YOUR LGBT GUIDE TO Key West



Volume 15 Issue 10 October 2020

LEZ GO OUT

BRAD LOEKLE

+

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Welcome To Paradisel

Another month has passed and nothing seems normal anymore. While we're adjusting to the times, it's far from normal.

With Fantasy Fest canceled, it won't quite be the same this month but we hope those that still come into town get to enjoy Key West.

Enjoy!

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Volume 15 - Issue 10 October 2020

Stephanie U/ise





Have you ever wondered about what it is like to be a lesbian in Key West. Of course you did. Sure, I'll tell you all about it.

My wife and I hail from Milwaukee, WI where we had a strong and visible lesbian community. We had monthly events, one remaining lesbian bar (rare nowadays), musicians that were "famous" in our scene and an active online community that connected all of us. We even had a yearly dance that brought over 400 lesbians together in the dead of winter and if you know anything about lesbians we're often the fair-weather sort especially as we age and couple up. Arguably that is why all fo the lesbians bars are going extinct. I digress.. The point is we were accustomed to having a very tangible scene within which we cross pollinated and always had something to go do or see. Moving to Key West (the GAYEST place on earth) we were shocked to see almost nothing in the way of a lesbian community.

We started meeting other lesbians on the island. They confirmed that they all knew each other and so I asked how to do you all coordinate... they looked at me funny. Coordinate? You know, like for parties or going out together or concerts and stuff. Blank faces. Well, someone said, we all just... find each other..

I immediately started a Facebook group called Key West Lesbians. It is still in existence despite the fact that COVID



has slowed our gatherings to a screeching halt.

After living here for a couple of years here is what I've learned: Other women really wanted an easy way to access the community as a whole. If you want something in Key West, just create it, there are very few rules here. And lastly, there is actually a substantial group of lesbians here when corralled together. We range in age wildly. We are friendly and LOVE visitors, not for like snacks or anything but it's nice meeting new people on the island because it is truly just a small town and you get to know everyone eventually.

Being a lesbian in Key West is a fun and bonding experience. The small-town mentality is at it's best here in that we take great care of each other. We can still party hard like the boys but we tend to make deep connections easily. If you join our community on this tiny rock in the salt water you will have an instantaneous group of friends (trust me, someone will like you), you can go to Hotdog Church (a story for another time) every Sunday by Zoom or in person, there is always someone building something and someone else organizing something. We now have an online community so I would say we are pretty complete. While you are in town, please check out the Key West Lesbians page on Facebook. Let us know you are here and connect. I am sure we are doing something that you are welcome to join! So, welcome to Key West, visitors.. Lez Go Out and grow our community!





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- 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 "teacolored" 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%).

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Continued on next page.

Please see Important Facts, including important warnings, continued on the next page and at BIKTARVY.com.

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Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

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WHAT'S

INSIDE

BIKTARVY* bictegravitr 50mg/emtricitabine 280mg/ tenefoxir afalenamide 25mg tablets 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.

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GET MORE INFORMATION

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- Go to BIKTARVY.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5
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Please see Important Facts, including important warnings above and at BIKTARVY.com.



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"WENDY CARLOS: A BIOGRAPHY" BY AMANDA SEWELL c.2020, Oxford University Press | \$34.95 | 264 pages



None of your business, so just keep your nose out of things. You're on a need-to-know basis, and you don't need to know. It's being taken care of, never you mind, it isn't your concern. In "Wendy Carlos: A Biography" by Amanda Sewell, some things just aren't discussed.

No one who knew Wendy Carlos as a child should've been surprised that she became the musician she did: Carlos' mother's family loved to sing and dance, and Carlos' parents wanted to make sure she continued the tradition. They gave her piano lessons but they couldn't afford a piano, so Carlos' father drew piano keys on a piece of paper so she could practice.

Though she was "assigned the male sex at birth," Carlos knew early in her life that she was a girl, and was baffled that others couldn't see that. It grew to greatly affect her: somewhat of a prodigy in music and early computing, Carlos won awards and accolades for her studies but her gender identity left her feeling awkward and alone, Sewell says. This was a time when transgender people were largely held up as "freaks."

