

Emergency PrideFest Town Hall Set

NEWS

Anti-Gay DOMA Bill
Passes in Assembly R.4

ADVICE

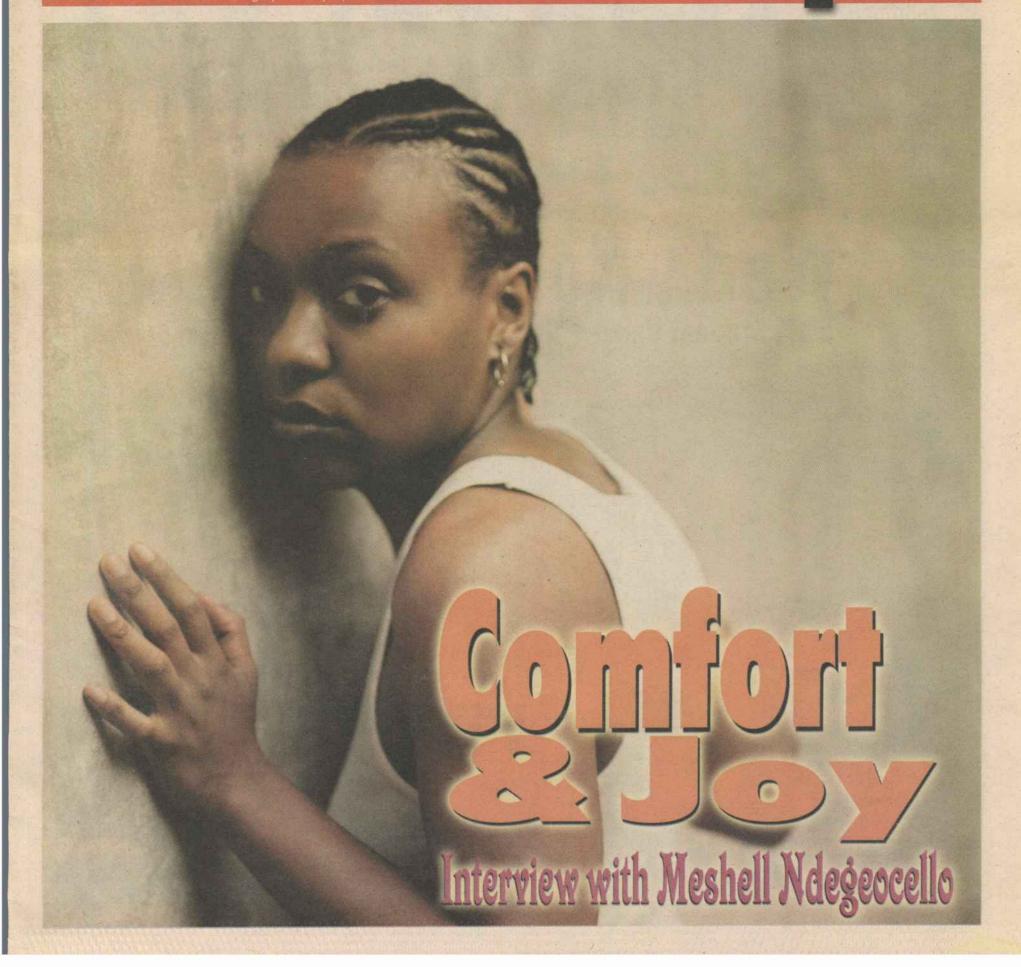
Dear Ruthie Answers
Your Questions P. 28

Wisconsin

Step

Wisconsin's lesbian & gay newspaper of record since 1984 ■ Issue 20.22 ■ Nov. 6, 2003

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How big is the PrideFest debt?

What went wrong?

How can PrideFest be reorganized and more accountable?

What is the plan?

What are people contributing to?

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PRIDEFEST TOWN HALL MEETING

Wed., Nov. 12 @ 7p.m.
UWM Student Union • Room 181 • 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd.

PRIDEFEST COMMUNITY
TASK FORCE MEMBERS:

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Wisconsin IN Step

Issue 20.22 • PrideFest Clean-Up

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Emergency PrideFest Town Hall Meeting Scheduled For November 12

Milwaukee — All community members are urged to attend a town hall meeting that will address PrideFest's debt crisis and discuss opportunities for ensuring the continuation of Milwaukee's pride festival. A slate of strategic recommendations, as drafted by the recently formed PrideFest Advisory Committee (a working group of LGBT organizations and leaders), will be presented at the meeting. Additional opportunity will be available for questions and answers.

The town hall meeting will be held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 12 in Room 181 of the UWM Union. The event will be hosted by the Cream City Foundation (CCF) and the UWM LGBT Resource Center.

The meeting will address why PrideFest is in its current financial situation; a detailed fundraising plan to keep the festival from declaring bankruptcy and losing the Summerfest grounds; and contingency plans in case the funds are not raised.

PrideFest's debt stands at approximately \$120,000, according to CCF, which has stepped in to lead the effort to save the festival. An independent audit is due to be completed in coming weeks.

On October 27, CCF hosted a meeting of diverse community members during which the group voted to investigate options for dissolving the organization that annually produces the PrideFest festival. Moreover, the community group decided to endorse a plan to repay PrideFest's debt, thereby avoiding bankruptcy. Declaring bankruptcy would likely mean that PrideFest would never again be held at the Summerfest grounds.

"We've worked hard to identify a viable way for this debt to be retired so that the festival can live to see another day," said CCF's Jennnifer Gryniewicz. "The festival's future is threatened and we now must turn to the community for its support."

