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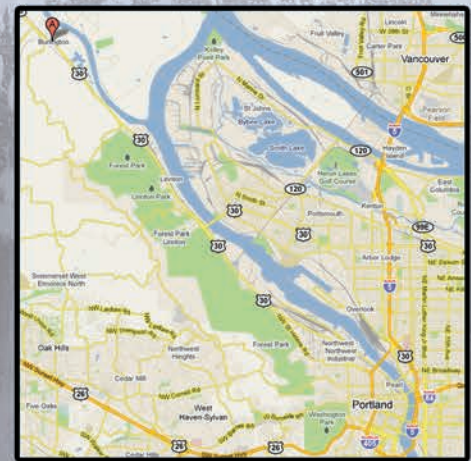
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Las 
Gatas
Hillsboro

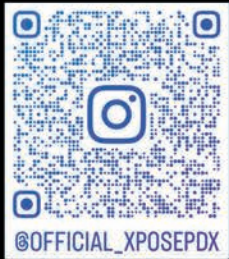
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THURSDAY
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SATURDAY
MAY 23



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Gatas
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Valerie
FROM CHEETAHS
XXX CABARET

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TALES FROM THE DJ BOOTH

*part five of the 12 rules of stripping series
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GET FIT AND MENTALLY STABLE

*some unorthodox approaches to self-care
page 36 | by hannah one cup*



HAPPY MAY DAY

*five demands from a proposed local
band union
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SMOKING GRASS

*the history of lawnmowers you never
thought about
page 40 | by wombstretcha the magnificent*

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JULY 2026 ISSUE!



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Spring is in full swing, and May is upon us...which brings us a plethora of holidays and observances. But aside from Mother's Day, Memorial Day, May Day, and even Star Wars Day, there's a less mainstream day in May...May 23. Anyone know what it is? This will be its 26th year, but it's pointless for me to flood you with hints. No one is guessing this one. *World Turtle Day!* It's a celebration of turtles and tortoises worldwide and raises awareness of the threats they face, both in the wild and in captivity. And let's be real...anyone who doesn't like turtles is just a questionable human being all the way around. A red flag for sure! Before we move on, I want everyone to know that all tortoises are turtles, but not all turtles are tortoises*. How's that for some turtle trivia? I bet few can explain why without cheating with Google!

While I'd love to dedicate this entire article to turtle facts, we have bills to pay, and you need to know what's poppin' around PDX. Shall we? We'll start off with one of the industry's newest and most unique competitions: *Miss Big Booty Latina 2026!* It all kicks off on Thursday, May 14, at Las Gatas in Hillsboro for round 1. Round 2 is at Xpose in Beaverton, on Saturday, May 23. Then, it's the final 'shakedown' at Las Gatas PDX, on Saturday, May 30, with a \$3,000 cash prize up for grabs. Check out all the event details on page 7. Don't miss this exciting, new event!

Calling on clowns...head to Kit Kat Club on Friday, May 15, for the Kit Kat Clown Party. Don't forget the face paint and big red nose, because all clowns in uniform get in free! Next up is Club 205's Wet T-shirt Contest, on Wednesday, May 20, with a \$500 prize. You also won't want to miss Angels' Daisy Duke Contest and Amateur Night on Saturday, May 30. And lastly, enjoy the festivities with Cinco de Mayo parties across the industry—on...yup, you guessed it...Tuesday, May 5. So head over to AJ's, Cabaret, Club 205, and Stars Cabaret (Bridgeport and Salem) for drink and food specials. Taking it a step further, Club 205 will run its drink and food specials for the first 10 days of the month! And wrap the month up right with more food and drink specials on Memorial Day, at Stars Cabaret at Bridgeport!

POLEROTICA 2026

We've reached the halfway point of Polerotica 2026, and if you haven't made it to one of the qualifier rounds yet, you're definitely missing some fantastic performances and amazing industry moments!

We'd like to congratulate all of our qualifying finalists to date:

Round 1: Celeste from Hawthorne Strip, Kit Kat from Kit Kat Club, Divinity from Hawthorne Strip, and Matilda Blue from Kit Kat Club

Round 2: Jess from Cabaret, Sky from Shady Lady Tavern, and Marie from Scarlet Lounge

Round 3: Amber from Stars Cabaret (Salem), Isla from Club 205, and Veronica from Stars Cabaret (Salem)

(Check out page 34 to see photos of all the abovementioned finalists in action during their qualifying set.)

Don't miss the last three qualifying rounds: Friday, May 1, at The Lounge, Friday, May 8, at Las Gatas (PDX), and Friday, May 15, at Desire! Then, it's the ultimate pole showdown at The Finals on Friday, May 22, at Dante's in downtown Portland. Don't miss this night, people!