So Carlos kept her gender identity private, only revealing her truth to one friend with similar passions for music experimentation. Enjoying a spirited mutual challenge, she and Rachel Elkind played with new sounds until the day Elkind became intrigued by Carlos' rendition of a Bach composition reproduced with a Moog synthesizer. As it happened, Carlos needed money to

BEACH READS

continue her work and with Elkind's help, that composition became an entire album they called Switched-On Bach.

It did the trick: Carlos indeed made money from the million-selling album. But it also made her famous, which led to requests for interviews and intrusions about her gender identity, a subject that she felt unnecessarily superseded her musical career.

And that was something she absolutely did not want ...

Over the past 40 years, Wendy Carlos has denied most requests to be interviewed, including an offer extended by author Amanda Sewell for this book. No problem; Sewell used an abundance of other sources to craft this biography, indicating that Carlos' refusals were likely due to her ire at reporters who've continued to focus on her gender, rather than on her work. The irony is that a good portion of "Wendy Carlos: A Biography" deals with Carlos' gender identity and her transitioning.

And yet – how could it not? Sewell shows how Carlos' giftedness and her pioneering use of then-new technology changed music, as a whole; in a way, her respectful reporting on Carlos' transition, relative to 1960s social perceptions and to LGBT history, both occurring at roughly the same time, also shows another aspect to Carlos' personality and her dogged reach for what was then rather new.

Still, one can sympathize with Carlos' wishes, which makes reading "Wendy Carlos: A Biography" feel sometimes voyeuristic. Introducing new fans to her wax is important, but check it out: does the rest of the story need to be waxed?



The Nude Alone Is Well Dressed ~ Auguste Rodin



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LEAVE 2020 ALONE!

Listen, we've all been guilty of it. We've all blamed 2020 for the year we're all having. And I'll admit 2020 has been chock full of nuts. And some of those nuts were murder hornets. And some of those nuts were entire plagues that just keep going. But the truth is, 2020 isn't to blame. Years aren't super villains or super heroes whose 365 days exist either to ruin us or save us. It just feels easier to blame it on the year than to blame it on all the real reasons this year has been a doozy. Sure, I live in California and we're mostly on fire this year. I don't just mean "on fire" when it comes to taking to the streets for social justice and change. I mean we're actually, literally, on fire most of the time now. The other day I looked outside at the sky and it was red and opaque and you couldn't really see the sun and I thought, "God, Warner Bros. is really going all out to promote the new "Dune" remake! They've even made Southern Califia "Arrakis"!"

But it wasn't just a PR stunt and 2020 didn't invent climate change. The truth is we've all been told for 40 years that nature is going to get more and more extreme if we don't change how we treat the planet. So low and behold, A whole state on fire. You kids in Florida are probably only a week or two away from having actual "sharknados". And that's not 2020, that's just climate change.

I started to notice it was kind of crazy for all of us to just assume 2020 had a plan for any of us (or anything at all) when my friend Adam was talking with me... from 20 feet away, in my own backyard, in a burka... just to be safe. He was pontificating on the idea that he thought 2020 happened this way as a reminder to him that he needed to sort of refocus his career and life plan now that he was in his mid 30's. I mean.... Okay. Sure, I get the idea of when life gives you lemons you try to make lemon drop martinis. But also, reeeeally, Adam?! Did 2020

MY BIG GAY LIFE

really need to kill everyone's friends and neighbors just to help you remember to download a meditation app? At the end of the year, how many dead grandmas does it take to get Adam to update his LinkedIn page?!

But we all do this. Myself included. We all think "what is the meaning of all this"? And the harsh reality is that not everything in life has meaning. Not every burning bush is a sign from God. Because if it were, it would mean God can't seem to shut the fuck up in California. Sometimes a bush on fire is just something that needs to be taken care of with a hose.

