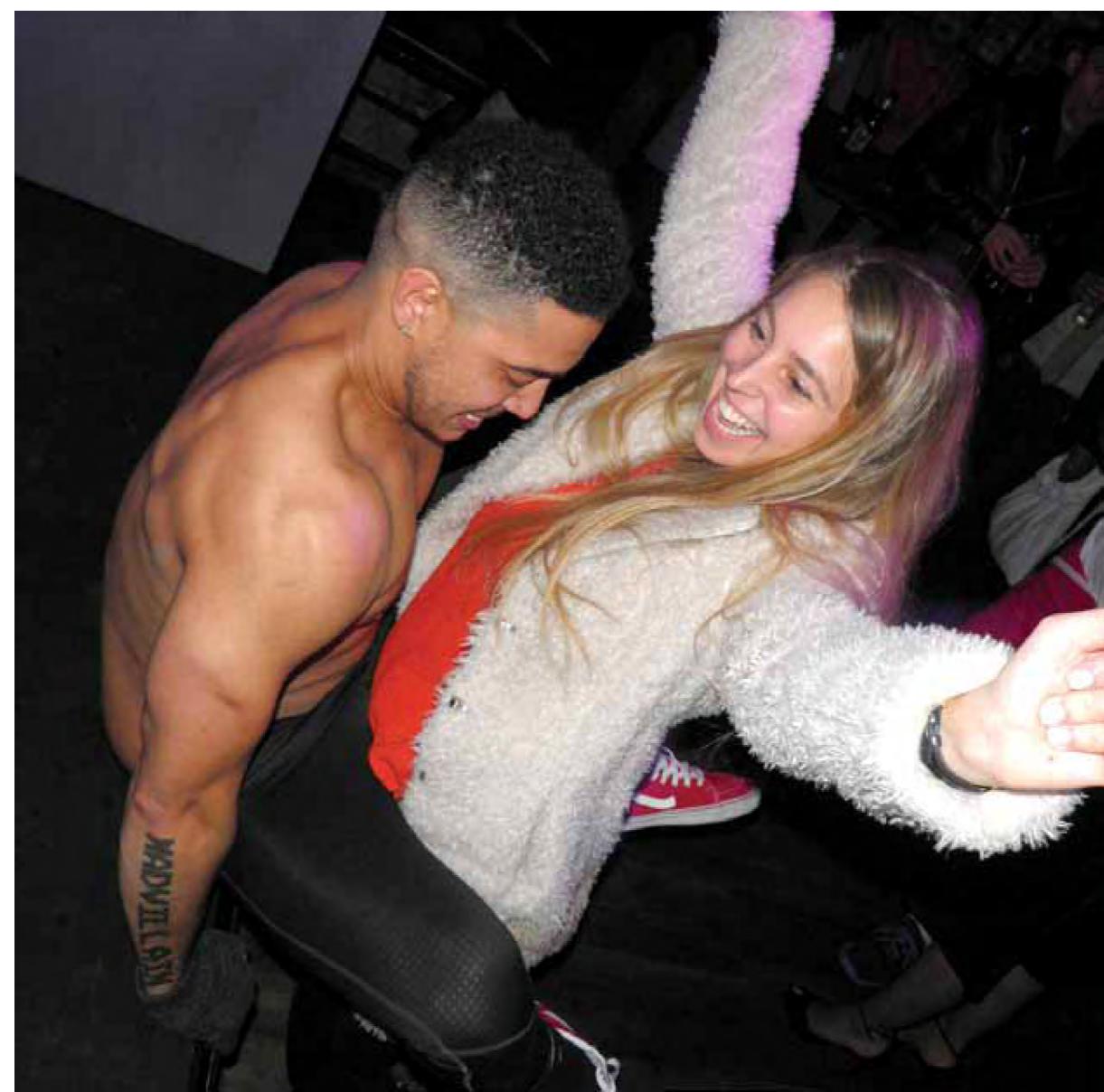


nightspots

weekly nightlife section in

WINDY
CITY
TIMES





BILLY Masters

"My interest is trannies. I love trannies. I'm attracted to trannies. I don't like no muscle like me."—Formerly straight, now gay, boxer and gay porn star **Yusaf Mack** proclaims his personal preference. I smell a sequel...