CCF and members of the Advisory Committee have been working with vendors to negotiate terms of the debt repayment. All vendors have been contacted and payment schedules have been put in place. The debt repayment plan includes an aggressive fundraising campaign to meet requirements of the vendors who are owed money. The plan was developed by a core group of Advisory Committee members: CCF President Denise Wise, Brenda Coley, Susan Cook, Scott Gunkel, Peter Minns, Cindy Taylor, Paul Williams, and CCF Executive Director Jennifer Gryniewicz.

"PrideFest is an essential event to our community. The success of this plan depends upon the involvement of the community. If you believe that having a pride festival in Milwaukee is important, it is critical that you attend this meeting," said Neil Albrecht, Executive Director of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center.

For more information about the town hall, call CCF at (414) 225-0244.

Assembly Passes Anti-Gay DOMA Bill 69-28

Johnsrud Break With GOP Leadership

> Democrats Claim They Can Sustain Expected Veto

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Madison - After more than three hours of sometimes acrimonious debate, the Wisconsin Assembly passed the socalled "Defense of Marriage Act" by a vote of 68 to 29 in the early evening of October 25. Characterized by lead sponsor Mark Gundrum (R-New Berlin) as "an affirmation of the institution of traditional marriage" and alternately by Rep. Marlin Schneider (D-Wisconsin Rapids) as a means "to rally those homophobic zealots that you (Republicans) call your supporters," the bill will replace the current "husband and wife" definition of marriage with the definition of marriage a being between "one man and one woman."

Despite the Assembly vote, it is unlikely the bill will become law. In the final minuets of the debate Schneider claimed that the Democrats in the Assembly have more than the 33 votes the Assembly to sustain any veto. The minority, s leadership had encouraged representatives to do what was necessary for their districts since the bill, as written, does not change the current public policy in any way.

Gay activists are also buoyed by the "nay" vote case by moderate GOP Rep. DuWayne Johnsrud (R-Eastman), who broke ranks with his party,s leadership to vote against the bill. Capitol insiders claim that in the last decade it has been rare to see any Assembly Republicans vote against their leadership. GOP insiders also have indicated that the failure of a widely rumored second GOP vote against the bill is all that kept several other party moderates for joining Johnsrud.

"It's just a misdirected public policy. What purpose does it serve? I know what a wife looks like and what a husband looks like. It's a divisive bill that targets a certain population." Johnsrud said, as

reported in The Capital Times.

Action Wisconsin lobbied hard against the bill. During the floor vote Rep. Mark Pocan (D-Madison) reported the group, sefforts resulted in "a total of over 8,000 messages in opposition to this bill" were registered in the seven weeks following the bill, sintroduction. The AW press release claimed "Despite our best efforts to persuade legislators to oppose it, fear — and the far right that peddles it — won this round".

On-the-record opposition to the measure doubled from the last time a similar DOMA bill reached a floor vote. The 1997 Assembly vote was 78-20. Ten Democrats also spoke against AB475 during the floor debate, a more than 300% increase since the AB-104 debate.

Voting for passage were: John Ainsworth (R-Shawano), Sheryl Albers (R-Loganville), Garey Bies (R-Sister Bay). David Cullen (D-Milwaukee), Jeff Fitzgerald (R-Beaver Dam), Steven Foti (R-Oconomowoc), Stephen Freese (R-Dodgeville), Donald Friske (R-Merrill), John Gard (R-Peshtigo), Curt Gielow (R-Mequon), Mark Gottlieb (R-Port Washington), Barbara Gronemus (D-Whitehall), Glenn Grothman (R-West Bend), Scott Gunderson (R-Waterford), Mark Gundrum (R-New Berlin), Eugene Hahn (R-Cambria), J.A. "Doc" Hines (R-Oxford), Mark Honadel (R-South Milwaukee), Gregory Huber (D-Wausau), Mary Hubler (D-Rice Lake), Jean Hundertmark (R-Clintonville), Scott Jensen (R-Waukesha), Suzanne Jeskewitz (R-Menomonee Falls), Dean Kaufert (R-Neenah), Samantha Kerkman (R-Powers Lake), Steve Kestell (R-Elkhart Lake), Judy Krawczyk (R-Green Bay), Robin Kreibich (R-Eau Claire), Margaret Krusick (D-Milwaukee), Bonnie Ladwig (R-Racine), Frank Lasee (R-Bellevue), Michael Lehman (R-Hartford), Daniel LeMahieu (R-Oostburg), Gabe Loeffelholz (R-Platteville), Thomas Lothian (R-Williams Bay), Terri McCormick (R-Appleton), Dan Meyer (R-Eagle River), Phil Montgomery (R-Green Bay), Johnnie Morris (D-Milwaukee), Terry Musser (R-Black River

Falls), Stephen Nass (R-Whitewater), Ann Nischke (R-Waukesha), Luther Olsen (R-Berlin), Alvin Ott (R-Forest Junction), Carol Owens (R-Oshkosh), Jerry Petrowski (R-Marathon), Mark Pettis (R-Hertel), Michael Powers (R-Albany), Kitty Rhoades (R-Hudson), Lorraine Seratti (R-Spread Eagle), Tony Staskunas (D-West Allis), Jeff Stone (R-Greenfield), Scott Suder (R-Abbottsford), Debi Towns (R-Janesville), John Townsend (R-Fond du Lac), Gregg Underheim (R-Oshkosh), Terry Van Akkeren (D-Sheboygan), Karl Van Roy (R-Green Bay), Daniel Vrakas (R-Hartland), Leah Vukmir, (R-Wauwatosa), David Ward (R-Fort Atkinson), Becky Weber (R-Green Bay), Steve Wieckert (R-Appleton), Annette Williams (D-Milwaukee), Mary Williams (R-Medford), Jeffrey Wood (R-Chippewa Falls), Wayne Wood (D-Janesville), and Robert Ziegelbauer (D-Manitowoc).

