

 /nightspots

 @nightspotschicago



# nightspots

weekly nightlife section in 



## TOUCHE

Sweetness (and savory) at Trident International Windy City's 4th annual Cupcake Wars for Broadway Youth Center, Sun., April 2.  
Photos by Tom Wray



## MARY'S ATTIC

Lady Bunny, Sat., April 1.  
Photos by Owen Keehnen



## FANTASY

Neverland's Jungle Book party, Sat., April 1.  
Photos by Jerry Nunn



## BERLIN

VIP party for the Wax Trax at 10th anniversary, Fri., March 31.  
Photos by Jerry Nunn

# the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in  
WINDY CITY TIMES

## SAVOR SafeHouse Chicago; Baconfest

BY ANDREW DAVIS

Five kung-fu poses...

These constituted the hoop that I and two complete strangers had to jump through once we entered **SafeHouse Chicago** (60 E. Ontario St.; SafehouseChicago.com)—a spy-themed, basement-level restaurant that apparently has a very loyal following in Milwaukee and that just opened in Chicago. (A grand opening took place on March 30 that featured, among other things, a cadre of dancing teens done up, Goldfinger style.)

For those who like themed restaurants, SafeHouse is a gold mine; for those who dislike them, a visit here might spark a thousand eye-rolls.

The decor is all about spying and surveillance.



SafeHouse Chicago.  
Photos by C. Williams



(There are several monitors downstairs that let patrons see what others have to do to gain entrance.) There are all sorts of buttons to push on the walls, servers and patrons are called "agents"—and even the food is referred to as "evidence" as we engage on "missions" of eating. (I'd love to see if the agent servers are just as energetic a few months from now.)

Speaking of food (and drink), of course they have spy-related names. My dining companion and I really liked the Spy Sliders, but other offerings include Thunderballs (atomic homemade meatballs), The Provocateur (burger topped with brie and bacon jam) and Fried C4 Cheese Curds. Skip the very blah Furtive Fish Fry and go with The Station Chief's Salmon (one of the best items there). I've yet to try Mata Hari's Meatloaf, but the name alone makes me wary.

SafeHouse isn't for everyone. It either can be quite fun—or it might be a mission impossible.

### Baconfest Chicago

Chicago's biggest meat-and-greet took place this past weekend as the ninth annual Baconfest was held March 31-April 1 at the UIC Forum.

Want to be knocked out by a couple stats? More than 4,500 people consumed four tons of bacon. Some of the standouts during the April 1 lunch session included Antique Taco's carnita taco (with roasted pork, queso, pickled onion, Nueske's bacon and) tortilla verde), Pork & Mindy's pig candy cannoli and Honey Butter Fried Chicken's loaded mash (smashed potatoes, fried chicken, pimento Buffalo sauce, bacon crunchies and chive crema). There were even dessert items such as maple-bacon macarons as well as cocktails.

**Note: Restaurant profiles/events are based on invitations arranged from restaurants and/or firms.**



Paddy Long's from Baconfest Chicago.  
Photo by Andrew Davis



## BILLY Masters

One of my treasured proofreaders sent me this email: "I never stopped to think of how the rainbow flag began, and how it could be one person's invention. I just assumed it was 'always there', and always a symbol of gay pride." He had just read about the passing of **Gilbert Baker**, the man credited with creating the first rainbow flag. Since I watch way too much PBS, I already knew Gilbert's story. The army veteran taught himself how to sew so that he could make banners and flags. **Harvey Milk** asked him to come up with a symbol of gay pride, and Gilbert created the first rainbow flag, which Milk carried for San Francisco Pride in 1978. In 1997, Baker's original flag was installed on the corner of Castro and Market in San Francisco. Long may it wave.

The rainbow is also adorning the wrapper of my favorite candy bar. Snickers now sports rainbow shading around its familiar logo as part of a pro-LGBT ad campaign. Snickers is sponsoring a new section on GayStarNews.com that will "tell stories of LGBTI people and provide resources to help you be yourself even at the toughest times." Hmm: Maybe I should look into getting a candy sponsor for BillyMasters.com.

**Joan Rivers** was chummy with **Prince Charles**. So when she could bring a plus-one for a weekend at Windsor Castle with Charles and Camilla in 2011, she brought **Kathy Griffin**. We knew that part of the story. But last week, New York Magazine writer Yashar Ali Tweeted: "Kathy Griffin called me and told me the craziest story about being at Windsor Castle with Joan Rivers and **Aaron Schock**." Sure, that got your attention. You didn't expect a story about Kathy and Joan to include a mega-hot, allegedly closeted, disgraced ex-Congressman, did you?

