

DESERT

APRIL 2017

OUTLOOK

PARTY GUY

GAY CANDIDATE
COURTS
CALIFORNIA
DEMOCRATS

POUR IT UP

SPEAKEASIES
EMERGE AS
NIGHTLIFE
TREND

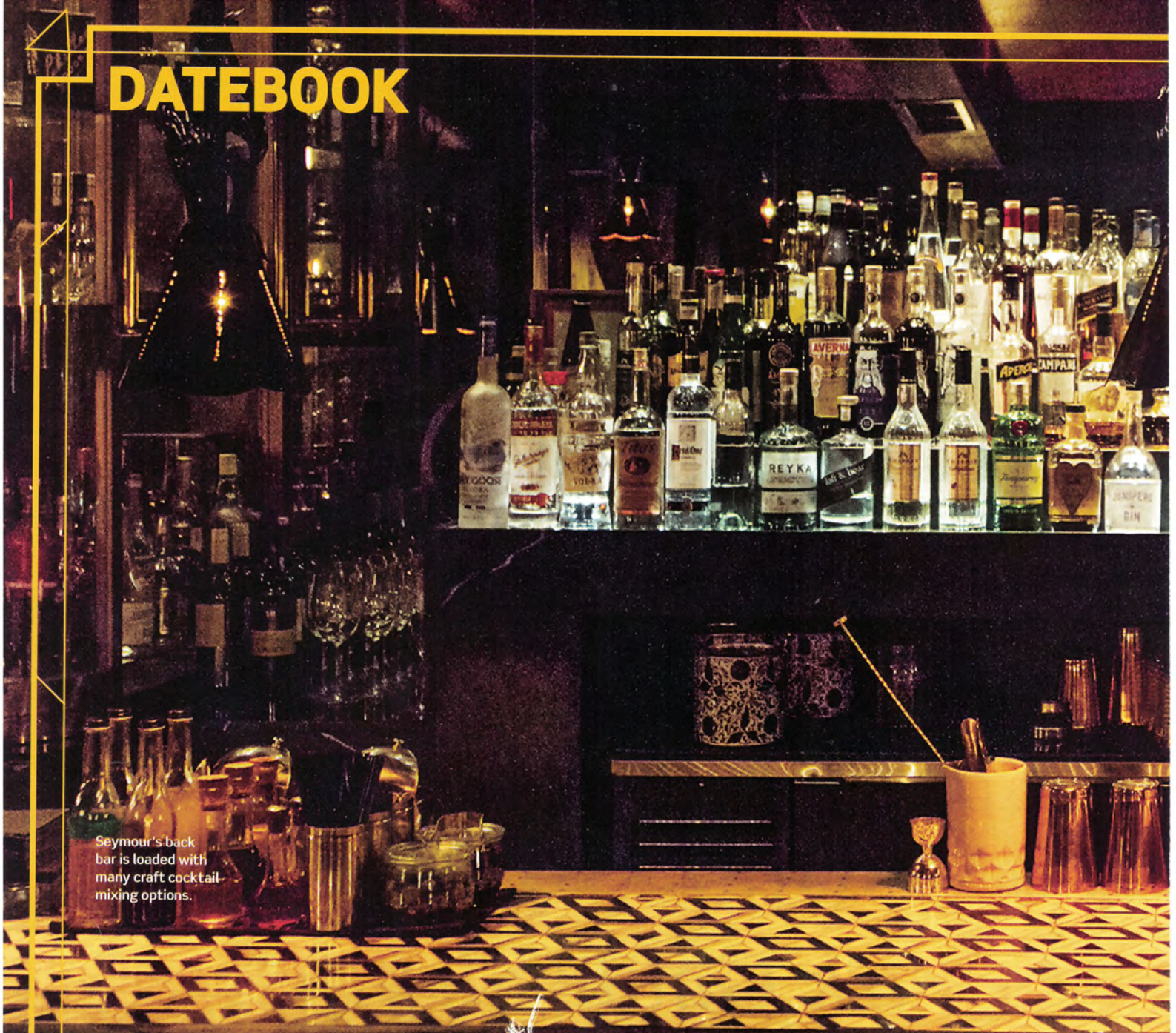
MEN'S
ACTIVWEAR
SCORES POINTS
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5TH
ANNIVERSARY
ISSUE

LET'S GET PHYSICAL



DATEBOOK



Seymour's back bar is loaded with many craft cocktail mixing options.