But don't despair, it means that anything you've been blaming on 2020 doesn't have to just be tolerated until 2021. If you're like me, and packed on the pandemic pounds, it means you don't have to wait until January 1 to start feeling better. 2020 isn't waiting outside to drop a piano on your head if you go out for a 30-minute walk right after reading this. And if, even by some insane chance, you DO get hit in the head with a piano when you walk outside the house; it really just means you must have pissed off a crafty cartoon Coyote or mouse and they are fucking with you. But it's not 2020.

So, let's all grab Fall 2020 by the balls. Not the pussy. And stop waiting for a date on the calendar or some imaginary retrograde to release you from some curse. If you've made it this far in life, and in 2020, you've already won when a lot of people lost. So, make the most of it. Because I remember us all thinking 2019 was to blame and now, we wish we could go back to that fool's paradise!

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 news letters brochures invitations invitations canvas prints canvas prints canvas prints counter cards canvas prints counter cards canvas prints counter cards canvas prints counter cards counter cou

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COCQTALES Local Bartender Interviews By Fameson Rabbitt



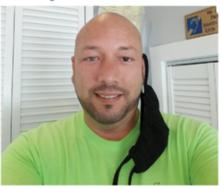
DRINKS! DICKS! AND DEBAUCHERY! COME GET HOT AT THE EQUATOR.

The Equator Resort composes of four historic Conch-Style buildings dating to the late 1800's. Only a few blocks from the Infamous Duval Street, The Equator Resort in Key West offers a unique 34-room clothing optional men's resort serving a taste of the Caribbean on the rocks! The Heart of this historic site (that once served as a convenience store as well a scooter shop) is the resort-style compound decked out with two crystal clear heated pools perfect for social distancing while soaking up some sun, and two hot-tubs to get intimate with your quarantine buddies at night.

At the back bar of the property past the pool, you can be greeted by Anthony Sibilly-Juarez, masked per city ordinance, but with a warm friendly vibe seeping through the double layered fabrics covering his mouth and nose.

Anthony came to Key West after working in Alaska for 6 months.

Originally from St. Thomas, Anthony was faced with the opportunity of going back to the Virgin Islands or try something new in Key West. Anthony has bloomed into the General Manager position of the resort and is married, his favorite color is green, and he prefers to drink Kamikazes when he feels like tossing back a few.



Anthony's Kamikaze: 1.5oz Vodka 1.5oz Triple Sec Splash of Sour And a hint of Cranberry Juice Shake with ice and serve!

His favorite things about working at Equator are his co-workers and the guests. Currently they're offering 24hr service with a "live on-site" staff member, and the rest of the staff taking turns from checking-in guests, to bartending, to room service, since the staff has shrunk (Covid sucks). However, Anthony feels "very lucky" that they haven't encountered any major issues with the current city regulations and the guests have been more than happy to comply with social distancing rules. For the rest of the year Equator has cancelled their events like the infamous 3D party (dicks, drinks, debauchery) but however their bookings are still coming in and are ready to continue their amazing hospitality, as long as you're wearing a mask.

COCQUTALES

Among his many vivid (printable) memories, Anthony recalls being tricked by his coworkers into bartending naked for a whole day as a part of his first initiation week of work at the resort for the infamous bi-annual nude event "Bone Island", the rest of his crew called the day off leaving him all alone behind the bar exposed for bare guests which probably served as an induction to The Equator crew.

And even though Bone Island is still pending for their winter gathering, Equator is once again offering island hospitality and serving cold complimentary well drinks by the pool for happy-hour. All of the facilities including the complimentary happy-hour are open to registered guests and their tricks (company), so unless you're on your knees or on your back you ain't swimming outback. *Pro-tip. Hook-up with someone staying at Equator for free happy-hour drinks!

Cheers! And you're Welcome.