It's finally here: the time of year I long for and yet dread—stores are once again stocking peppermint bark. I'd like to say I have self-control, but I'd also like to say I can still fit into my size-31 jeans. I gain an inch around the waist each time I walk by a Ghirardelli store (or any place selling Lindt products). By Christmas, I'll only be able to get into the house via the garage door!

Just when you thought you heard it all, the **Charlie Sheen** HIV story takes an unexpected turn. According to RadarOnline, there is what is being touted as a "gay sex video" starring Sheen. A reporter for that media outlet claims to have personally seen three different video clips—totaling roughly 90 seconds long. It supposedly shows Charlie smoking crack in a hotel room, looking right into the camera and then sucking the dick of an unidentified guy. That's an awful lot of action for 90 seconds! We hear that the video was leaked because the guy being serviced



A lawsuit, bodily fluids and extortion allegations—it's another week in the life of Michael Lucas.
Photo by Matt Simonette

says that Sheen gave him herpes. Didn't I make a joke about that last week? My God—I'm not only a gossip columnist, but I'm also psychic!

If this scenario sounds familiar, that's because it was part of an anonymous lawsuit against an A-list celebrity male worth in excess of \$100 million who was spreading herpes. The plaintiff claims that these events took place in Las Vegas in 2011. The suit claims that Sheen "entered into a nefarious plot designed to lure Plaintiff into his luxurious hotel room to serve his prurient desires." Who wrote this lawsuit? Dame Barbara Cartland? Nefarious? Prurient? We are talking about Las Vegas—where you can give a blow job to hotel employees in an elevator! After Charlie assured the guy that he didn't have any diseases, the guy says they partook of the following activities: "mutual oral copulation, mutual self-gratification, rubbing and massaging each other, play-wrestling, licking and (unprotected) intercourse." Where the hell is THAT video????? 'Cause all of that should take more than 90 seconds! To make matters more complicated, other parties claim that the suit was settled out of court (for millions of dollars, allegedly), and the only copy of the video was destroyed. Hmm.

That isn't the only gay porn story of the week. Award-winning director **Michael Lucas** has been slapped with a lawsuit by a woman whose house he rented via Airbnb. According to Kristina Knapic, she rented out her mansion in Ojai (where I believe The Bionic Woman lived) to a woman named Anna who said she would be staying there with two friends. Knapic alleges that Lucas showed up claiming to be Anna's brother-in-law. According to the complaint, the house was trashed during their stay, and she found "urine, semen and fecal matter on the linens, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings and in the hot tub." It sounds like she went through the place with one of those special blue flashlights! She

also claimed "enema kits were found throughout the house—on the floors, in the beds, in nightstand drawers and in the trash." How many enemas do three people need? She also states that the hot tub was "brownish in color." Let us take a moment to digest that, shall we?

Lucas responded by saying the lawsuit is without merit and that Knapic is a "professional extortionist." He says that while he was in the mansion, she was in the guest house on the property and could see anything and everything going on. He produced text messages indicating that the owner's representative did a final walk-thru and found the house in good order. Being a smart cookie, Lucas also took photos and videos of the property before and after his stay, which substantiate his claim. He also reveals one little factoid not listed in the lawsuit—the mansion contains a "fairly well-equipped sex dungeon in the basement, complete with a sex swing, whips, chains and miscellaneous bondage paraphernalia." I didn't know Sondheim owned a house in Ojai!

It's time for the first of **Billy's Holiday Gift Giving Suggestions**. For the next few weeks, I will be suggesting items which would make great gifts for you and yours. Our first suggestion is something both old and new. When the film *The Wiz* came out at the end of 1979, most critics felt it was lacking—but nobody had any problems with the vocal performance of Miss Ross. The musical generated a two-LP soundtrack, but what many people don't know is that Diana also recorded most of the songs from the show for a solo album. When the film tanked, the solo was

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the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR

Corridor; Home Run Inn

BY ANDREW DAVIS

Dish is going the casual route this week in terms of restaurants—but that doesn't necessarily mean the quality of the fare takes a dip.

Corridor Brewery & Provisions (3446 N. Southport Ave.; CorridorChicago.com)—so-called because it's located in the city's Southport Corridor—is a prime example of this.

Corridor hasn't been on the block for long, having officially opened in October. However, the team behind the site (the same that's behind Dry-Hop Brewers) aims to make quite the impression.