Voting against the bill were: Larry Balow (D-Eau Claire), Terese Berceau (D-Madison).

Spencer Black (D-Madison), Frank Boyle (D-Superior), G. Spencer Coggs (D-Milwaukee), Pedro Colon (D-Milwaukee), Tom Hebl (D-Sun Prairie), DuWayne Johnsrud (R-Eastman), James Kreuser (D-Kenosha), Shirley Krug (D-Milwaukee), John Lehman (D-Racine), Mark Miller (D-Monona), Louis Molepske (D-Stevens Point), Joe Plouff (D-Menomonie), Mark Pocan (D-Madison), Sandy Pope-Roberts (D-Verona), Ion Richards (D-Milwaukee), Marlin Schneider (D-Wis. Rapids), Gary Sherman (D-Port Wing), Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse), Christine Sinicki (D-Milwaukee), John Steinbrink (D-Pleasant Prairie), Lena Taylor (D-Milwaukee), David Travis (D-Madison), Robert Turner (D-Racine), Amy Sue Vruwink (D-Milladore), Sheldon Wasserman (D-Milwaukee), Leon Young (D-Milwaukee), and Josh Zepnick (D-Milwaukee).

Not voting were Michael Huebsch (R-West Salem) and Dan Schooff (D-Beloit).

The Senate is currently expected to hold a vote on companion bill SB233 in early November.

EDITORIAL

Breaking News, Breaking With the Past

s IN Step was heading to the printer, two "stop the presses!" events occurred almost simultaneously. On November 5 the Wisconsin Senate approved the so-called "Defense of Marriage" (DOMA) bill by a vote of 22-10. The night before the interim committee overseeing the reorganization of Milwaukee's PrideFest announced an emergency town hall meeting for November 12 at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Student Union.

While the DOMA bill might seem more problematic, Governor Doyle's already-announced intention to veto the needless legislation combined with Democrat officials assurances that they have the votes to sustain the gubernatorial decision made the Senate vote merely a matter of purely partisan politics. What has been heartening is the nearly universal hue and cry from the media and business sectors decrying the GOP leadership's senseless preoccupation with "guns and gays" while the state's economy falters. What a change from the deafening silence of the mainstream community in the past when the Radical Right and their Republicans puppets decided to legislatively bash the gay community!

Conversely, the upcoming town hall meeting on the

future of PrideFest may be shaping up to be a lifechanging event for the Milwaukee LGBT community. The interim committee event being hosted by the Cream City Foundation and the LGBT Resource Center at UW-M promises to reveal not only how massive the 2003 loss was (will we hear \$120,000?) but how the committee proposes to pay off critical chunks of that debt.

It is not clear to that the debt can actually be paid or retired. The amount that must be raised by year's end is likely to be in the range of \$58,000! This doesn't even count the additional amounts that must be raised to put on the festival next year and more bills are apparently coming in!

I know we've all heard "dire" news reports and sat through "important" town meetings before. What's different this time is a genuine crisis exists. The 2003 PrideFest loss threatens numerous future LGBT-positive programs and organizations. Decisions made November 12 may impact a generation of gay Milwaukeans.

How our community bites this bitter bullet should not be left to soley the current leadership within our community. Your active attendance and involvement at the November 12 town hall meeting is critical.

Your future quality of life as a gay citizen living in the state's largest LGBT community likely will be impacted. Plan to be in Room 181 of the UW-M Student Union at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. November 12.

-William Attewell

It is Official: Robinson is the First Gay Episcopal Bishop

Durham, N.H. — On November 2 the U.S. Episcopal Church took the historic step of consecrating the denomination's first openly gay bishop, prompting divisive reactions in many parts of the world.

Before a congregation of about 4,000 people standing in a University of New Hampshire sports arena, 45 bishops laid their hands on Rev. V. Gene Robinson, 56, while the head of the Episcopal Church, Bishop Frank Griswold, prayed: "Father, make Gene a bishop in your church."

Robinson's spouse of 15 years, Mark Andrew, presented him with the traditional headdress of bishops, a gold miter.

Filled with emotion, and nearly on the verge of tears, Robinson told the New Hampshire congregation that elected him their bishop: "You cannot imagine what an honor it is for you to have called me."

Then Robinson spoke of his critics. "There are faithful, wonderful Christian people for whom this is a moment of great pain and confusion and anger. And our God will be served if we are hospitable and loving and caring toward them in every way we can possibly muster. They must know that if they must leave, they will always be welcomed back into our fellowship."

But members are already leaving the church.

On Nov. 3, the Miami Herald reported more than 40 members left their church. The newspaper predicted the nation's most conservative dioceses, such as those in Pittsburgh, Dallas and South Carolina, would leave the Episcopal Church in weeks.

Meanwhile the worldwide Anglican Communion, to which the Episcopal Church belongs, also grappled with Robinson's elevation to bishop.

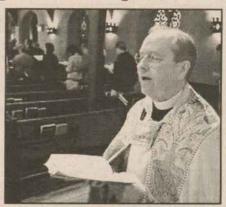
Reuters reported worldwide condemnation of Robinson's elevation. Kenya's archbishop, for example, cut all ties with the U.S. church while Nigeria's Anglican leader Peter Akinola said, "We cannot and will not recognize the office or ministry of Canon Gene Robinson as a bishop."

Reuters also quoted Archbishop Greg Venables, the Anglican leader in South America, as saying "The United States have declared independence. I think the chances of consensus are very slim."

"It's going to be a hard time for a while," observed the Rev. Lee Shaw, an openly gay pastor of St. James Church in Midvale, Utah.

"I know that we have a number of people in the church who are upset and angry," said Shaw. "My hope is that people will see in Gene Robinson what people in New Hampshire see: that he is a wonderful person and a wonderful addition to the church."