*A tortoise is a turtle that only lives on land, while other turtles are aquatic, mainly living in rivers or the sea.

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FRI 01 – THE LOUNGE

POLEROTICA 2026 QUALIFIER ROUND V

SUN 03 – DANTE'S – SINFERNO CABARET

FRI 08 – LAS GATAS (PDX)

POLEROTICA 2026 QUALIFIER ROUND VI

SUN 10 – DANTE'S – SINFERNO CABARET

THU 14 – LAS GATAS (HILLSBORO)

MISS BIG BOOTY LATINA 2026 (ROUND 1)

FRI 15 – DESIRE – POLEROTICA 2026 QUALIFIER ROUND VII

FRI 15 – KIT KAT CLUB – KIT KAT CLOWN PARTY

SUN 17 – DANTE'S – SINFERNO CABARET

WED 20 – CLUB 205 – \$500 WET T-SHIRT CONTEST

FRI 22 – DANTE'S – POLEROTICA 2026 FINALS

SAT 23 – XPOSE – MISS BIG BOOTY LATINA 2026 (ROUND 2)

SUN 24 – DANTE'S – SINFERNO CABARET

SAT 30 – ANGELS – DAISY DUKE CONTEST & AMATEUR NIGHT

SAT 30 – LAS GATAS (PDX)

MISS BIG BOOTY LATINA 2026 (FINALS)

JUNE

THU 04 – CLUB ROUGE (PORTLAND)

MISS NUDE OREGON '26

HAPPY HOURS

AJ'S – 10AM-5PM

CABARET – 2PM-6PM

CLUB 205 – 10:30AM-8PM

DEVILS POINT – 3PM-6PM

DESIRE – 6PM-9PM

DV8 – 12PM-3PM

FLESH AND BONES – 4PM-8PM (TUE-FRI)

THE LOUNGE – 11AM-4PM

LUCKY DEVIL – 3PM-6PM



TALES FROM THE DJ BOOTH

BY DJ HAZMATT

12 RULES FOR STRIPPING

(Continued from prior months, visit Xmag.com to catch up)

As much as folks would love to dismantle the current economic system, the fact remains: supply and demand rule the market. If something is hard to access, people will pay more (or do more) to access that thing, whether it be spending \$35 on bottled water at the electronic music festival under late-stage capitalism, or begging for clean water in the gulags under that-wasn't-real socialism. Scarcity creates value, math doesn't vote, and no amount of Reddit moderation is powerful enough to hide this fact.

Rule 5: Show Less, Make More

Supply and demand are extremely basic concepts to grasp. For example, in Portland, where dab rigs and vape pens are more common than manual transmissions and two-parent families, it's pretty hard to make good money selling weed on the street. But, if you drive a few hours east into Utah, you can flip a handful of bottom-shelf dirt weed for hundreds of dollars to Mormon teenagers. On the same token, while you're in Utah, you may encounter a cute, religious girl who hates coffee and loves her dad. In SLC, this girl is as common as the churches she frequents, but if you convince her to come back to Portland with you, she'll be seen as a rare unicorn trophy wife (at least until she discovers tattoos, divorces you, and opens up a dispensary). It's all relative, and the supply-and-demand cycle is undefeated by even the most rogue economics professor.

Therefore, when it comes to the art of selling glimpses of skin, one must consider the issue of supply versus demand. Put simply, if you show less (or rather, charge more to see more), you will make more. If a customer can

see your baby's partially formed foot for less than the price of a value meal, you're not going to be making rent with stage tips. At the same time, if a customer feels they are always just short of seeing what truly lies behind the thong, then you will constantly make more money than the rest of the dancers on shift. Plus, you can still get fully naked (some clubs require this) while still "showing less," so let me explain what I mean by using an almost-academic example: food.



Your Body Is a Steakhouse, Not a Buffet

There's a shitty little overpriced tourist trap a few miles outside Barstow, California, called Las Vegas. If you're looking to have something other than liquor for dinner, options in Vegas are either a cheap buffet or a nice restaurant. At one point in time, Vegas was known for super cheap, all-you-can-eat buffets. By being affordable (five to ten bucks), these buffets were able to stay in business. On the other end of the strip (or just next door, in some cases), tourists could opt instead to visit an upscale steakhouse that was once frequented by Sammy Sinatra, or whoever was famous in the mafia days. These places ran (and still run) a few hundred dollars or more for the world's smallest cube of steak and a martini that's 80% olives. Doing the math, the hungry Vegas visitor could, in theory, fill their stomach up with hot garbage

for five bucks, or get a few bites of something fancy for five hundred.

