

YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 19 Issue 5
May 2024

ASK NANA



BRAD LOEKLE



WHORE-O-SCOPES



Key West PRIDE June 5-9

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

1

Key West Pride Follies: Pride Follies began seventeen years ago as a KWBG fundraiser to give Key West performers who usually perform in bars and restaurants the chance to appear on the professional stage

7:00 PM

JUNE

5

Key West Pride 2024 Kickoff hosted by Hard Rock Café. Key West. Key West Pride Festival is taking you back in time, to the 70s to be exact when Disco was King (or Queen)

5:30 PM

JUNE

6

Fury "Tea on the Sea" Sunset Sail: The ultimate floating Pride Tea Dance as we groove to the tunes of local DJ. Enjoy food, beer, wine, champagne, sodas, water, and margaritas

6:00 PM

JUNE

7

"We Love Our Allies Pride Party": Join us at 22 & Co. to celebrate Pride with our allies! It's an all-welcome celebration including a local DJ, DJ Mira, and drink specials!

6:00 PM

JUNE

8

"Key West Pride's "We Are Family" Street Fair and Disco Party: The event will feature a wide range of performances and vendors hosted by a local favorite and will run until 8 pm. After that, a disco party led by a local DJ, DJ Mr. Enjoy, will take over until 11 pm.

4:00 PM

JUNE

9

Key West Pride Parade – Celebrating the 70's Disco Era: The parade will start at the Quay located at the Truman Waterfront

5:00 PM

...AND SO MUCH MORE!

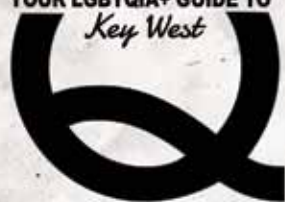


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WWW.GAYKEYWESTFL.COM/PRIDE

YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 19 - Issue 5

May 2024



Welcome To Paradise!

While "May Flowers" may be sprouting up north, we've been at the beach all winter!

Now is the perfect time to get into the water. The air might be getting hotter but the water is refreshingly cool!

Enjoy!

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Stephanie Wise

LEZ GO OUT



O

One of the first things that made the Husbutch and I fall in LOVE with Key West was when we saw the iconic Key West sunset from the water. There's nothing like sitting with your love on a padded bench seat of an old wooden schooner while she tilts heavily toward the starboard side and makes you snuggle even closer while watching the sunset. It really is magical! We have been on so many that now when the other passengers are anxiously waiting for the sun to hit the horizon (and possibly witness a green flash) we steal a romantic kiss. The glow of the sun reflected on the water turning pink and orange is a darn aphrodisiac. Trust me.

Now, when choosing your vessel for the evening, there are several to choose from in several different sizes, colors and with different accessories to make you happy. Get your mind out of the gutter and back on the deck where it belongs. A schooner we have sailed on several times and absolutely love would be the Appledore. Their champagne sunset sail has appetizers, shrimp cocktail and their famous tropical sangria! They often sail over by the infamous Mallory Square, Fort Zachary and the Navy Mole. It is romantic to say the least and really a great fit for couples and those looking for an intimate celebration and attentive crew. Or if you just want to snuggle and kiss through the whole sunset. It's perfect right down to the way the deck creaks and snaps gently as she sways from side to side.

If you like to party while on the water, choose between Danger and Fury! There are bands, blended drinks, dancing and a catamaran large enough for the whole troupe you're vacationing with. This is the PARTY on the water. It's all about getting your groove on while sailing far away from the island and seeing deep water with Key West always in view. The drinks flow freely and everyone is feeling good!

There is a special option for those who like the catamaran but not the booming beats while enjoying their sunset. This one can be rented out for a private party, or you can join the preestablished sailing times but either way this boat brings the class and sophistication to the sunset experience in Key West. This is the Argo Navis. The inside of this glorious ship is a living space with wood features and I think they put an orchid on everything. They're just that posh. You just feel fancy stepping aboard and the cushy seats with that private yacht feeling make the experience!