**WITH SPEAKEASIES,
RESTAURATEURS &
BARKEEPS LIVEN
DESERT NIGHTLIFE**



CHEERS & CHARMS

BY PATRICK BARTLETT | PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAKE STANFORD

Watering holes are continually evolving. There's more to choose from these days than neighborhood bars with beer taps and fancy hotel bars where bartenders with bow-ties shake (not stir) gin martinis. Many of today's bartenders prefer to be called "mixologists," mad scientists elevating the cocktail experience with amazing artistry. And craft cocktails are their signature drinks at lounges and restaurants all over town. Even better, another trend taking the libation experience to the next level is the speakeasy. ¶ As many of you may know, speakeasies were an illicit underground bar experience during the prohibition era of 1920 to 1933. Speakeasies fundamentally disappeared after the repeal of the Volstead Act. As with many retro trends, the speakeasy concept and look are making a fun comeback in many major cities. San Francisco's are so popular it is sometimes hard to obtain entrance without a weeks-long reservation. ¶ Speakeasies also are gradually growing in numbers in Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley. To help you rediscover this fun bar concept, Desert Outlook presents here three speakeasies catering to nightlife connoisseurs in the city of Palm Springs and a fourth that's expected to open soon in Palm Desert. »Continued on PAGE 48

SEYMOUR'S

Co-proprietor Steen Bojsen-Møller, along with Tara Lazar, established Seymour's at the elegant Mr. Lyon's Steakhouse on Palm Springs' South Palm Canyon Drive. Located in a back room of the restaurant, it evokes an era of swanky bars. While secret knocks and passwords are not needed to gain entrance, the speakeasy spirit is reflected in other ways. For example, there is no signage for the bar; you simply have to be "in the know."

When entering the small intimate space, you are immediately taken back in time thanks to low lights, a moody feel, and wonderfully creative drinks, along with a black and white TV embedded in the dark mirrored back wall of the bar. The space also offers an outdoor patio with comfy seating and bocce ball courts for added fun.

Seymour's at Mr. Lyons Steakhouse, 233 East Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, (760) 327-1551, 6 p.m. to midnight Tues., Wed., Thurs. and Sunday; 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday/Saturday, <https://www.facebook.com/seymourspalmsprings/>.

Seymour's
intimate
room seats
about 22
people.



Steen Bojsen-Møller of Seymour's adds finishing touches to a Chamomile Sidecar, Oaxacan Brunch, and Little Al.





CLOCKWISE:
 Greenwich Sour is a mix of rye whiskey, egg white and red wine at dish After Dark. • dish After Dark mixologist Morray McKee presents her three specialties (left to right): Greenwich Sour, Vesper and Amelia. • The dish After Dark craft cocktail Amelia is a mix of vodka, St. Germaine and muddled blackberries. • Between her soulful jazz and blues standards, Keisha D spends a little time getting to know guests at dish After Dark.

DISH CREATIVE CUISINE

Located in the heart of Palm Springs Uptown Design District, dish Creative Cuisine offers its version of a speakeasy on Saturday nights. The main dining room is transformed into "dish After Dark: a Speakeasy" from 10 p.m. to midnight every Saturday. Its list of cocktails contains retro speakeasy names. Patrons also experience live music featuring vocalist Kiesha D, who takes listeners back to the prohibition era courtesy of her swanky, cool, bluesy jazz styling. Keisha D has speakeasy cred from frequently sneaking into LA jazz clubs at age 16 to sing.

Visitors to After Dark Speakeasy have two options. The first option is to reserve dinner for dish's final sitting of the night, securing a table in the dining room where Keisha D moves through the audience with a live combo backing her up. The second option is the bar at the front of the restaurant, where guests can hang at the bar, a bar table, or the low sofa area and just chill to the music with a craft cocktail.

dish After Dark: a Speakeasy, 1107 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, (760) 322-7171 10 p.m. to midnight Saturdays. dishcreativecuisine.com.



DEAD OR ALIVE

Dead or Alive is an ultra-cool wine and beer bar that carries the speakeasy mystique simply by offering no signage. It's a word-of-mouth or stumble-upon bar on Palm Springs' South Palm Canyon Drive, next to the well-known Mexican eatery El Mirasol. It's open daily from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. the next day. The space is intimate, minimalist, and very dark with strong accented lights on the bar and a large orange sphere at the end of the bar that creates an amazing glow in the space.

Founded by Christine Soto, Dead or Alive caters to wine and beer lovers with discerning taste. It was designed by Palm Springs native Anthony Cioffi, who also assisted in the design of Bar in the Palm Springs Uptown Design District.

150 East Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, (385) 645-3323, 5 p.m. to midnight Monday through Thursday, 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, deadoralivebar.com.



Whiskey One Eleven's plan includes allowing guests to design their own flight of craft whiskeys.

WHISKEY ONE ELEVEN

Whiskey One Eleven is expected to open during the spring in the former Third Corner Bistro and Wine Bar space off El Paseo in Palm Desert. Its whiskey-tasting concept will offer more than 100 craft whiskeys and a proprietary house blend. The speakeasy will be located in the basement of the space where you can enjoy craft cocktails and design your own whiskey tasting flights. To enjoy the speakeasy experience you will need to become a member of its whiskey club.

Whiskey One Eleven, 73101 Highway 111, Palm Desert. 10 a.m. Saturday to 2 a.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday, 12 p.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Friday, whiskey111.com.