What's interesting is that, after the pandemic and subsequent recession, only the steakhouse has been able to retain its business model. Unless you're looking to eat prison food, a Vegas buffet currently runs in the range of \$40-\$50. Meanwhile, the fancy steakhouses have barely adjusted for inflation—the percentage increase from 2019 to 2026 is nowhere close to the buffets, and as a result, the buffets are slowly dying off, while the fancy steak spots are still open. Why? Because rich people will always spend like rich people, but poor and middle class people tend to adjust when things get too spendy—a bad economy won't affect the steakhouses, but buffets will drive away clientele by raising prices. Plus, when lower and middle class people *do* dine out in a bad economy, it's a rare occasion, so even the poors and wags are going to opt for the steakhouse, on the medium-rare chance that they have the funds to go out at all. In other words, the buffets that practically gave away food are dead, but the steakhouses that want an arm, a leg, and a thigh for a ribeye, well, they're doing better than ever.



Another component of the steakhouse is that it's both "classy" and "exclusive." If a steakhouse looked like the inside of a MAX

train after a Kid Rock concert at the waterfront, it wouldn't appeal to people who listen to classical music in limos while offering each other Grey Poupon, nor would the steakhouse attract quality upscale clientele if it was frequented by tattooed hoodrats in Cookie Monster sweatpants fighting with their "kid's dad" in the lobby.

Things need to feel exclusive in order to attract the big baller crowd. Nightclubs in L.A. will let lines grow around the block, even with an empty dance floor, because looking like an exclusive club on the outside is enough to get people to pay a ridiculous cover charge, before they get inside and realize how dead the place actually is (at which point, sunk cost fallacy will result in folks staying around, at least for a few overpriced cocktail orders). Fyre Festival had famous influencers eating soggy sandwiches after spending thousands to attend an "exclusive event," while the Gathering of the Juggalos doesn't care if people jump the gate, and you can get deep-fried anything (plus drugs) for around ten bucks. Guess which one of these places it's acceptable to yell "show us your asshole" at (and equally likely to have your wish granted). I'm a Juggalo to the core, but I'm not going to pretend that the Fyre Festival hustlers didn't make exponentially more than the guys at Psychopathic Records make on the Gathering (insiders tell me they actually lose money, but do it for the love of the fans, so they get a "whoop whoop" from me). An "exclusive" steakhouse (or grilled cheese sandwich) experience will always make more money than a cheap weekend of absolute hedonism that is open to all.

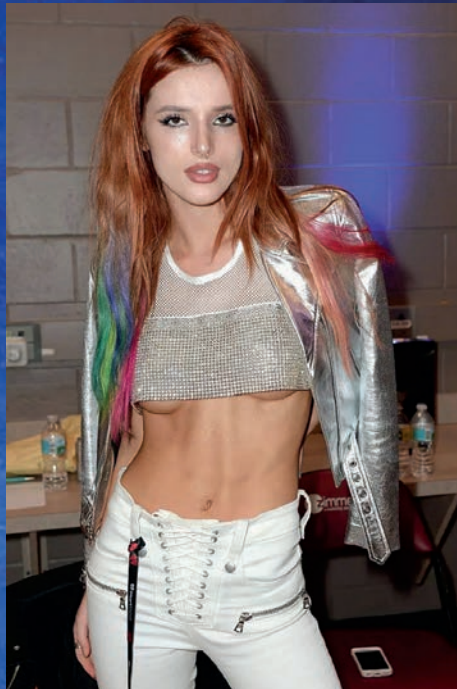


There Are Degrees to Nudity, so Learn to Edge

Let's say you're reading this in a club that requires full nudity by the last song of a stage set, or a club that promotes physical contact and/or near-sex in the champagne room. In this case, it's all about presentation and how you get naked, not how naked you get.

Remember that "infinite curve" thing your statistics teacher brought up? Do that—constantly get closer and closer to zero without

actually touching it. When you're on stage, hold your hands over your boobs for most of the song, then put them on the rack in front of whichever customer is spending the most, letting other customers know that your nipples have a cover charge only some people can afford. Undo your bikini bottom, but leave the strap in place by holding it with your thighs and covering your lady bits for most of your third song. It's a "flash" dance and a strip "tease," not a "speculum simulator" or a "cave dive." *Basic Instinct* had frontal nudity, as did the final scene of *Sleepaway Camp*, but only one is considered classy cinema (at least to people who aren't fucked up in the head like I am).