For those who want a somewhat Disney-like experience while you watch the butter ball drop, I recommend the Jolly II Rover. Crimson red sails that can be seen from almost anywhere on the water, the 80' tall ship and her square-rigged top sail bring about thoughts of pirates, rum and open seas while you sail through the harbor right toward the sun. The captain will even let you take your turn at the wheel and steer her toward the glow! As the sun hits the waterline the captain will fire the cannon to celebrate and ward off privateers in the vicinity. He's kind enough to give you a heads up because the boom will make your heart stop if you aren't ready for it! It's really a phenomenal experience and we highly recommend it. The cannon, not the heart stopping, of course.

And of course, we have our very own GAY Catamaran the Blu Q! They provide a light snack, water and it is BYOB so you can chill your own bottle of Grey Goose, drop it in their cooler onboard and sip away as the sun goes down. All over 18+ are welcome and it's a great way to meet other LGBTQ people while on the island. They have *interesting* daytime activities for the gentlemen and host a women's only sail during Women's Week as well. We love to promote and support LGBTQ owned businesses and this one is a peach.

Seeing the island drenched in the afterglow of a Key West sunset is breathtaking and as far as we're concerned, one of the best ways to spend an evening in Key West. You know that if a local goes more than once (and we certainly have) it must be great. So, Lez Go Out and enjoy sunset with family, "family" and friends. See you on the water and we can toast with champagne or the chilled Grey Goose you brought!

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MAY 17
- JUNE 11

MON-TUES 9PM
WED-SUN 7&9PM

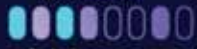


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12pm - 2am Fri - Sat.

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11AM till 12AM Fri-Sat



11AM till 11PM Sun-Thurs

AQUABELLE

CAJUN/CREOLE FUSION



Smash Burgers

served with your choice of fries or tots

- Voodoo Smash Burger with shaved onions, pickles, & voodoo sauce
- Inga Smash Classic Burger lettuce, tomato, mayo, & pickles option to add cheese/bacon/extra patty
- Hangover Smash Burger bacon, fried egg, cheese, & our secret burger sauce

Mac 'n Cheese Bowls

- Plain Jane
- Buffalo Chicken
- Hot Honey Chicken
- Crawfish
- Lobster

Jambalaya

plain or choose any combination of the following: chicken, sausage, & shrimp

Gumbo

made with smoked chicken & sausage

Fry Baskets

served with your choice of fries or tots

- Swamp Basket includes catfish, shrimp, gator, & okra
- Oysters
- Catfish & Shrimp
- Catfish
- Gator Tail
- Shrimp
- Chicken Fingers

Option to toss chicken fingers in: buffalo, hot honey, voodoo, or BBQ



PoBoy's

served on New Orleans poboyp bread, with mayo, pickles, lettuce & tomato

- Fried Catfish or fried Shrimp
- Fried Gator Tail
- Fried Shrimp & Catfish
- Hot Sausage (Beef)
- Cheeseburger
- Ham, egg & cheese
- Sausage, egg & cheese
- Bacon, egg & cheese

Salads

- **Wedge**
iceberg, bacon, tomatoes & blue cheese
- **House**
iceberg, tomato, cucumber, onion with Italian or ranch dressing add a protein: chicken, shrimp, or catfish
- **Chef**
iceberg, tomato, cucumber, ham, bacon, smoked chicken, shredded cheddar jack & Gruyere cheese, boiled egg with blue cheese or ranch dressing

Sauces

- Hot Honey
- Honey Mustard
- Key Lime Cocktail
- Ranch
- Remoulade
- Voodoo Sauce
- La Diabla
- BBQ
- Bub Cheese
- Brown Gravy
- Buffalo
- Cheese
- Sauce
- Citrus Garlic Aioli
- Garlic Hot Honey



Chicken 'wiches

served with your choice of fries or tots

- Voodoo Chicken Sandwich crispy fried chicken breast tossed in voodoo sauce topped with pickles
- Buffalo Chicken Sandwich crispy fried chicken breast tossed in buffalo sauce, topped with ranch, pickles, lettuce, & tomato
- Big Daddy Smoked BBQ Chicken smoked pulled chicken topped with crispy fried onions on bun
- Justin Case Chicken Classic choice of grilled or blackened chicken breast topped with mayo, pickles, lettuce, & tomato

Appetizers

- Gator Tail
- Fried Mushrooms
- Fried Okra
- Fried Mozzarella
- Fried Pickles
- Corn Dog Bites
- Fried Italian Sausage Ravioli