Owner Greg Shuff told Dish that Corridor's



Above two photos: From Corridor Brewery & Provisions.

PR photos

Below two photos: From Home Run Inn Pizza.

Photos by Andrew Davis



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DANCING ABOUT ARCHITECTURE

BY MARC 'MOOSE' MODER



Until Adele's Christmas album comes along...

You know, at some point, you have to put down the Adele 25 and come out from under your covers and realize it's December. And since the aforementioned British songbird has yet to put out a holiday collection, there are a few more worthy divas whose holiday offering you might consider.

Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings (Amy Winehouse's backing band on Back To Black) just never get it wrong. While most holiday joints go for 50/50 sweet and sassy, Sharon and the Kings are 100% spicy on It's a Holiday Soul Party. With her retro mid-'60s-into-early-'70s, big-horns-big-voice Southern groove, even her ballads, like "Please Come Home for Christmas," will have you grinding. Perfect to put on repeat at your next Xmas party.

After a failed reality show and some more pop jaunts didn't exactly make her the thirty-something Taylor Swift, **LeAnn Rimes** sounds like she's getting back to a rootsier sound with Today Is Christ-



mas. Possibly made with encouragement to capitalize on the opening track's assumed success, Today Is Christmas (Holiday Theme for NBC's Today) is a



growth will be production- and distribution-based, and that the food revolves around the brewing schedule—statements that are not that surprising for a place that spotlights brews.

Speaking of beers, head brewer Brant Dubovick has crafted some interesting brews, including the tasty Nibble, Nibble Little Mouse (6.5 percent alcohol by volume), which has hints of pumpkin and walnut. Cotton Candy Goat is a French table beer with notes of vanilla, pear and citrus.

As for food, Executive Chef Joel Pillar has made some pretty intriguing creations, including a mushroom, leek and goat-cheese pizza that's impossible to resist. Other offerings range from Belgian-style mussels to fried oyster po' boys to grilled asparagus salad.

Hitting a Home Run

Continuing the casual route, a friend and I hit the newest **Home Run Inn Pizza** (3215 N. Sheffield Ave.; HomeRunInnPizza.com).

Although Home Run Inn (HRI) has several restaurants in the Chicagoland area, I'd never entered one. It's a safe bet that I'll return.

The decor isn't necessarily special; there's a bar in the center, and there are a few large TV screens devoted to sports. However, the menu and food surpassed expectations.

First up, though: Don't expect a list of nutritious (albeit delicious) items—after all, this is a pizzeria. That being stated, things started with two pieces of the signature cheesy garlic bread that were the size of whale kidneys. At this point, I knew the visit would be, um, fulfilling.

We did have salad though—the tasty HRI Caesar, which comes with dressing, garbanzo beans, parmesan, bacon and croutons. Then, we had personal eight-inch pizzas, including a lovely grilled artichoke, roasted garlic and spinach combo to which I added turkey sausage. (Not all Home Run Inns serve the same items, so you may not necessarily get something you see online.) Add to that a cupcake, and you have an instant (and well-deserved) food coma.

By the way, there are all sorts of pizzas, pasta dishes, sandwiches and other items there. Try it—you'll like it.

(FYI: This Home Run Inn offers delivery to Lake View, Wrigleyville, Boystown, Park West, West DePaul and parts of Roscoe Village.)

surprisingly strong collection. Once you get past the obvious commercial tie-in, LeAnn brews up a piping mix of soul (powerful duets with Aloe Blacc and Gavin Degraw), genuine pop and country. If you were a fan of Faith Hill's 2008 Joy to the World, this will be a welcomed addition to your family time.

Speaking of TV tie-ins, I was hoping the first full **Braxton Family** album in twenty five years with Toni and her four sisters would be a proper pop release, not an 8-song EP, and not one this weak. This is definitely one to cherry pick off iTunes or stream if just for Toni going full gospel on "Blessed New Year." Skip them butchering the soul standard "This Christmas" ... twice! Once where they insert their own names into the chorus, and the second, sans Braxtonism, but remixed poorly.