"Nude" is nude; it doesn't have to be graphic. Both *My Girl* and *Terrifier 3* have "death scenes." *Playboy Playmates* (and *Exotic* pinups) often get "fully nude," as do the girls in the smuttier, gape-and-zoom magazines (I have no idea what the girls in *Club* are called, "Seals" maybe?). Either way, there's a huge difference between "Tee hee, I just showed you a glimpse of my labia," and "Here's what a fetus looks like." By referencing smut mags (besides the one you're reading), I'm showing my age—so, if you're too young to remember when you could find porn in the woods, take a look at the porn on your phone. The top earners of OnlyFans are Bella Thorne (who barely shows her cleavage) and Sophie Rain (who gets naked for a few seconds per video). These girls make up the steakhouse selection. Compare that to the buffets, i.e., the Bonnie Blues, who are constantly having to one-up their last stunt, lest they "only" bang 99 guys in a 100-

man gangbang video. If Bonnie Blue did 101 guys in her last video, she needs to do 102 in her next video to even earn a click. But if Bella Thorne decided to wear a white t-shirt while showering, her subscribers would explode (in more ways than one). I'm not trying to "slut shame" here as much as I am trying to "slut financial advise." If you're into art for art's sake, by all means, go all out and get that Guinness record. But if you're showing it all at work and coming home with Taco Bell money, then you may consider dialing it back a bit.



While buffet dancers are busy treating their customers like their gynecologists, your job as the steakhouse is to put a top-shelf price tag on any part of your body that would get flagged for removal by Instagram. If your customers want to see more than they did on stage, they need to get a private dance, then another private dance, and perhaps one more after that. Even then, steakhouse dancers are ambiguous when asked about the price for a money shot—the price for full, *Penthouse-in-the-'90s* style nudity is "question marks ninety-nine." With each dance, steakhouse dancers get a bit closer without actually going all the way. One more dance will always be just a little hotter.

If you are required to get fully naked on stage at a club, do so in a way that would blend more into a *Playmate Video Calendar* than something you'd see in a human anatomy textbook or a "challenge" video. Even if you fall on hard times and need to participate in excessive online degeneracy, the trick isn't to "power fuck" a hundred dudes, but rather, "make slow, passionate love" to a hundred dudes. Don't "take a money shot load to the face," but instead, find a way to "embrace fiscally excessive fluid to the cranial area." If you're stuck in a buffet, at least try to make it look like a steakhouse. God, I'm fucking hungry.

TalesFromTheDJBooth.com

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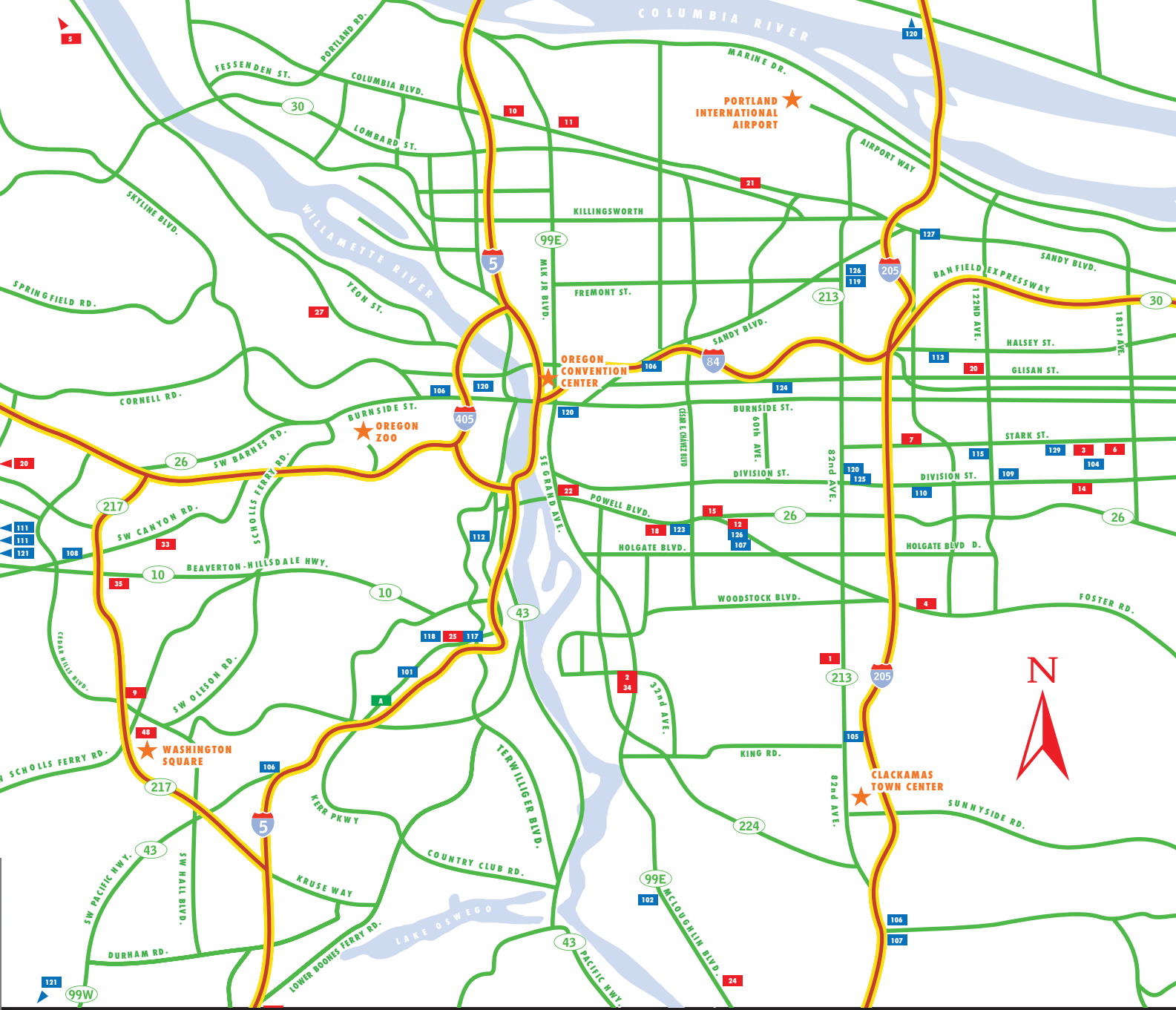
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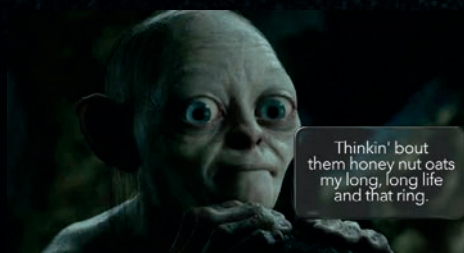
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GET FIT

