



THROW A BBQ THAT HAS FIREWORKS FOOD {page 20}

PACKING FOR A ONE-NIGHT STAND WELLBEING {page 11}



OPRAH HAS STILL GOT THE POWER {page 07}



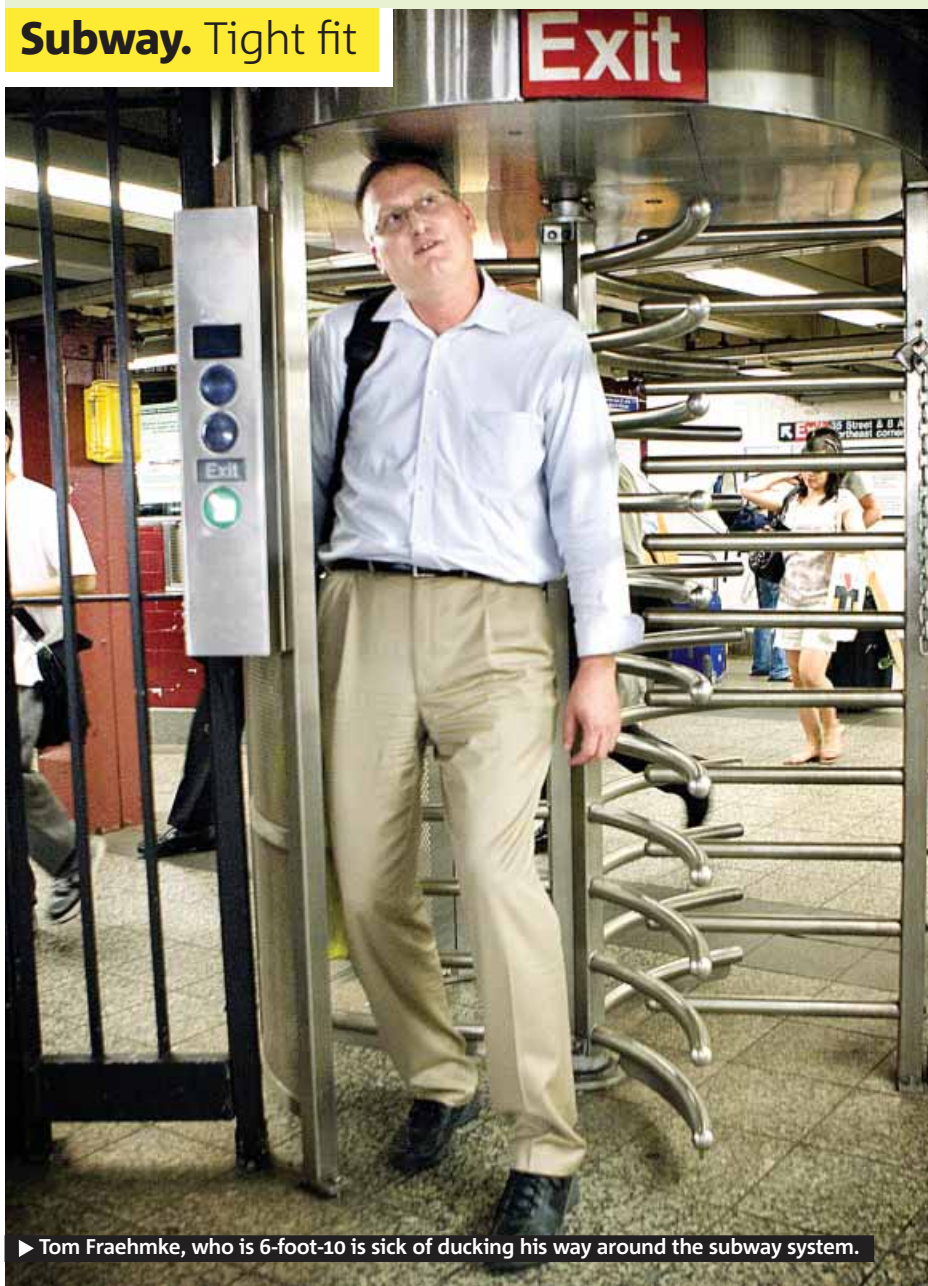
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Wednesday, June 30, 2010
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EMILY ANNE EPSTEIN/METRO

Subway. Tight fit



▶ Tom Fraehmke, who is 6-foot-10 is sick of ducking his way around the subway system.

