

Whisky lover

Alix Martinez is the marketing director for Brauhaus 701 in midtown and newly opened the Whisky Lounge next door at 711 Virginia St.—both owned by Fady Mehanna. Its grand opening was April 26. Patrons can get a \$26 deal that entitles them to a drink at the Whisky Lounge as well as an appetizer, beer and entree at Brahaus 701.

It's the same owner as Brauhaus? What was the idea behind opening the lounge next door?

The owner—definitely he's passionate about opening up new places that have a unique feel, a unique menu, whether that menu is a beverage menu or if it's a food menu. He wants to offer something that's not normally found in our destination. I think he really nailed it with these two businesses.

Why "whisky" without the "e" in it?

You can definitely refer to [it either way]. But, really, whiskey without the "e" is more geared toward whiskeys globally. We carry 200 different varieties of whiskey—ryes, bourbons and scotches. And what I've learned through sitting at the Whisky Lounge and overhearing some bartenders—and I'm hoping that I have all of this information correct—is that "whisky," that name, follows certain whisky that's made in Kentucky. And



any whiskeys that are not made in Kentucky cannot have the same [spelling.] The only whisky that I know of that's made outside of Kentucky and granted the opportunity to carry the name is Clyde May's Whisky, and they're out of Alabama.

What's the experience like at the Whisky Lounge—flights, tastings?

That's an interesting question—because I think people come for the different theme nights we have, as far as entertainment is concerned. But I think when it comes to actually drinking whiskey, I think they're also coming for the different varieties. I've found that a lot of people who walk

through the door—they come in for a drink, but they stay for two or more because they want to sample all that we have to offer. We have whiskeys ... from all around the globe. So once you start getting into them and learning more about how they're made, it really intrigues you to try another. ... The list that was put together for the Whisky Lounge ... was very carefully selected by some of the industry's finest whiskey and spirits professionals ... and put together to where there are some varieties that [in Reno] are only offered at the Whisky Lounge.

What are some of the themed nights happening?

Thursday nights we do a jazz night. We've had live jazz bands. We've also had very interesting instruments—like the Chapman Stick. I didn't know what that was until I looked it up. He's phenomenal. And I feel like we're trying to just, really, create a different vibe in an intimate environment. ... On Friday nights we also have a DJ that's playing '80s and '90s music. That's something we don't see too often here in the Reno area. And that's DJ Rooney. Saturdays we also have a DJ. We're going to be filling other nights as well. ... Happy hour is 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., and each week we're featuring five different bottles to try at a discount. And each bottle is going to come with a story. The bartenders are going to be able to tell you everything about that particular bottle of liquor. □

NOTES FROM THE NEON BABYLON

BY BRUCE VAN DYKE

Game days

The hot new cocktail in the D.C. Beltway—Subpoena Colada!

Back in October, just before The Blue Wave crashed upon the electoral shore, I put forth the notion that impeaching Dum Dum wasn't really all that important, because the main work of hassling Trump into some serious Excedrin headaches could more quickly happen courtesy of the committees, not actual impeachment. With just slightly fewer than 377 committees crawling up Trump's Tailpipe (and the kids are finally getting a bit of ye old stinkeye, which is fun), we can now see the full flowering of this blitzkrieg, and appreciate that it will do two things: (1) piss Twitler off on a regular basis (Trump Rages!), and (2) keep the federal government relatively inert, since Dipshit now has to spend a considerable chunk of each day on the horn with his busy, busy, busy legal

team. Indeed, it may be cutting into his Fox Time. (Trump Rages!)

Seriously, if you're a Dub, was that Game 6 in Houston Da Shit, or what? I mean, I love KD, big time, he's a savior and a savant, but it was just such a righteous blast to see the Dubs of '15 again, with Iggy, Livingston and Bogut, along with Steff, Dray and Klay. So Game 6 was Steff gettin' Stupid (finally!), and it should be said out loud once in a while that The Dubs simply wouldn't be *special* without him, who is as electrifying in his way as Usain Bolt or Tiger Woods are in theirs. (And Tiger pissed off Cablanasians around the country with his recent logroll with Dum Dum. Watch out, Tiger, because *everything* Trump touches dies.)

As for The Day Dany GOT Her Groove Back, yes, there are some

rushed story lines in the finish of *Thrones*, for sure. That happens more often than not, as blockbuster TV shows wrap themselves up. But last week's episode, called "The Bells"—some of the cast thought the better title would have just been "Holy Shit!"—Dany and Drogon's Conflagration on the Congregation was pretty much The Big Payoff, as us viewers were blown up in the visceral and eviscerating spectacle of the greatest Godzilla shit ever. Always a sucker for big badass reptiles, I found I really didn't give a shit about credulity stretching stuff (shouldn't Jamie have bled out way before he got to Cersei?) because DANY'S FLAMING JOY RIDE WAS SO INSANELY BODACIOUSLY MONDO NUTSO!

So now there are but 80 minutes left in this 80-hour romp. Will they stick the landing? □



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