(Probably) AND MENTALLY STABLE NOW! BY HANNAH ONE CUP

Much like the rest of you, I've been busy just trying to wake up every morning without falling into traffic on purpose-accident, and eating my Cheerios for heart health. But I haven't really been eating my Cheerios for heart health. I haven't eaten Cheerios all year. Or probably in the last decade. So my heart is over here, probably crying out for more Cheerios, while my brain is telling me, "The street-cross sign isn't on yet, but you can walk anyway." It's a constant battle. My family has the tendency to outlive most twinkies and parrots, and most of them have passed on peacefully in their beds, aside from a demented great aunt. But with all of this in mind, I have to be cautious of my own health. I'm afraid that even if I *tried* throwing myself into a terrible accident, I'd come out of it scathed but still able to work the next day, then live on for another 90 years with a slight gimp and deformed face.



I'm secretly a very vain person—but for weird reasons. I want to make sure that if I do end up being 100 years old and cars are finally flying, I'm able to drive one without straining my body, and that I look like I don't need an extra driver's test every year. If I could look 25 forever, I might try, but not with plastic surgery. Not because I have a problem with it, but because I'm poor, there is upkeep to that crap, and the

doctor might suck at what he does to you.



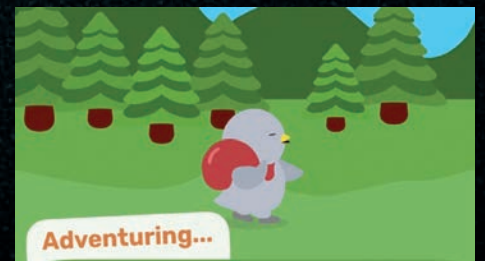
I've watched as one of my family members' tattooed eyeliner has gradually started to melt down their face ever so slightly over the years. If you don't get Botox and you have tattooed eyeliner, you're asking to look like you had a stroke in 20 years. So, since I'm poor and don't want to follow that particular family member's footsteps, I'm left with good old-fashioned exercise and diet.

Easily doable for anyone who has the ability to stay focused for longer than 34 minutes at a time. Which means I also require secondary mechanisms for this: phone apps and wearable devices. *Ghasp, wut? You? *No. You're trash!** That's right, good people of the public. I'm trash. But this trash is going to still look good when she's 90 years old and all my friends are dead. God...it's gonna suck. I already kind of want to take back all the things I'm saying right now...but it's *too late, I spent money on it*. Which means...I have to go through with it. Not wasting what I eagerly spent money on for a subscription, at 1 a.m., af-

ter a couple shots of Espolon. No, sir. I'm too poor for that. I'm too poor for *this*, but I did it anyway—because I'm too poor to be on medications for blood pressure or other crap. This is what being vain, poor, trash, and aware of your impending long lifespan gets you.

It started with *Linda* again.