The president of Integrity, the group that supports the inclusion of GLBT members in the Episcopal and Anglican



Bishop. V. Gene Robinson

congregations, said she thinks eventually people will accept Robinson.

"Any time you take a step toward justice you leave people behind," the Rev. Susan Russell explained. "We heard about splits with women in the '70s and segregation in the '60s."

"Not only will the number of those who leave be relatively few," she predicted, "But I think people will be drawn to us. This is an opportunity of evangelism for us."

Russell mentioned while she was at the ceremony she saw Barbara Harris, the first woman to be ordained as a bishop.

"At that point we had the same rumors that the church would split," Russell recalled. "Now we have 14 women bishops in the Episcopal church. I think in 10 years we'll have half a dozen gay bishops."

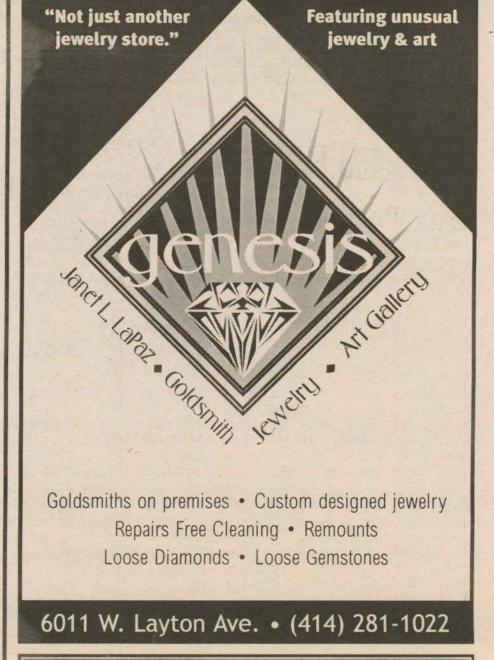
"I think we have a lot more to be excited about than worried about," Russell concluded.

Gay GOP Groups Delay Endorsemen

Washington — Unlike their Democratic Party counterparts, gay Republican activists have just one, rather than nine, candidates to choose from for their party's 2004 presidential nomination. And that one candidate, President George W. Bush, is seen as the nation's most gay-supportive Republican president ever by many gay members of the GOP.

Yet leaders of the nation's two most prominent national gay Republican organizations say their respective groups — Log Cabin Republicans and the Republican Unity Coalition — are withholding a decision on whether to endorse the president for at least the next several months.

Patrick Guerriero, executive director of LCR, and Charles Francis, chair of the RUC, said the two groups want to see which side Bush and the Republican Party take on a proposed constitutional amendment seeking to ban same-sex marriage before they decide on an endorsement.





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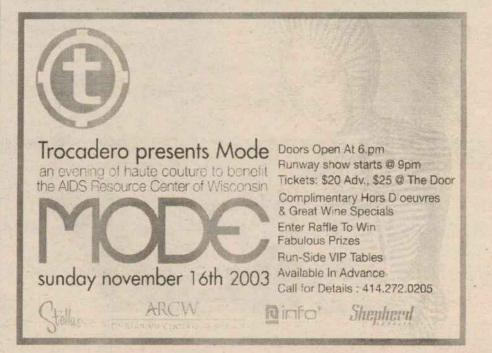
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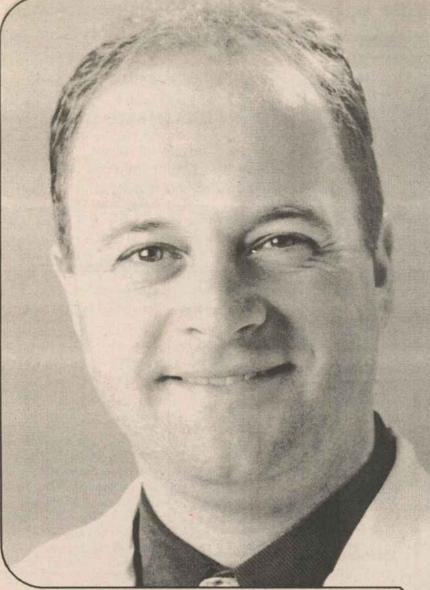
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GROUP NOTES

UW's Hot-Selling Gay Books Topic at Frontiers Forum

Madison - A best-selling series of gay and lesbian books, published by the University of Wisconsin Press, will be the topic of discussion at the November 22 forum of Frontiers.

The Madison-area gay men's club will hear about the popular "Living Out" series from Raphael Kadushin, the UW editor who conceived he idea for it. The forum will take place Saturday, Nov. 22, 8 p.m. at the Unitarian Meeting House (west living room), 900 University Bay Dr., Madison.

The Living Out series consists mostly of biographies and memoirs, but Kadushin stresses that they are not just coming-out stories, but a reflection of a wide range of experiences with different voices and ethnicities.

The series' first great success was the collection "Farm Boys" by Will Fellows. In it, each of 35 men relates his personal story about growing up gay in the rural Midwest. Later series titles included "Eminent Maricones" by Jaime Manrique, "Keep the River on the Right" by Tobias Schneebaum, and Edmund White's "Loss Within Loss: Artists in the age of AIDS."

At the Frontiers meeting, Kadushin will review several new titles in the series, including "Cleopatra's Wedding Present," a romantic travelogue set in exotic Syria. This book is a current reading selection of the Brown Bag Book Club, which joins Frontiers in co-sponsoring the Forum appearance of Raphael Kadushin.

Frontiers invites any friends who might

be interested in hearing about some new gay reading opportunities to attend the forum. For more information contact Dennis at: (608) 839-4060: e-mail: dbergren@verizon.net.

