for sport! It doesn't make them unworthy of your love. And if you stay with one man for a long time... there's a good chance he's going to break some rules. He's going to kiss someone he's not supposed to and he's going to lie about being sick to skip out on lunch with your relatives and he's going to eat the last Oreo and swear he didn't. It's not that he's particularly bad; it's just that life is long and getting everything right is just statistically impossible. Now, you also don't want some serial cheater who has 3 other families in 3 other states. So there's a balance one must strike. If you get then sense that he might have bent or broken a relationship rule while "out with the boys"... but you also know you love each other and that... for the most part he gets more right than he gets wrong... well then I think it's time for you to accept that that is what adult relationships look like. Adults have secrets. Adults SHOULD have secrets. And you have some too. Sometimes secrets are there to protect us from each other and ourselves. And remember that a secret blowjob at Southern Decadence is not really the same as a secret boyfriend down the block.

Do you have problems? Of course you do!!
Why not let Nana help you?! Send your questions to:
Nana@keywestgayrag.com.

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Aquarius Jan 20 – Feb 18

Have you picked out a costume for Fantasy Fest yet? Looking at what you wear every day, I would think a homeless person would be easy.

Pisces Feb 19 – Mar 20

Don't blame the reopening of Salsa Loca for your weight problem. You've been overweight long before ANY of the Salsa Locas were here fatass.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 19

I'm not sure what color you were shooting for with your hair but it's very similar to Donald Trump's skin. You either shampoo with Cheetos or you're experimenting with Miss Clairol again. Time to see a professional.

Taurus Apr 20 – May 20

Sneaking a bottle of cheap liquor into a bar is like sneaking McDonalds food into Louie's Backyard. If you're going to a bar, buy a drink you cheap bastard!

Gemini May 21 – Jun 20

Yes we know parking and traffic suck during Fantasy Fest. Here's an idea, don't drive to work. Take your bike. I can't blame the tourists, they don't know any better but YOU do!

Cancer Jun 21 – Jul 22

You can act like it's a medical condition and say you had a little unexpected discharge but just admit it, you shit yourself!

Leo Jul 23 – Aug 22

Leo, the sign of the lion, sadly you're just a pussy.

Virgo Aug 23 – Sep 22

You brought your girlfriend to Key West because you told her it would be romantic? Do me a favor, grab me the Christmas decorations. They're really deep in the closet as well.

Libra Sep 23 – Oct 22
So you want to be Hillary for Halloween? How original. I'm sure no one else will think

of that.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 21
You're lucky that you're so old that there were no camera phones when you were in

college!

Sagittarius Nov 22 – Dec 21

Do something outside of the box this month. Get a job and pay some bills!

Capricorn Dec 22 – Jan 19

Everyone needs to step back and take a good look at themselves. You may need to step back further than most to fit your fat ass into the mirror.

AN OFFICIAL EVENT OF

January Jest 2016





FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 (10PM - LATE)

BOXERS - BRIEFS - COMMANDO

MEN ONLY - FREE CLOTHES CHECK

PARTICIPATION OPTIONAL. DEBAUCHERY MANDATORY.

FREE STOLI COCKTAIL TO THE FIRST 100 ENTRANTS



\$25 ADVANCE TIX AT KEYSTIX.COM OR AT THE DOOR

1129 FLEMING ST. KEY WEST, 305-294-6284

ISLAND HOUSE

BEST GAY RESORT IN THE WORLD

RESTAURANT

BAR

P001

GYM

SAUNA

STEAMROOM

MASSAGE

TWO JACUZZIS

SUNDECK

EROTIC VIDEO LOUNGE

LOCKERS

TOWELS

24 HOURS

MEN ONLY

ID REQUIRED



1129 Fleming • 305 294 6284 • islandhousekeywest.com

All of the facilities of Island House are open and available 24 hours every day. Men are welcome at the restaurant and bar any time. Daily resort passes are available for locals and men staying elsewhere. Inquire at the front desk.