A birb on an app – Linda sent a text to me, which was a notification to join this app called Finch. Because I'm always leering at anything she sends me, since she never double-checks sources or reads privacy policies, I spent the next day looking it over, while she was busy sending me a screenshot of some adorable



fake-animal pet I could have on Finch, if I joined. So, that's all it took. It's actually incredibly adorable and has a legitimate local following in Portland and other towns, where people meet up and just do things together. Like...the anti-social social club, but for people with depression and anxiety and low motivation as well. Finch gives you little presents, like cute little mini bunnies and bats, if you complete tasks each day, like 'clean your room,' or 'drink water at lunch,' or 'compliment someone without sounding creepy' (that's one I made up, and it's really hard to do...) Anyway, after the free month-long trial, I somehow accidentally paid for

a full year. It was only \$9.99, though...and I'm still using it... so, money well spent in my book.

Then we get to my obsession with *Doctor Now* and *My 600 Pound Life*.

Know what you ate that day? Now I do! – Lose It! God. I am such trash. It's such a basic app. It literally just helps you keep track of what you eat that day, and if you're on a specific diet plan or have any restrictions, it tells you where you're lacking. Most people probably aren't eating enough bananas or garbanzo beans. One can of garbanzo beans and a banana get me all the fiber and potassium I need that day. After that, I just eat air and drink 0-carb energy drinks. Just kidding, mostly. Well, due to my embarrassingly sloth-like behavior, I don't even want to be bothered to type the word "banana" or "garbanzo," and press that stupid "+" sign for each ingredient or food item, *I decided to pay for a year's subscription*, so that it would take pictures of the food for me, and accurately determine what I was eating. Sometimes I have to change a few things, but this way I really don't have to do damn near anything to stay accountable. I might only eat trash, and I might be trash, but at least I'm keeping track, kind of.

And the last thing was because I'm not a great patient – I really, really, really cannot overstate the fact that I am not afraid of the doctor's offices I go to. I worked in the medical field in various roles for over 10 years. I love sticking needles in things and getting blood. I don't mind if you take mine. But for some reason or other, I cannot get my blood pressure to stay *normal* in the office. So, since I am on ADHD meds, the docs wanted to make sure I was not killing myself in the process, and wanted to do one of those tests you take home for 24 hours. I refused, but knew this would make me look sus. So, I took my blood pressure at home with a cuff and gave the reading to the doctor. They were happy. But because I like to go the extra mile with proving myself, I went and used half of my FSA money on an Oura Ring and subscription. Now I have one ring to rule my health and scare the living hell out of me. After a month, it will tell you how old your heart is compared to your age (relatively speaking), and it can change every week. Just depends on how healthy and active you stay. But since getting this thing, it's made me aware of some useful insights into my sleep patterns and how stressed I am that day. As if I needed that bit. Either way, it's actually pretty neat, and if you have an FSA and aren't spending it on stupid things like 24-hour blood pressure monitoring, I'd recommend getting one. You can return it after 30 days if you don't like it.

And with that, you've all now learned various information regarding my health and wellness, as well as some ways you, too, can join in on looking shwifty at 50, 60, or 105...like I probably will. I'm gonna be so hot. Because the Earth will literally be burning up by then. And I'll be flying my car to the closest ocean to sink into. And I'll still be poor because I'm lazy and buy subscriptions because of my laziness. Oh, and if anyone wants to join Finch...uh...lemme know. I can get you hooked up with a cow. It's really cute. Stay sexy!



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FIVE DEMANDS From My Proposed

by Blazer Sparrow

PORTLAND LOCAL BAND UNION



Four Drink Tickets

I felt compelled to write this piece after I received some unwanted praise for last month's column. I was basically accused of finally coming into the libertarian's tent. The "don't pay taxes" bullet point was a gamble, and boy, did it backfire.

To reiterate, I will never validate or agree with any political take that is right of center. I am a card-carrying communist and will be 'til the day I die. Glory to the CCP. To those of you who unironically have a Gadsden flag hung up in your room: take a shower, move out of your mom's basement, and get a job. The "free market" you simp for offers many low-wage ones for you to choose from. Oh, right...sorry, you call those "starter" wages.

Anyway, I felt like I needed to redraw the line in the sand and raise my red flag *higher* with May's issue. It just so happens you're probably reading this on May Day! Better known as International Workers' Day. So, on this glorious holiday celebrating solidarity amongst the workers of the world, I felt like writing up a proposal for my list of demands for a fictional Local Band Union this city sorely needs.

It breaks my heart seeing all these shitty dive bar bands fight over scraps, while the greedy capitalist class laughs from on high. Brothers and sisters, do you not see that if we unite in a common cause, we could make our lives better? Let us not see each other as enemies, but as comrades in the fight against the bourgeois venue owners! Look not to the scraps they've thrown us, but to the whole meal they hoard for themselves!