Rainbow U: "Building **Financial Freedom** for Gays and Lesbians"

Milwaukee - Wondering how to achieve greater financial security especially given the barriers that face gay and lesbian people? For gays and lesbians, reaching the goal of financial freedom sometimes means taking a different route to get where you want to be. The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center's Rainbow U Lecture on Nov. 20 could be a first step in getting on the right track.

Presenter John Witczak, Financial Services Representative, will show you how to take control of your finances and protect yourself and your loved ones. At this seminar, you will learn what important actions, specific steps and strategies you can take now to meet both your short and longterm financial goals.

Witczak brings 18 years experience in the financial services industry to helping people make their financial goals a reality. Join him on Thursday, Nov. 20, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at 315 W. Court Street. Refreshments will be served.

Rainbow U Lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Center's Director of Programs at (414) 271-2656.

Madison to Mark Transgender Day of Remembrance Nov. 20

Madison - A candlelight vigil to commemorate the 5th annual Transgender Day of Remembrance will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 20 in the Library Mall at the University of Wisconsin.

Speakers are expected to include County Sup. Kyle Richmond, Alderman Mike Verveer, State Rep. Mark Pocan. Madison Police Detective Alix Olson, Christopher Ott of Action Wisconsin, and Rae Knittel of the Madison Area Transgender Association. The vigil will also feature poetry and a skit by Proud Theater.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance was started in 1999as a response to the growing issue of anti-transgender violence around the country, resulting in several deaths. Last year, the Transgender Day of Remembrance was observed in 90 locations in eight different countries. The Madison vigil is being sponsored by the Madison Area Transgender Association. OutReach, Inc., WORT Radio, and the LGBT Campus Center.

For more information, visit www.rememberingourdead.org. Remembering Our Dead is a project of Gender Education & Advocacy Inc. For more information on the Madison Vigil, call (608) 255-8582.

Inte-Generational **Thanksgiving Dinner** Set for Nov. 29

Milwaukee - The lesbian Alliance of metro Milwaukee, Project Q, Parents. Families and Friends of lesbians and gays and Senior Action in a Gay Environment are joining together to host the second annual Inter-generational Family Thanksgiving Dinner from 5-7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 29 at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.

The turkey will be furnished as well as plates, napkins and tableware. Another treat will be some get-acquainted games and conversation. Anyone who wants to attend is asked to RSVP by Nov. 19 and also bring a dish to share at the dinner. Individuals whose last names begin with A to K should bring breads or salads; L to S. side dishes; and T to Z, desserts.

Those wishing to attend can RSVP to either LAMM at (414) 272-9442, or SAGE at (414) 224-0517.

ARCW Offers New HIV Testing Sites, Dates

Milwaukee - The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin will be providing free and confidential HIV testing at three different locations around Milwaukee.

ARCW will do testing at the UW-Milwaukee LGBT Resource Center, located on the ground floor of the Student Union, the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Testing will be conducted at the ARCW offices at 820 N. Plankinton Ave. every Wednesday from 5-7 p.m. In addition, HIV testing will take place at the Midtowne Spa, 315 S. Water St., every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1

For more information, please call Daniel Klingler at (414) 225-1535.

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Activist to Speak at Positive Voice

Appleton — Milwaukee's pioneer gay activist, Eldon E. Murray, will speak at the November meeting of Positive Voice a Fox Valley LGBT organization. The meeting will be held on Monday, November 17 at 7 p.m. at Liberty Hall, 800 Eisenhower Drive, Kimberly, WI (adjacent to Appleton).

Murray will speak on the issues of aging in the LGBT community, give a brief overview of SAGE/Milwaukee (Senior Action in a Gay Environment) which he founded, and talk about what it was like to be gay in the "olden

days" before gay liberation.

Murray has received numerous awards for his work in the gay movement, including being named in the year 2000 as one of only 31 "Pioneers in the Gay Movement" by the International Gay and Lesbian Archives in Los Angeles. In that year he was also named to Milwaukee County's Senior Citizen Hall of Fame, a community wide honor. In June of this year, Milwaukee's PrideFest gave him their Lifetime Achievement Award.

For further information or driving directions call him at (414) 271-0378 or call Bruce at (920) 468-4662.

Cream City Chorus' Bistro **Evening a Success**

Milwaukee - The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus woauld like to thank all those that made "An Evening at the Bistro" a fantastic success. This special evening with their friends and fans was held on Oct. 18 both to celebrate the start of their 2003-2004 season and to welcome Paula Foley Tillen as permanent Artistic Director. The chorus is grateful for those who came and gave of themselves to help us meet our goals in the coming year.

They would especially like to thank

Michael "KV" Johnston, their Guest Master of Ceremonies, whose wit and humor added effervescence to the evening. The chorus would also like to thank the M&M Club for the wonderful hors d'ouvres, sandwiches, and deserts that made the evening so special; and, of course, the Village Church Arts for hosting the evening's

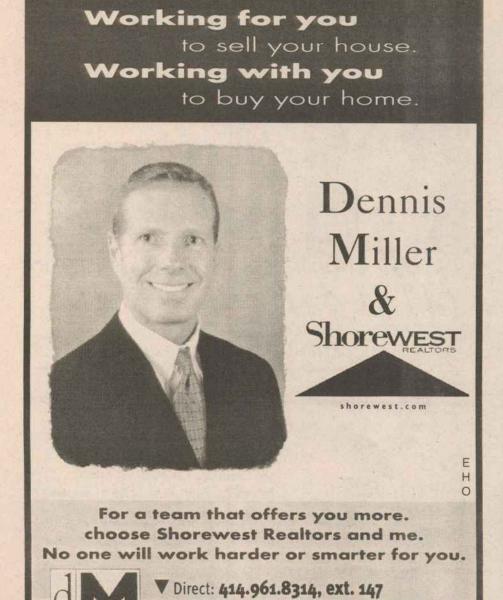
The WCCC is now getting ready for their Winter Concert: "Saturday Night at the Movies". The performance will be held at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, January 10, 2004, at Plymouth Church, U.C.C., 2717 E. Hampshire in Milwaukee. This show will celebrate the music and moments that caused the movies to mean so much to us all.