Yashar released the story as a string of Twitter posts. We've set the stage—Joan and Kathy are having dinner in Windsor Castle. Now, we cut to the Twitter posts, which I will slightly edit for flow: "Kathy is placed at dinner next to this gay couple. Both in tuxes. One is clean cut and the other is kinda greasy. The clean cut guy is clearly a fan, chatting her up, asks her all about Cher—total gossip session. Fun. Kathy has no idea (keep in mind this is before he became gaymous) that the gay guy she's seated with is a Congressman. Finally she asks what do you do for a living? He says he's a Congressman from Peoria, IL—Kathy is from Oak Park, IL.

"She asks Aaron how he ended up in Windsor Castle and he says that for \$25,000 to the Prince's charity you get this 2 week package. Where you get to hang out with him and travel all around. Huh? Kathy is like this doesn't pass the smell test—\$25K for two weeks? Even if there were a 2 week package—it wouldn't be \$25K to hang out with the Prince et al—clearly a weird lie. She then says ok so obviously you're for repealing DOMA, same sex marriage etc. Remember she's assuming he's out. He gets all curt and is like 'uh no I am not'. Remember he's sitting there with his boyfriend talking about Cher etc.



**Did Aaron Schock (pictured here with Ariana Grande) also rub elbows with Kathy Griffin and Queen Elizabeth II? It seems true, Billy says.**

Instagram photo

Gimme a break. She accuses him of being a bad gay!!!! He gets super annoyed w/ her + doesn't say 'I'm not gay'. It's more like he was offended by idea that anyone there thought he was gay. So remember there's night 2 of the Windsor extravaganza ... the next night he totally ignores her, cold shoulder etc."

"The \$25k for 2 weeks—also bs, turns out Aaron was there as the guest of the paying guest—we don't know who that is. Cause it wasn't his boyfriend who paid. Here's his date to Windsor Castle [Yashar posted a photo, which we will also post on BillyMasters.com]. Obviously a member of the family, if you know what I'm saying. One of the things Aaron got charged with was accepting an illegal gift ie the Windsor Castle excursion but here's what we didn't know. ... Kathy Griffin was in the loop (unwittingly) years before the rest of us and the Feds. Which is peak Kathy Griffin." BTW, the entertainment for the soiree was **Barry Manilow!** Yashar sums it up like this: "Kathy Griffin, Joan Rivers, Prince Charles, Aaron Schock, Camilla Parker Bowles, and Barry Manilow walk into Windsor Castle ... is the start of the gayest joke ever!"

It's been eons since I've brought you a penis, so I'm going to make up for it with two penii! The first comes to you courtesy of a new show, What Happens at The Abbey. You know what happens at this popular WeHo watering hole? Nothing! The vast majority of employees are straight. So are the vast majority of patrons. I believe Vanderpump's place around the corner has more gays per square foot than The Abbey. We hear that E! told the bar they needed to hire more hot guys. So the newest staff members were "cast." One of the hottest is **Billy Reilich**, previously known as Nick the Gardener on Ellen's talk show. He's what The Abbey calls a "VIP server." I call him money in the bank—at least with all those explicit nudes I have of him on BillyMasters.com.

Our "Ask Billy" question comes from Walt in

**EVERY FRIDAY**  
7PM/NO COVER

# RuPaul's DRAG RACE

**SEASON 9 CHICAGO VIEWING PARTY**

**TGIF SHOW TUNES**  
4-7PM

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WITH DIXIE LYNN CARTWRIGHT

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**SIDE TRACK**

**ALL THINGS BEYONCÉ**

WEDNESDAY APRIL 12 / 7

# BEYONCÉ

## BABY Shower

DANCE TO QUEEN & ALL NIGHT! 8PM-2AM NO COVER

**ALL THINGS BEY CONTEST**  
DANCE, SING OR LIP SYNC TO WIN PRIZES

**BEYLICIOUS DRAG BY**  
DIDA RITZ, SAYA NAOMI & CHRISTOPHER VIPER

HOSTED BY DIXIE LYNN CARTWRIGHT

Chicago: "Who is **Thom Evans**? I guess he's some rugby player who posed almost nude for an HIV charity. But I don't think I've ever seen anyone so hot. Do you have more?"

Indeed, I do. You see, this ain't Thom's first skin shoot. He previously posed for the "Dieux du Stade" calendar in which he showed all—alongside his virtually identical brother, Max (also a rugby player). Yes, dueling hunky brothers frolicking in flagrante! So, Walt, you hit the jackpot. You'll certainly be jacking something when you see the amazingly hot photos on BillyMasters.com.

When QEII isn't the only queen in Windsor, it's time to end yet another column. Before we close, I would like to note the passing of NYC drag legend Sweetie, after a long battle with cancer. Speaking of sweets, we must remind you to check out [www.BillyMasters.com](http://www.BillyMasters.com)—the site brought to you by Jawbreakers ... for obvious reasons. Send your questions to [Billy@BillyMasters.com](mailto:Billy@BillyMasters.com) and I promise to get back to you before I sign up for rugby lessons. Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

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