Sides

- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Collard Greens with Bacon
- Daily veggie
- Fries or Cheese Fries
- Onion Rings
- Tots or Cheese Tots
- Cajun Poutine at your discretion

Sweets

- Pecan Praline & Peach Bread Pudding with caramel sauce
- Grilled Banana Nut Bread drizzled in dark & white chocolate
- Fried Oreos with dark & white chocolate drizzle Order as 1 dozen or 1/2 dozen

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graffitti
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LGBT Book Reviews by *Terri Schlichenmeyer*

"NOTHING EVER JUST DISAPPEARS: SEVEN HIDDEN QUEER HISTORIES"

BY DIARMUID HESTER

c.2024, Pegasus Books | \$29.95 | 358 pages



Where that is comes to mind immediately: a palatial home with soaring windows, or a humble cabin in a glen, a ramshackle treehouse, a window seat, a coffeehouse table, or just a bed with a special blanket. It's the place where your mind unspools and creativity surges, where you relax, process, and think. It's the spot where, as in the new book **"Nothing Ever Just Disappears"** by Diarmuid Hester, you belong.

Clinging "to a spit of land on the south-east coast of England" is Prospect Cottage, where artist and filmmaker Derek Jarman lived until he died of AIDS

in 1994. It's a simple four-room place, but it was important to him. Not long ago, Hester visited Prospect Cottage to "examine the importance of queer places in the history of arts and culture."

So many "queer spaces" are disappearing. Still, we can talk about those that aren't.

In his classic book, Maurice, writer E.M. Forster imagined the lives of two men who loved one another but could never be together, and their romantic meeting near a second-floor window. The novel, when finished, "proved too radical even for Forster himself"; he didn't "allow" its publication until after he was dead.

"Patriarchal power," says Hester, largely controlled who was able to occupy certain spots in London at the turn of the last century. Still,

"queer suffragettes" there managed to leave their mark: women like Vera Holme, chauffeur to suffragette leader Emmeline Pankhurst; writer Virginia Woolf; newspaperwoman Edith Craig, and others who "made enormous contributions to the cause."

Josephine Baker grew up in poverty, learning to dance to keep warm, but she had Paris, the city that "made her into a star..." Artist and "transgender icon" Claude Cahun loved Jersey, the place where she worked to "show just how much gender is masquerade." Writer James Baldwin felt most at home in a small town in France. B-filmmaker Jack Smith embraced New York – and vice versa. And on a personal journey, Hester mourns his friend, artist Kevin Killian, who lived and died in his beloved San Francisco.

Juxtaposing place and person, "Nothing Ever Just Disappears" features an interesting way of presenting the idea that both are intertwined deeper than it may seem at first glance. The point is made with grace and lyrical prose, in a storyteller's manner that offers back-story and history as author Diarmuid Hester bemoans the loss of "queer spaces." This is really a lovely, meaningful book – though readers may argue the points made as they pass through the places included here. Landscapes change with history all the time; don't modern "queer spaces" count?

That's a fair question to ask, one that could bring these "hidden" histories full-circle: we often preserve important monuments from history. In memorializing the actions of the queer artists who've worked for the future, the places that inspired them are worth enshrining, too.

Reading this book may be the most relaxing, soothing thing you'll do this month. Try "Nothing Ever Just Disappears" because it really hits the spot.