Must be this tall to ride subways

Too tall for the subway? New security cameras could be in violation of Americans with Disabilities requirements that they be 80 inches off the ground. Metro measured cameras, exit signs and other items below that height. For straphangers who stand 6-foot-4 or taller, the subway can be a daily obstacle course. One guy even knocked himself unconscious trying to get through a turnstile. {page 02}

Not just spies: Feds net Russian madam

▶ Wealthy professionals paid up to \$1,000 to come in from the cold ▶ Madam tried to buy protection from undercover posing as dirty law enforcement {page 04}

News

Spy candy: A Russian bombshell

▶ Pictures of the hot redhead officials say was under deep cover in US ▶ Putin fears bust hurts relations {page 06}

Does it 'Eclipse' the others?

Latest installment of the 'Twilight' saga reviewed {page 16}



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The hummus debate {page 09}

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at home with metro

Matthew Blesso's two-bedroom loft boasts sustainable design, cool art
and an outdoor shower ▶ We're green with envy

ALL PHOTOS EMILY ANNE EPSTEIN/METRO



A bachelor's paradise

▶ This table was carved from one fallen tree from the Pennsylvania wilderness.



▶ Mirror, mirror on the Green wall

His green (bath)room

The bathroom takes center stage in the loft with its Green wall — a living wall of plants growing in 12-inch square panels packed with soil. The wall hangs on an aluminum grid system that climbs up to the bulkhead skylight above. Teak wood countertops and a steam room round out the bathroom's living jungle vibe.

High above the No-Ho bustle and not too far from heaven, birch trees and a sedum-planted wall enclose real estate developer Matthew Blesso's rooftop paradise. The luxurious outdoor space includes a fully stocked kitchen with a grill, plush white couches, a pro-

jection screen, hot tub and an outdoor shower. You'll only see these amenities by invitation (or helicopter) — Blesso placed a high value on seclusion when choosing the home. "If I could take a shower naked on my roof, that would meet my requirement for privacy," he says.

The 37-year-old designed his exterior and interior (a two-bedroom loft sits below his urban garden) according to his own taste and green lifestyle, intentionally blurring the line between indoors and outdoors.

JILL GUTEKUNST
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▶ "This is the most bold, idiosyncratic thing I've done, but people like it," Blesso says.

His custom kitchen

An avid cook, Blesso often entertains in the kitchen, and his expansive table ensures a place for every

guest. Carved from one enormous fallen tree in the Pennsylvania wilderness, the 1,000-pound dining behemoth had to be hoisted into the loft by a pulley system.



▶ The study

How he keeps the noise down

"In NYC, good insulation makes good neighbors," says Blesso. The loft's efficient insulation, made from recycled fibers including denim, keeps the peace.

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► Blesso grows veggies, collects rainwater and hosts slamming parties here.

His rooftop sanctuary

Blesso's greenroof system absorbs rainwater in layers of felt supported by

plastic dimpled egg crates. The system reduces storm runoff and minimizes irrigation. Plus, it keeps the mint growing fresh for mojitos.

His very own art gallery

The loft features an eclectic collection of art curated by Blesso himself. Graffiti artist Doze Green (www.doze.green.com) created the serene blue figures sweeping the interior walls in the living area. A hazy Buddha in the bedroom keeps vigil over Blesso's bed, and a glowing skeleton of Blesso's own X-rays, backlit by an LED screen, welcomes guests in the hall.



► The living room

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