Cleanse yourself of reality stars and receive a true star (of Christmas too), **Kylie Minogue**. Like Madonna, you wonder how she's not done a holiday-themed album after 30 years in the industry. Well, it was worth the wait. With Kylie Christmas, she's taking you on a pop sleigh (or SLLLAAAAYYY) ride through 60 years of contemporary tunes with her duet with Frank Sinatra and seven other fully orchestrated classics; into a few Phil Spector Wall of Sound moments; and even three tips to the '80s, duetting with Iggy Pop on "The Waitresses' Christmas Wrapping," covering The Pretenders' "2000 Miles" and the amazingly lovely Yaz cover, "Only You," with late night host James Corden. But of course, it's not Kylie without some electro-pop. She touches on it wonderfully twice, with the Coldplay-written "Every Day's Like Christmas" and the bouncy "100 Degrees," a rare duet with sister Dannii.

So until you hear Adele debut a track mourning the inevitable break of Mary and Joseph, have yourself a very diva Christmas.

nights **spots**
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TO-DO

OUR WEEKLY PICKS TO PLAN YOUR NIGHTLIFE CALENDAR

LQQKS: Bowery Ball Two-Year Anniversary

Thu., Dec. 3, 10 pm

Berlin, 954 W. Belmont Ave.

Two years of LQQKS are feted with performances from Nico, Shea Coulee, NOT TWINS, Curnene Ribbon and Mistress of Ceremonies Lucy Stoele. Paying homage to visually stunning and groundbreaking artist Leigh Bowery.



Santa Speedo Run

Sat., Dec. 5, noon

Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted St.

Run one mile through the heart of Boystown to raise money for the Center On Halsted and Chicago House. Register to run as an individual or as a team or make a donation at noon. Running of the Santas at 2, followed by awards, entertainment and door prizes with Debbie Fox. Photos of the 2014 event by Anthony Meade



Tat Tuesday Sound Sessions: Milt Evans

Tue., Dec. 8, 7 pm

Replay, 3439 N. Halsted St.

The second Tuesday of the month is Sound Sessions. This month, Replay welcomes Whitebeard Records-Chicago owner, Black and Blue Ball resident, and Chicago House legend Milt Evans.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wed. Dec. 2

Genderqueer Chicago A grassroots group that works to create safe spaces for everyone to talk about, think about, explore and express gender. 7:00pm - 8:15pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted St.

Tiny Homes Competition: Interested Parties Meeting The Tiny Homes Competition is an opportunity for architects, students, artists and members of the public to propose new solutions to Chicago's affordable housing shortage. 5:30pm - 6:30pm AIA Chicago, 35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 250, Chicago <http://www.tinyhomeschicago.org>

Stripper BINGO! Ten games, the very first number the night is called the hot number and every time that number is called the dancer comes up 8:00pm Atmosphere Bar 5355 N. Clark St.

Thursday, Dec. 3

Open Gym Volleyball Every Monday and Thursday for 18 and over. All gender and experience levels welcome. Daily passes: \$7; Monthly passes: \$30 6:00pm - 9:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org>

Job Club Help drafting a resume or doing online job searching. Fine-tuning interview skills one-on-one. Team hosts the Cyber Center several times each week. Free. 10:00am - 1:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents-details.cfm?ID=11010>

Trans Rights Panel Discussion with ACLU Project Director John Knight Knight directs litigation in states in the Midwest designed to confront bias and discrimination 12:00pm David Weinberg Photography, 300 W. Superior St., Suite 203; <http://www.aclu-il.org/>



HAVING A BALL Thursday, Dec. 3

AIDS Foundation of Chicago's World of Chocolate will take place at Chicago Union Station.

Photo from 2014 by Anthony Meade

Dec. 2, 2015

your family and interested scout. For more information, Please contact Ashley Pelz, Membership Specialist, Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana at 224-207-9227. 6:15pm - 8:30pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents-details.cfm?ID=9930>

American Veterans for Equal Rights (gay veterans) monthly meeting AVER is a non-profit, chapter-based association of active, reserve and veteran servicemembers dedicated to full and equal rights and equitable treatment for all present and former members of the U.S. Armed Forces. 7:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted

The Plural, The Blurring by H. Melt Book launch party for a collection of poems and essays that critically celebrate Chicago's queer and trans communities. A READ LOCAL event. 7:30pm Women & Children First Bookstore 5233 N Clark St.; <http://womenandchildrenfirst.com>