Rehearsals continue on Wednesday evenings, 7 p.m., at the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court Street, Milwaukee. New members are always welcome. Please come join the chorus, and as Director Paula Tillen says, "Sing, Sing, Sing." For further information about either our season or joining the chorus, call (414) 276-8787 or write to the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus at 315 W. Court St., Suite 101, Milwaukee 53212.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

TAIWAN PLANS TO LEGALIZE GAY MARRIAGE

Taiwan's government is planning to legalize gay marriage. The legislation is being drafted jointly by the cabinet and the office of the president.

"The human rights of homosexuals have been gradually recognized by countries around the world," the president's office said. "To protect their rights, [gay] people should have the right to wed and have a family based on their free will."

Gay activists cheered the news. The measures are expected to be sent to parliament in December.

Meanwhile, the island saw its first gaypride parade Nov. 1 in Taipei.

About 1,000 people, some wearing masks, walked from the cruisy 228 Peace Park to a theater in the entertainment district.

Organizers called it the Chinese world's first gay march.

Mayor Ma Ying-jeou agreed with that assessment and promised attendees, "If you live in Taipei city, we will not commit any discrimination or harassment against you because of your sexual orientation."

Marcher Lee Ming-chao; director of the Tongzhi Hotline, told the Taipei Times, "I certainly wish we could go on [and march] for three hours across the city, but this is already a good start."

The word "tongzhi" encompasses gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people. Literally, it means comrade.

POLISH CARDINAL IS GROSSED OUT

The head of the Roman Catholic church in Poland, Cardinal Józef Glemp, is grossed out by gays, he said Oct. 21.

"It is something very depressing for me, as it is something incompatible with human nature," he told reporters. "I just can't stand men kissing. Maybe I'm oldfashioned."

MPs from Poland's ruling party have proposed legislation recognizing same-sex partnerships, which the church opposes.

SPANISH MARRIAGE CHALLENGE LAUNCHED

Spanish gays launched a drive for same-sex marriage Oct. 22.

Backed by the Socialist Workers and United Left parties, three couples applied for marriage licenses in Madrid and Valencia.

A registry judge will respond to their request by Nov. 5.

If the request is rejected, the couples will file suit in Spain's constitutional court and, if necessary, at the European Court of Human Rights later.

"We are going to try to win in the courts as happened in Canada," one of the six individuals, Boti García, told the newspaper El Mundo.

Another of the activists, Pedro Zerolo, also is a member of the Madrid city council, for the Socialists.

Some of Spain's autonomous regions already grant some spousal rights to samesex couples in areas such as taxes, health care and adoption.

This past summer, the highest courts in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and British Columbia legalized same-sex marriage, effective immediately. The federal government agreed with the rulings, which declared the heterosexual definition of marriage unconstitutional, and has moved legislation to open up the institution nationwide.

ISRAELI POLICE TO ESTABLISH GAY LIAISONS

The Israel Police will appoint a gay liaison in every district following a meeting with gay activists who are angry about police harassment in cruisy parks.

Members of the Association of Gay Men, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgender in Israel met with Police Commissioner Shlomo Aharonishki and Tel Aviv District Commander Yossi Sedbon Oct. 29 to discuss several incidents where cops beat up cruisers in Independence and Electricity parks.

The harassment ended after a team of gay people armed with video cameras and rainbow flags began patrolling Independence Park and, on one occasion, chased gay-bashing officers out of the park.

BRITAIN TO INCREASE PENALTIES FOR GAY HATE CRIMES

A measure set to take effect next year in the United Kingdom will increase penalties for crimes committed due to anti-gay animosity.

Three anti-gay hate crimes are recorded daily in London and 38 percent of UK gays and lesbians say they've been victimized.

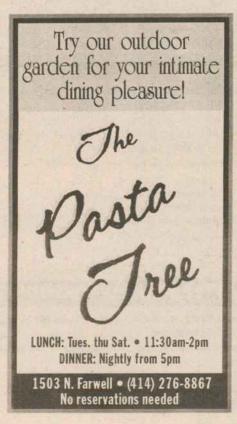
NETWORK DUMPS TRANS REALITY SHOW

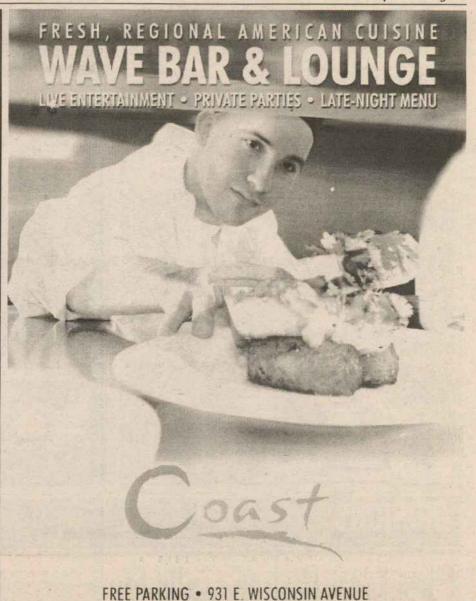
Britain's BSkyB network has postponed a reality series it taped in which six suitors courted a woman they did not know was a pre-op transsexual, the BBC reported Oct. 31.

The male contestants, claiming they were "traumatized" and "devastated" by the experience, threatened to sue to stop broadcast of the series, There's Something About Miriam, which was taped several months ago on Ibiza.