Once all the local, sad, white-boy guitar bands have put aside their differences and formed this union, we will present this list of five demands to all venue owners in Portland. Until they have agreed to meet these demands, we will be on strike, withholding the services we provide to the six or so folks who wander into a bar to see who's playing.

I'm sorry, but the arbitrary number of only *two* free drinks for an *entire* night at a bar is absurd. Name a single musician in Portland who does not average seven drinks an outing. This is an insult beyond measure to the working-class musician. A ploy to get these poor, thirsty comrades to *pay* the venue more money to get the appropriate amount of booze in their system required to perform for those four bored friends they dragged to the show. The CDC says that the healthy pace for drinking is one beverage per hour. The average show lasts at least four hours. Science and math have spoken! We hereby demand that *four* drink tickets be the new normal for venues.



Food

Here's the thing. We musicians realize that we are not getting paid a living wage, so the very least we can ask for is to be fed. Also, it's in your best interest. If you're giving us four free drinks, we're definitely going to open a tab and order eight more, so unless you want three-to-six belligerent, failed local musicians causing a scene because they're sad no one showed up, you might as well try to offset that with some fries or mozzarella sticks.

Either the Whole Door or a Fee

Okay, on the real, this one seems reasonable. I've heard any number of excuses from "covering expenses" to "covering expenses" for why the venues have to skim a certain amount off the door to pay the door and sound guy. No

more. Are you a venue for the evening? Venues have staff. Pay your staff. You have two extra barbacks on Friday and Saturday 'cause it's busier that day. Imagine if you paid them out of the bartender's tips? You'd be hung upside down by your balls in the town square, tarred and feathered. If you want to keep the door money, fine — but then you have to pay a fee to the band. You can even give the band the choice! If they want to keep the door, they'll be all the more motivated to get people to come. However, lazy bastards like myself will always take the fee option. Like all dirty, evil socialists (and Dire Straits enjoyers), I want my money for nothing.

The Venue Must Promote

I thought this one wouldn't have to be put on our list of demands, but apparently it does. I would turn the language venues use on the bands right back on the venues. At least *one* social media post, one reel, one story, etc, etc. Well, the venue has a social media account, right? They want people to come to the show, too, right? They wanna sell drinks and food to the eight poor bastards who literally had nothing else going on that night. Post for post. Story for story. Reel for reel.

The Booker Must Be Present

No other reason for this than it's fucking annoying when the person you've been emailing back and forth endlessly discussing payment, logistics, order, set times, load in, and literally every other detail of the show isn't at the goddamn show. The one that they put together. This inevitably leads the band fumbling around asking the bartender, the barback, the door, and the sound guy (who shows up late) what to do and where to be, and none of them know because none of them have those emails. You don't even have to physically do anything at the venue. We just ask that you are *there* to answer questions. You can even be four beers deep! Just like the band!



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SMOKING GRASS

A History of Lawnmowers

BY WOMBSTRETCHA THE MAGNIFICENT

Anyone with a sizeable patch of grass probably has a lawnmower, unless they're some kind of savage who likes their yard to look like a jungle. We take mowers for granted, since they've existed for all our lives. However, where did they start? In the words of the Talking Heads, "Well, how did I get here?" This might seem like a dumb topic, but there is a lot of odd history here, so let's go through the timeline.



The Very First (1830)

When the Industrial Revolution hit society like a freight train, and, er, provided us with freight trains, some Englishman named Edwin Beard Budding (no, not the guy who makes suspicious processed meats) was thinking to himself, "Fuck cutting grass," as the primary method to do so involved scythes. He said to himself, "Leave that shit to the Grim Reaper, I can do better." He did. He had seen a cutting cylinder on a tailor's, used to make wool nice and not nappy. Hmm. Yes. So he stuck one on a wheeled contraption, and it was pitched initially to mow sporting grounds. It caught on. Well-cared-for lawns were also a status symbol back then, so the affluent people bought these up in spades. He patented it in 1830. Of note, he also invented the crescent wrench.



Alexander Shanks (1853)

No, he didn't make shanks. He wanted to make an improved lawnmower for the purpose of weed farming. Well, hemp farming. At the time, hemp was popularly used to make cloth. He patented his new device as "Improvements in machinery for preparing and dressing hemp." Dude, just call it "weed machine," and we know he was getting the bud. Think about it. He hooted some and was like, "What if I improved the lawnmower and made it for hemp?" By the way, it's called "hemp" because it originated from Old German "hanapiz," which was translated to Old English (not the malt liquor, but I'm sure some hooch may have been involved), as "henep," which leads us to the modern English term "hemp."



Thomas Green (1855)

The general consensus among historical lawnmower enthusiasts, and yes, that is a thing, was that Green patented Shanks' lawn-

mower in England, with some improvements. However, this was not some shady deal; they had an agreement, but he still marketed it as his own. Shanks had the patent in Scotland, and Green had the patent in England. Everyone is happy, I guess, but Green did say he was the only one who made them. Kind of a dick move, if you ask me. He once also tried to pick a fight with a monkey at a zoo.