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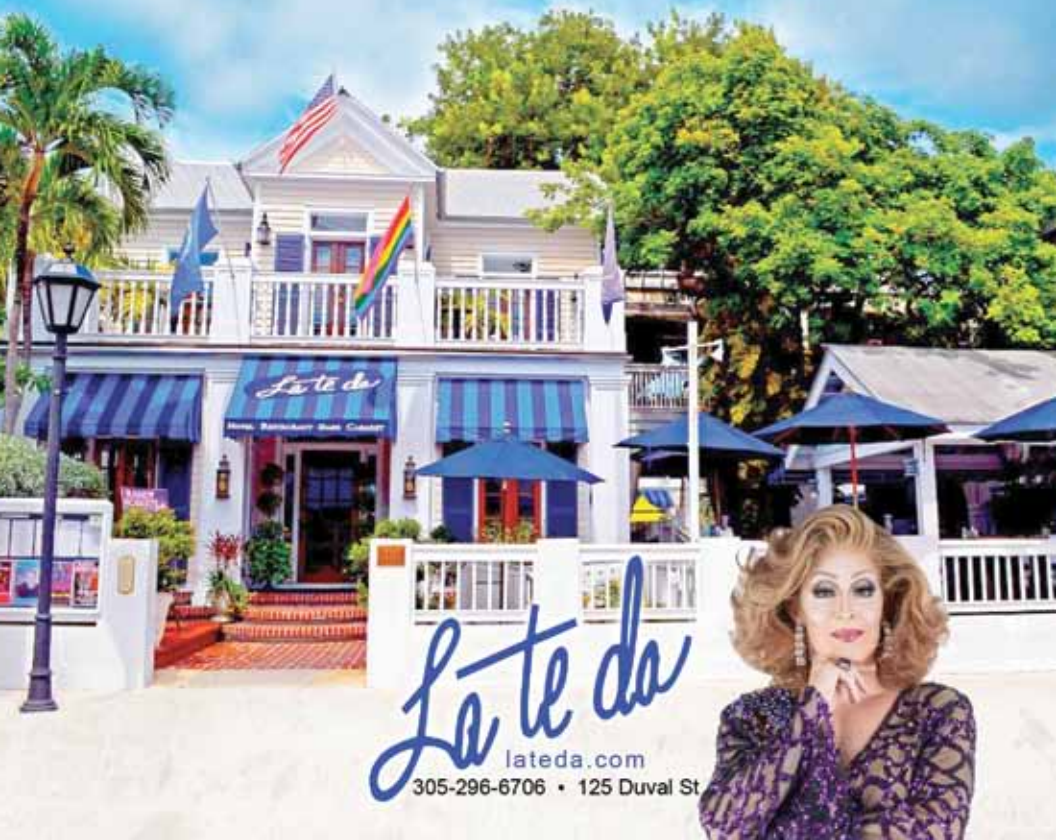
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MY BIG GAY LIFE

Brad Loekle



PEARLY WHITES

I was recently hanging out with one of my older gay friends. He's a fabulous guy who did quite well for himself and is quite generous to his friends. When we hang out, he's always concerned with making sure I know what to take from his body should he suddenly drop dead. Much like how one of my grandmother's used to walk around the house and put a sticker with my name on it on anything I ever mentioned was nice... Robby wants to make sure I've taken all his "good jewelry" off him as a "gift" before those "EMT vultures get to my carcass." He's got a dark sense of humor and I love that in a man. Especially a man who walks around with \$20-50K in jewelry on himself at any given moment.

While we sat having cocktails and kikied, I got Robby laughing so hard that he had a coughing fit which we all thought, for a moment, was going to be his final bow. Luckily, he was able to regain his composure and I didn't have to start shoving rubies up my rump. These are the things one thinks of when one spends most of their life being "wealth adjacent" like I have. You don't really have much of anything yourself, but those around you have enough that a ring or a used car just sort of "fall off" their life every now and then. And you just hope you're there to pick up the karats or the keys.

After Robby had recovered, he went into his usual speech

about making sure to take this ring first and that bracelet second. So, I decided to up the ante. I told him I didn't give a hoot about his jewels and instead would start by taking his teeth. The perfect, lily-white teeth of a multi-millionaire would make the world's most expensive veneers! I went full George Washington and said,

"When you die you better leave me your goddamn teeth! I'll have them made into veneers in Mexico City for 10 cents on the peso!"

Well, this sent Robby into another laughing fit which almost got me the teeth right then and there. But it did get me to thinking about this new, macabre idea for the ultra-wealthy and slightly crazy. If we're still making belts and shoes out of cows and crocodiles... why not start bequeathing our teeth to the less fortunate? With more than 6 decades of having the best dental care that money can buy, Robby's pearly whites should just be abandoned to the earth when he goes to the pearly gates. If you really love someone. And you're really wealthy. Give 'em your teeth!