The men allege breach of contract, deceit, personal injury and sexual assault. They kissed and cuddled with Miriam during the taning

"Six of them went onto this reality TV show on the understanding they'd have to do various tasks to win the affection of a very beautiful woman," the contestants' lawyer told Reuters. "After they'd been encouraged to have sexual contact, they found that she was a he — they all found it extremely traumatic."

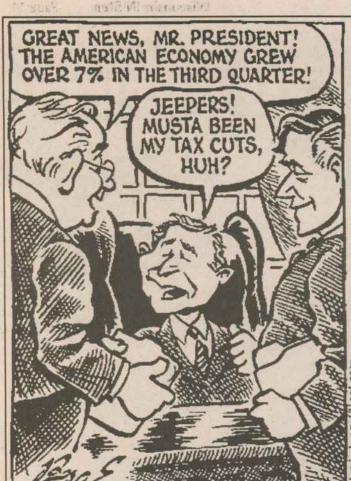




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OPINIONS

First Gay Bishop Calls for Compassion at His Consecration

By Mubarak Dahir

In many ways, the three-hour consecration of V. Gene Robinson as New Hampshire's next bishop was a ceremonious affair that closely followed centuries of Episcopalian tradition.

Officials from his home diocese assured his loyalty to God. A choir of 300 voices led the audience in singing church hymns. Robinson's parents and sister presented him with his stole and chasuble, part of his official dress. And a former New Hampshire bishop gave up his own bishop's ring for Robinson to wear. Robinson's gold cross, a gift from the diocese, is being fashioned from the donated gold of parishioners.

But other elements made the historic consecration of the world's first openly gay bishop in a major Christian denomination anything but ordinary or commonplace.

Family members presenting Robinson with his pointed headdress, known as a mitre, included his two daughters, son-in-law, grandchild—and his partner, Mark Andrew.

Retiring New Hampshire Bishop Douglas Theuner made an explicit refer-

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Calyx Counseling Center Inc. 1840 N. Farwell Ave. Suite 305 ence to Robinson's sexuality when he told the newly anointed bishop before a crowd of 4,000 that "because of who you are, Gene, you will stand as a symbol of unity of the church in a way none of the rest of us can. Just your very presence in the episcopate will bring into our fellowship the presence of an entire group of Christians hitherto unacknowledged in these councils of the church."

But not everything that distinguished

this remarkable ceremony was as upbeat.

Because of previous death threats against Robinson, attendees of the service had to pass through metal detectors and have their belongings searched. A bomb-sniffing police dog smelled around for the threat of violence.

Even inside, plain-clothes policemen mingled with the crowd as a safeguard in case an ugly or dangerous incident broke out. And volunteers from the American Friends Service Committee, better known as Quakers, walked around with visible armbands as a way to keep peace.

Outside the University of New Hampshire's Whittemore Center, four mounted police officers patrolled the area, keeping a close eye on twenty or so protestors who held signs saying gays were going to hell, and calling them "fags" and "sodomites."

Inside, the protestations were more

civil, but amounted to the same sentiment.

A standard part of a bishop's ceremony is to ask anyone who objects to the consecration to come forward. Though the procedure is customary, it's rare that anyone speaks up. At Robinson's induction, however, three people raised their voices in opposition.

"We must not proceed with this terrible and unbiblical mistake that will not only rupture the Anglican Communion, it will break God's heart," protested Meredith Harwood of Orford, New Hampshire.

Bishop David Bena of the Diocese of Albany, New York, presented a petition of dissent signed by 36 bishops.

And the Rev. Earl Fox, of the Pittsburgh Diocese, ranted in graphic detail about the sexual exploits of gay men, before being told to get to his point. "The physical and spiritual health consequences of such behavior are devastating," he concluded. "...you should not rightly engage in or consecrate such behavior."

After making their comments, the three left the service and instead attended an alternative protest service.

All of the tension and drama worked to highlight just how historic a step this was not just for the Episcopal Church specifically, but for Christianity as a whole, and for gays and lesbians of all faiths.

And no one better symbolized that leap of faith, or the best that religion can bring out in people, than Robinson himself. Even amid the name-calling and threats to his life, Robinson called on his fellow believers to reach out to those who opposed him.

"There are faithful, wonderful Christian people for whom this is a moment of great pain and confusion and anger," he acknowledged. "Our God will be served if we are hospitable, caring and loving toward them in every way we can possibly muster. They must know that if they must leave that they will always be welcome back into our fellowship."

Perhaps his most touching words, however, were reserved for the gay and lesbian community itself. In a choked voice, he told the gay and lesbian community that the hardship and triumph of the day was "not about me. It's about so many other people who find themselves at the margins and for whatever reason have not known the year of the Lord's favor."

LETTE

Dear Editor:

The Green Bay Press-Gazette recently ran an "opinion piece" from state representative Glen Grothman (R-West Bend) that contained such poorly supported statements that its inclusion was questionable at best.

The representative claims that Vermont allows gay marriage and questions that the residency requirement might be very short. A few minutes' research would have shown that, while Vermont does allow 'civil unions' which grant all the state-based rights WITHIN VERMONT, civil unions appear to hold little or no water in other states because, ta-da, they are not called marriage. And there is NO residency period.

He claims that because, in his expert view, homosexuality is a choice, then gay marriage shouldn't be allowed. The argument for or against equal marriage rights for all adult couples is not based on whether being gay is a choice or not. If "choice" was the sole basis for marital law, then we'd still be living in a nation

where interracial marriages were not recognized in half the

He quotes a Dr. Socarides as a "nationally known expert" who has had a 75% percent success rate converting homosexuals. Expert on what? 75% of what number of homosexuals came to him successfully "changed"? I guess it was at least 4 people; nevermind that those who came to him WANTED to change. Statistics I found on-line from Dr. Socarides stated that only one-third of his patients were happily married with children; and elsewhere, I found out that the good doctor's own son is gay! Perhaps Dr. Socarides is an expert on disliking that his offspring is gay.