Those standards remained relatively unchanged until the 20th century.



Ransomes (1902)

One Robert Ransome invented a steam-powered lawnmower in 1856, but it quite literally weighed a ton, and looked like an engine of war, not lawn care. It was this big bitch of a thing, and you had to constantly throw coal into it. It was not a big hit. However, in 1902, he invented the gas-powered lawnmower. It was still a big-ass bitch and made of cast iron, but it didn't weigh a ton. Despite its cost (£137 in 1902—about £15,000 today, which is \$22,000 in Freedom Money), it sold fairly well, and the Ransomes Company makes lawnmowers to this day, focusing on electric mowers and all that fun horse shit.

Edwin George (1919)

Apparently, the first thing you do after a World War is mow the lawn. Colonel Edwin George decided he wanted to make lawn mowers and sell them. He certainly did. He

called it a Moto-Mower, and it was popular until the '50s, when there was an explosion of cheeky fuckers trying to get in on the game.



Briggs and Stratton (1920)

Briggs and Stratton tried to make their own offshoot, and did so, but they did mostly "okay" when it came to sales. Then came 1953, when they developed a lightweight aluminum (yeah, aluminum, not aluminium, you British weirdoes), and then their sales went crazy. Lightweight, easy to use. Almost like what we know today. They used to kick

their employees in the crotch if they didn't make sales, though. Yet they are still around today, and still make lawnmowers. Not sure if they still kick people in the crotch, and their PR department refuses to answer my questions. They also made a six-wheeled gas-electric car, which was the first hybrid, in 1980.



Lazy Man's Power Mower (1961)

Now this, this fucking thing. Developed in 1957, but proper production started in 1961. Have you ever imagined if the Jetsons had a lawn and weren't living in the Space Needle? This is how they'd mow it. It was a ride-on mower with an aircraft-style steering lever. Nothing new at that point. However, according to the press release, it could do anything besides give you oral sex.

To sum up the press release, here are the things it can do.

The 1957 Power Mower of the Future was equipped with a plastic dome, air foam cushion seat, electric generator, running lights, radio, air conditioning, telephone (not sure how that worked...long cable that can't be cut by a lawn mower?), and a cooling system to provide a chilled drink on a hot day. It can be used for many purposes, such as mowing, weeding, feeding, seeding, spraying for insects, plowing snow, and hauling equipment. It can even be used as a golf cart.

Damn. Where did we turn sideways? We could be mowing the lawn in air-conditioned

bubble domes, sipping cold drinks, and can't hear our wife yelling at us because we ran over her garden gnome.



Small Mower Era (1961-Current)

Technical innovation in the field (no pun intended) of mowing lawns seemed to have peaked with the advent of lightweight gas push mowers, but we also have electric ones now, because why use polluting petroleum products when we can strip-mine rare earth metals and make batteries? Toro seems to be leading the pack, though I wonder if a red-colored lawn mower is referential to bullfighting in some way. "Toro, toro!" "Aw shit! A bull is chasing the lawnmower!" All jokes aside, I can, with confidence, say those battery-powered lawnmowers suck out loud. I can add more gas to the regular kind if it runs out, and be ready to go. If my battery runs out, well, guess I'm gonna do my laundry, jack off, and make dinner while it charges.

Before researching for this article, I did not realize just how long lawnmowers have been around. Your great-great-great-grandfather could have had one if he had the dosh. This topic was suggested to me by a friend because I was talking about mowing what little grass is left in my yard, but as a joke. However, write something ridiculous? Don't threaten me with a good time.

Keep your lawns tidy, friends.

-Wombstretcha



Wombstretcha the Magnificent is an avid lawn care enthusiast, bubble dome envier, gas-powered writer, and retired rapper from Portland, Oregon. He can be found at his website, wombstretcha.com, on X as @wombstretcha503, and on MeWe (yay!) and Facebook (boo!), as "Wombstretcha the Magnificent."

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The Lounge

GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

THE LOUNGE 
THELOUNGE_PDX 

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TO MEET
SOME NEW
FACES!**

NOT PICTURED:
Amy, Heather & Rachel

Meagan

Nicole

**BOTTLE SERVICE
AVAILABLE**

**VIP & CHAMPAGNE
ROOMS**

**DAILY HAPPY HOUR
11AM-4PM
\$1 OFF DRAFTS & WELLS**

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QUALIFIER ROUND V
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**SUNDAY FUNDAY!
BRUNCH,**

**BOOBS
& BLOODY MARYS!**

**SIP 'N' SNACK
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