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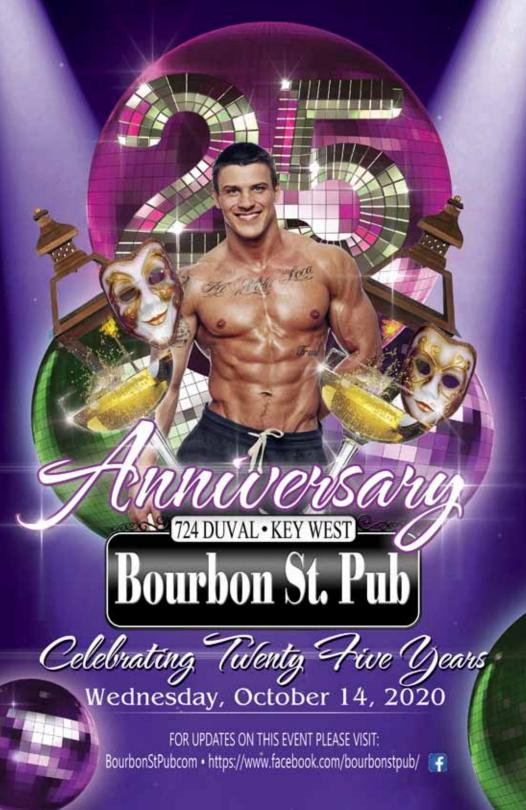
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REGULATIONS





Star Trek's first trans and non-binary characters

The CBS All Access series Star Trek: Discovery will continue to fulfill the franchise's progressive ideals and for the upcoming third season include the show's first transgender and non-binary characters. Queer characters already existed in the ST:D universe, played by Anthony Rapp and Wilson Cruz, so the addition of the two new characters will be a welcome expansion of the ranks. Ian Alexander, a trans actor most known for his role on Netflix's The OA, will play a trans Trill named Gray (Non-Trekker? A Trill is a species of humanoid from the planet Trill. And now you know.) and UK actor Blu del Barrio, who is also non-binary, will play the non-binary character Adira. This will be del Barrio's first major acting role, and they have told the press that they realized that "non-binary" was the best way to describe their gender nonconformity after seeing Chilling Adventures of Sabrina's non-binary cast member, Lachlan Watson. In other words, we see ourselves in the media for the first time and it sometimes makes things a little more clear, gives us the words to describe ourselves, and, to adapt a Trek cliché, go boldly and get our life.

Dominique Jackson, Alec Mapa, Fortune Feimster get into a Chick Fight

The question of the day is, "What if *Fight Club*, but comedy-plus-women?" And the answer is – coming Nov. 13 to theaters and streaming platforms – the indie feature *Chick Fight*. The story of a woman who is introduced to an underground, all-female fight club, and who then discovers she has a personal connection to the history of the club, it stars *Billions* regular Malin Akerman, Alec Baldwin, Bella Thorne, Kevin Connolly (*Entourage*), and former pro wrestler Kevin Nash (*Magic Mike*). Meanwhile rounding out that cast are three queer champions that we'll follow anywhere: comedians Fortune Feimster and Alec Mapa, as well as *Pose*'s Dominique Jackson. Originally developed by Ash Christian, the queer indie screenwriter and producer who suddenly and tragically died last month at age 35, the film is directed by Australian actor-turned-director Paul Leyden (*As The World Turns*) from a script by first-timer Joseph Downey. We plan to channel any post-election rage into watching this cast commit acts of comedy-violence.

DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

Should work.

Trans musician Billy Tipton's story told right in No Ordinary Man

Billy Tipton was a successful touring jazz musician from the 1930s until the 1970s. Billy Tipton was also a trans man. His story is remarkable for many reasons, but in the hands of non-queer, cisgender-dominated media, his story is also almost never told with respect or understanding. The late musician is routinely misgendered, treated as a kind of gender double agent, and discussed in terms of deception and secrecy, as "a woman pretending to be a man." *No Ordinary Man*, co-directed by Aisling Chin-Yee and Chase Joynt, a film that premiered this week at the Toronto International Film Festival, seeks to change all that. It's a documentary of sorts, written by Amos Mac (co-founder of the trans magazine *Original Plumbing*), telling the story of Tipton's life, elements of which are recreated by actors and trans artists because there was no traditional archival material available. Picked up for distribution by Radiant Films, keep an eye out for a streaming/theatrical release of this fascinating story, one finally properly told by queer people.

