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NIGHTLIFESTYLE

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the players ISSUE

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new features
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ALEXIS CONTANT



Ed and Joe Kane

Brothers Ed and Joe Kane have been fixtures on the suburban dining scene since 1989, but it wasn't until '96, when they launched their outdoor Quincy club WaterWorks, that they started keeping later hours — and luring faithful Bostonians south of the city. Recently, the pair partnered with the Lyons Group to open the swank Mansion in the Alley. And with their latest venture, Big Night Entertainment Group, the Kanes are taking nightlife to the next level, already hosting events such as the launch of Silk Vodka, the Little Black Dress Party, and the Ultimate White Party.

Joanne Chang

She may have studied applied mathematics and economics at Harvard, but it was Joanne Chang's sweet tooth that forged her future. After a stint in the corporate world, Chang went on to work in a few well-loved foodie establishments before opening her own bakery/café, Flour, in the South End. She recently opened a second — much larger — Flour in Fort Point, and she and fiancé Christopher Myers (of Radius, Via Matta, and Great Bay fame) have plans to open a hip Asian eatery this summer, not far from the original Flour. Professional accomplishments aside, inquiring minds want to know how the always-svelte Chang avoids packing on those pastry pounds. The answer? She's completed every Boston Marathon since 1991.



JOANNE CHANG

Michael Williams and David Collins, creators of *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*, and designer Marcel Wanders and Puma brand director Antonio Bertone, who are collaborating on a spring 2007 line. The design diva also created the Plush membership program, which allows regular folks access to BDC-housed luxury goods that are usually only available to the pros. Contant's willingness to make big moves makes sense, considering that she's a Texas Hold 'Em champ who's competed both in the US and abroad.

Jess Meyer

South Boston isn't generally a place known for its sense of style — unless jeans and Sox caps are suddenly considered cutting edge — but designer Jess Meyer of Myre Designs is helping her 'hood's fashion quotient. The former TV and film art director has an eye for the interesting, as evidenced by the way her work pairs classic silhouettes with edgy finishing details. The result is a hip, urban elegance that's hard to come by (or even imagine, for that matter, without the right kind of vision). Meyer, whose limited-edition pieces are available at her studio and in the South End boutique Turtle, is already looking ahead to her spring '08 line, comprised of hand-tailored jackets, dresses with lambskin appliques, and Italian-wool trousers — all of which may help put Southie on the fashion map.

Aaron Belyea

Aaron Belyea may have named his graphic-design studio for a tattoo that encircles his arm, but that doesn't mean he's not a true professional — it just means he's also at least a little bit of a bad-ass. The self-taught senior designer and owner of Alphabet Arm



ED AND JOE KANE



JESS MEYER

Alexis Contant

She may be a native New Yorker, but we won't hold that against Alexis Contant, the recently promoted vice president and general manager of the Boston Design Center. Since she joined the center's team four years ago, Contant has brought in style gurus like