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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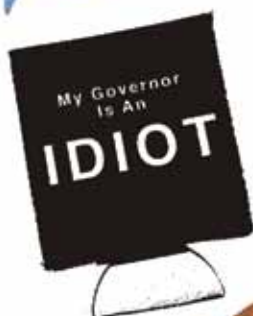
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PRODUCTIONS

801 CABARET

WWW.801GIRLS.COM

COCK SHOCK

FRIDAYS AT MIDNIGHT

PRIZES FOR
13+ CATEGORIES!



HOSTED BY
JT THOMPSON

21+

USE ENTRANCE ON PETRONIA ST.
BEHIND THE 801 BOURBON BAR

1
SALOON
KEY WEST

DICK & DRAW
WITH LANCE BERRY

EVERY WEDNESDAY
5PM - 7PM

504 PETRONIA ST.

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
Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM*

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 Breslin sining 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



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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

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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

Randy Roberts Live at 9 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

.....
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

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LOCATIONS
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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

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ASK NANA

E-mail your questions to
nana@keywestgayrag.com



Dear Nana,

Why are all the big gay travel destinations always guys in their 40s or older? Where are all the gay guys in their 20s? Do they just stay home? Where have all the young ones gone?

Okay, first of all, I want to make it clear that we're all going to safely assume this is a guy who is also in his 40s or older, right? Because he's got that White Lotus sort of white privilege feeling to him. Papa Bear, yes, all the children stay home. Because they still live at home with their parents and probably have a curfew. 20-year-olds are busy trying to figure out how to make a living in end-stage capitalism, that doesn't involve them just being an OnlyFans "model." And if they are an OnlyFans model



already, you can't afford to hang out with them anyway. Those little foot-pic freaks are laughing all the way to being retired by 30. But if you can't find the chicken you're clearly looking for as you circle the gaycation destinations like the turkey vulture that you are... might I suggest Bangkok?

Dear Nana,

My dad keeps teasing and joking about the fact I'm on Ozempic. I know he's not doing it with the intent of bullying me. He's just always been a teaser and the kind of guy that "ribs" you to show he cares. But I've struggled with my weight my whole life and this is the first time I really feel I have it under control. I don't want to make a big thing out of it, but I also really wish he would stop. Any advice on how to thread the needle on talking to him about that? Thanks so much!

Believe me when I tell you I have plenty of experience with straight men who are NOT ribbed for our pleasure. In my experience, there are two ways to handle it. One is the direct, but calm, way. You can simply tell him to knock it off. If you do so in a non-emotional way or without launching into a monologue of stories from your chubby childhood... he'll probably take the note and you can both move on without too much fall out. But, if he's a real blowhard of a guy, you might want to just fight fire with fire. He makes a crack about your self-care; you make a crack about how the next time he wipes his crack he'll probably need an ambulance. Or, as he keeps making jokes on the same topic, start saying "God, you already said that one 5 times, Dad. Maybe it's time to call the guys with the nets to take you to Shady Pines." If you think that you're insecure about your weight, I can assure you any man over the age of 60 is terrified about being locked up in God's waiting room. No matter which route you take, I wish you luck and I'm glad you're taking care of yourself in every way!

DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS? OF COURSE YOU DO! WHY NOT LET NANA HELP YOU?!

Send your questions to: nana@keywestgayrag.com



IsLAND HouSe

HOT NAKED POOL PARTIES



HOT NAKED
WEDNESDAYS

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HOT NAKED
SUNDAYS

12 - 4PM



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WHORE--SCOPES

AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18

You're so boring that even Alexa ignores you.

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20

Your talking scale was begging for mercy!

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19

This vacation, you've gotten wasted, ended up naked on a pool table, you face planted on Duval, the only thing you've done right is picking up this magazine.

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20

The saying is "Sun's out, guns out" not "Sun's out, enormous belly's out" Put a shirt on!

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 20

How many more years do you think you can keep calling it "covid weight???"

CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22

If I want an intelligent conversation, I'll talk to your dog.

LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22

All the world's a stage. Your casting director needs a new job!

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22

You may be the inspiration for the invention of extra strength breath mints!

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22

When the plane has to move people around for "weight and balance" they always look for you first!

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21

If I have to keep looking at you, I'm going to need some anti nausea medication.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21

I'm not saying your not very active but under hobbies you list "collecting dust."

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19

When people say "make yourself at home" they don't mean like YOUR home!

blu Q

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