Friday, Dec. 4

Man Cave Plus On the fourth Friday of each month, ManCave & SOFFA's of ManCave will be hosting an extra special open meeting! Bring family, chosen or given, friends, lovers, coworkers, or whosoever you may choose! Free. 6:30pm - 8:30pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents-details.cfm?ID=9668>

Late Night Andersonville & Late-er Night Andersonville Andersonville makes it easy to save money and support local businesses while shopping for friends and family 6:00pm - 10:00pm Chicago's Andersonville neighborhood, centered at Berwyn and Clark, Chicago 773-728-2995 <http://www.andersonville.org>

Jess Godwin: 12 Honoring the people who have made a difference in her life through stories, service, and song. 8:00pm The Athenaeum Theatre 2936 N Southport Ave Chicago Tickets: https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/9517117_ga-1.227495709.10

4440992.1445875119

Miracle on Thirty Funk Street Chicago Gay Men's Chorus, holiday favorites with a funky twist, including Pearl Bailey, James Brown and Donny Hathaway. 150 singers, dancers, and a six-piece band. 8:00pm Harris Theater for Music and Dance 205 E Randolph St. Continues Dec. 5 at Skokie Theatre. <http://www.cgmc.org/2015-events/miracle-on-thirty-funk-street/>

Black Ensemble: Dynamite Divas, A Tribute to Women of Soul Put Aretha Franklin, Nancy Wilson and Gladys Knight together in the same room for a day and get some great nostalgic music. Thursdays through Sundays trough Jan. 24, 2016. \$55/\$65 8:00pm Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center 4450 N. Clark St. Chicago 773-769-4451 Tickets: <http://www.blackensemble.org>

Saturday, Dec. 5

World AIDS Day Center on Halsted will acknowledge World AIDS Day from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. by bringing together individuals to commemorate strides made in HIV/AIDS research, prevention, and outreach work while inspiring a generation to live in supportive communities and advocate for their own health and well being. For more information contact Jill Dispensa at jdispensa@centeronhalsted.org. Free 10:00am - 2:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents-details.cfm?ID=10386>

Sound of Music Sing-along Pre-show costume contest for kids and adults accompanied by the Music Box Theatre Organ. Show times and tickets online. 11:30am Music Box Theatre 3733 N Southport Ave.; <http://www.musicboxtheatre.com/collections/sound-of-music-sing-a-long-2015>

Santa Speedo Run Raises money for non-profits serving Chicago's LGBTQ community. 12:00pm Sign-in and Registration @ Sidetrack, 1:50pm We sing our very own Christmas Carol, "Jingle Balls!", 2:00pm

1-mile run through Boystown, 2:30pm Awards, Entertainment and Door Prizes 12:00pm Sidetrack 3349 N Halsted St Chicago Tickets: <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents-details.cfm?ID=10951>

Sunday, Dec. 6

Heartland Health Outreach's Annual Holiday Brunch HHO's biggest annual fundraiser in support of its life-sustaining HIV/AIDS services for low-income and homeless Chicagoans. ssimmons@heartlandalliance.org. 11:30pm Four Seasons Hotel, N Michigan Ave at Delaware Pl., Chicago 773-271-5140 Tickets: <http://www.heartlandhealthoutreach.org/calendar/events/2015-holiday-brunch>

Monday, Dec. 7

Transworks Peer leaders run a job program for gender non-conforming community members in the John Baran Cyber Center. Walk-ins welcome. Free. 12:00pm - 2:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents-details.cfm?ID=10386>

Tuesday, Dec. 8

Then and Now: 35 Years of HIV/AIDS The International Museum of Surgical Science has assembled a large-scale timeline of HIV/AIDS that charts the intersections of medicine and the social from the first appearance of the disease in 1981. Exhibit. 6:30 p.m. International Museum of Surgical Science, 1524 N Lake Shore Dr.

Thursday, Dec. 10

Holidays on Ice Winter cocktail party to celebrate and support the work of Lambda Legal. Sponsored bar, wonderful tastes for the winter palate, and an inside update on how Lambda Legal's work is advancing the civil rights of our LGBT community and people with HIV. Advance \$25. Door \$35 6:30pm - 9:30pm Sidetrack 3349 N Halsted St Chicago Tickets: <http://www.lambdalegal.org>