Good Joe Bell walks the walk

A pro-queer film starring Mark Wahlberg? Well, we were a little surprised ourselves to be honest, but there's a first time for everything (being a Calvin Klein underwear model doesn't count). And that's why we're pleased to see that Wahlberg will be giving a world some good vibrations in *Good Joe Bell*. Based on a true story and also co-produced by Wahlberg, the plot follows Oregon dad Joe Bell, who walks across the United States with his gay son Jadin (*Play by Play*) as they try to raise awareness about the bullying and abuse of LGBTQ kids. Co-starring Connie Britton, and directed by Reinaldo Marcus Green (*Monsters and Men*), it also boasts a script from Academy Award-winning *Brokeback Mountain* team Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana (and that's about the gold standard of screenwriting cred when it comes to straight writers). The film has its premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, no doubt with some award season hope on its mind. Look for it to pop up on screens (big or small) later this year.

Romeo San Vicente is regularly described as a sweet sensation.

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61					62					63			
64					65					66			\square

Across

1 "I've never done this before," et al.

5 Lorea's room

9 "The Great Masturbator" painter

13 "Be that may ... "

14 Small songbird

15 Hot to trot

16 Uncommon, to Nero It Heavy"

17 Melissa Etheridge's " 18 Q to a Scrabble player

19 She plays Harper in 54-Across

22 Julia_costar Maximilian

23 Big name in soft balls

24 Rotary phone feature

26 Eleanor's husband's middle name

30 Gay history mo.

33 "I've had better..

35 Wife of Buck's Wang

36 She plays Abby in 54-Across 40 Mod Squad_character 41 Antibiotic target

42 Gomer's Sgt. Carter, for one

43 Penetrating

46 Hoppers, in Barry Humphries' land

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50 Gives voice to

54 Gay Christmas rom-com to be released in November

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59 South Korea's Syngman

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63 Get ready for action

64 Maria's "do" equivalent

65 They may be split 66 Admission exams

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1 Sows one's seed, etc.

2 Hayes of South Park

3 Canoe material

4 Killed a vampire, Buffy style

5 Tchaikovsky ballet

6 N. Mex. neighbor

7 Big dictator of Nureyev's land

8 Chipped in

9 Computer information path

10 Month in the land of the cut

11 Taylor of I Shot Andy Warhol

12 Fateful March day

20 She's George

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25 "Big Boned Gal" singer

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38 Suit bottom

39 Be a ham in "Hamlet"?

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47 Terence's family

49 White as a ghost

51 Former NFL player Tuaolo

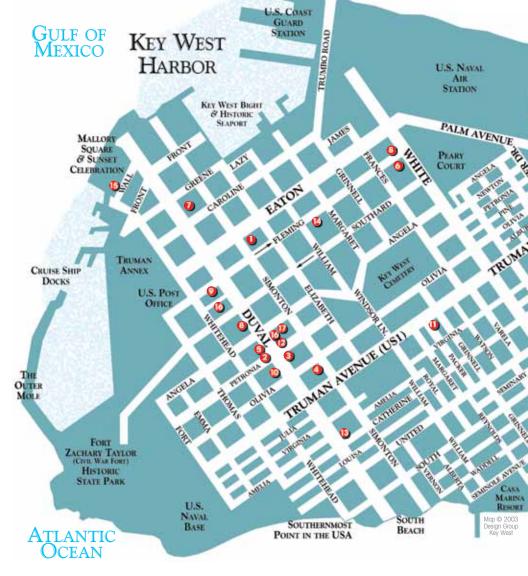
52 Big name in synonyms 53 Moves the ball between one's legs

54 Full house, e.g.

55 Protected, to seamen

56 Sweater?

57 Began a hole, with "off"



0

ALL PEOPLE ARE CREATED EQUAL MEMBERS OF ie human fai

Q MAGAZINE welcomes you to America's most inclusive island!

- 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 (808 Duval). or by sending a SASE to ONE HUMAN FAMILY, P.O. 972, Key West, FL 33041 or visit OneHumanFamily.info
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.....

ESDAY

801 Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Bourbon

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

801 Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

WEDNESDAY

.....................

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

801 Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM

SATURDAY

...............

Bourbon

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

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

THURSDAY

Bourbon

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

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801

SUNDAY

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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

Bourbon

Jeff Moss 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

Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM

Bourbon

801

FRIDAY

Tea Dance starting at 5 PM Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

One Saloon

Cock Shock contest at Midnight

BO1 - 801 Duval 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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EMCEED BY JT, WE INVITE YOU TO COME JOIN THE FUN! BE SEX PROUD! BE BODY PROUD! WATCH OR ENTER!

PAUL MORRIS

SALOON)

KEY WES

801 DUVAL (REAR)







Dear Nana,

I love Halloween and I love having trick or treaters. But how on earth can we safely do trick or treating this year?

Wow! A gay person who loves Halloween! I'll alert the media. Actually, I won't. We don't need Fox "News" running stories about how gays are handing out drug-laced candy to try to make your 10-year-old son listen to Donna Summer. Since I'm not a health and safety expert, all I can do is



make some logical guesses. I've seen people building "candy chutes" that go from their window or porch out to the street. So, you can sort of luge the fun sized snickers at the little tots head's as they walk by. Or, just shoot a load of candy into their bucket if they hold it up to the tube.... You know, none of what I just said doesn't sound inappropriately sexual. But fuck it... it's the 2020 Halloween. These kids might as well learn a trick or two. How much time do they possibly have left anyway?

The other option is just for parents and friends to buy kids their candy themselves. Then make going out, safely, on Halloween more about socializing and kids playing and seeing each other's costumes and so on. Then let your kids stay up late and watch a few good scary movies like Jaws or Beyond the Valley of the Dolls.

Dear Nana,

My boyfriend is a Halloween fanatic. He decorates the whole place and always does an elaborate costume. He wants to do a couple's costume this year that will involve a lot of makeup and prep work and I'm not that big of a costume person to begin with. Should I give in and make him happy or should I stand my ground that I'm a grown man and Halloween is for kids?

You are, indeed, a grown man. And from the sounds of it... a real delight to have at parties. What red blooded, limp wristed man doesn't enjoy a little bit of tarting up from time to time? Jesus, Mary?! The goddamn world is ending and you don't feel like throwing on a smokey eye or chewing on a smokey eye or chewing on a blood capsule for the man you love? It's one night a year, dear. He's not asking you to consider a career on Drag Race or start living as a puppy.



ASK NANA

Just do this one thing for him. Who knows, maybe you'll have a good time? And if you don't, then just make sure to trick or treat the hell out of his ass when you get home to make up for it.

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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WHORE-O-SCOPES

AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18

A wise man once said "To be old and wise, you must first be young and stupid." You're just old and stupid!

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20

You're not old until a teenager describes you as middle-aged. A teenager just called you grandpa!

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19

You're great at multitasking. You can waste time, be unproductive, and procrastinate all at once.

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20

Just think, if you choke to death on gummy bears people can say you were killed by bears and leave it at that.

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 20

If you're still looking for that one person who will change your life take a look in the mirror.

CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22

The road to success is always under construction.

LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22

Congratulations, you reached the age where you walk around wondering what you're forgetting.

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22

A recent study has found that men who carry a little extra weight live longer than the boyfriend who mentions it.

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22

Maybe if I tell you the brain is an app you'll start using it.

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21

The only time you've ever burned 2000 calories is when you left the brownies in the oven too long,

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21 So you entered what you ate today into your new fitness app and it just sent an ambulance to your house.

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19 Your perfect man has a special combination of inner and outer beauty and is, most importantly, too naive to know he's way out of your league.







Original paintings by Key West artist Eric Haley

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