When our elected officials can't even write an opinion piece that makes any sense, you have to wonder what they are doing with our tax dollars. It also makes you wonder if they ever do any thinking for themselves.

Dan Ross Madison

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: EDITOR@INSTEPNEWS.COM

Letters Policy: Letters submitted for publication should be on topics of general interest to the community and no more than 250 words in length. Anonymous or unsigned letters will not be published. Names withheld upon request. All material is subject to editing prior to publication. Letters exceeding 250 words may be edited for length and we reserve the right to withhold letters which are abusive, malicious or potentially libelous. Letters which are not sent via e-mail should be typed and legible.

QUIPS AND QUOTES



Car Repairs

"[It's] like we've taken 20 steps back. You've got shows on TV like, 'Let's make straight people look more gay.' No, love, that's the whole point. We like them when they look like they can fix our radiators."

- Boy George to The Advocate.

Straight Eye

"Someone needs to stand up for beer bellies, Old Spice, Jimmy Kimmel and the great American breakfast of convenience-store hot dogs and coffee. ... My project is called "Straight Eye for the Queer Guy," wherein we administer a little redneck rock, Budweiser, wings at Hooters and Monday Night Football to put a little butch back into an impossibly toned, Abercrombie & Fitch-clad, simply ab-fab Bourbon Street boy's life."

New Orleans Times-Picayune columnist Chris Rose.

Crystal Madness

"I went blind at one point. I was constantly sweating. Every time I brushed my teeth I would spit up blood. By the end, I couldn't go an hour without weeping. I felt like I was in a museum, and life was the painting. I was looking at this beautiful painting, but I was not really in it. I was inconsolable."

 Gay singer Rufus Wainwright on his now-conquered crystal-meth addiction, to Britain's The Observer.

On the Outs

"The word was coined by a major closet case, William Henry III, a critic at Time magazine who is now deceased. He claimed that some gay journalists — yes, including yours truly — were doing this terrible new thing, revealing gay public figures' homosexuality, and he claimed that some gay activists had dubbed it 'outing.' The word stuck, though some of us hated its violent and special connotation — we preferred simply calling it reporting."

— Michelangelo Signorile in New York City's Gay City News.

Ha! Ha! Ha!

"There's no way Bush will be re-elected. He's the laughingstock of American politics. You cannot take him seriously. Nobody does. I doubt he can reverse that."

 Comedian Margaret Cho to the Dallas Voice.

The Truth Will Come Out

"I do think he's [George W. Bush] beatable. Because the public is finally waking up to what's been going on since day one, since he issued his first executive-privilege gag order. This is a government that is not operating openly and honestly and truthfully. And as Martin Luther King said, "Truth crushed to the earth will rise again."

- Barbra Streisand to The Advocate.

Act Up Withers

"You don't get more with honey than vinegar. The [HIV] infection rates are again rising. There should be ACT UPs beyond belief."

—Veteran gay activist and author Larry Kramer speaking at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor as quoted by the Michigan gay newspaper Between The Lines.

Nasty Pope

"The current pope ... will send emissaries to terrorists, he will meet with a man who tried to assassinate him. But he has not and will not meet with openly gay Catholics. They are, to him, beneath dialogue. His message is unmistakable. Gay people are the last of the untouchables We can exist in the church only by silence, by bearing false witness to who we are."

Gay Catholic journalist Andrew
 Sullivan in The New York Times.

Phenomenal Bears

"The bear phenomenon is real and strong and one of the most hopeful cultural trends in gay life right now. But among many younger gay men, the bear thing still resonates with prejudiced notions of fat. older guys, who are rationalizing their own unattractiveness. The gyms and bars are still full of the feminized, shaved, plucked, exfoliated creatures that dominate the fashion ads. On 'Queer Eye,' the Fab Five have recommended that even straight guys trim, shave or remove what makes them sexy."

 Gay writer Andrew Sullivan in New York City's H/X.

Monogamy?

"Though I'm going on nine years with my boyfriend, and I love him and I certainly don't want to give him up, I would feel rather constrained if we couldn't have other relationships outside our marriage."

Veteran gay writer Edmund
 White to Vancouver's Xtra! West.

On Line Fiction

"How many times have you read an online profile only to fall over laughing when you realize the young, hung, Adonis top you just read about is actually your chicken-hawking next door neighbor who lives with his mother and never met a leather daddy he didn't like?"

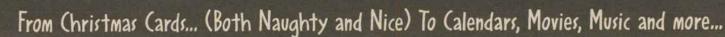
-San Diego's Gay & Lesbian Times in an Oct. 23 editorial.

Agreeing to Disagree

"I can't hardly believe it [my status as a gay icon]. I've always loved the gay community. I think they're the most talented people that have ever lived. I think they're some of the kindest people that I've ever met, and I care about them deeply. I'm very honored that they would choose to care about me, too, because we've really agreed to disagree on the gay issue. They know my feelings on the gay issue [homosexual sex]."

-Former televangelist Tammy Faye Messner (Bakker) to the San Diego Gay & Lesbian Times.

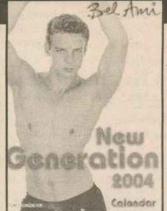
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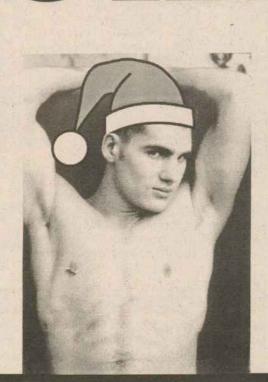
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Dorothy (and Toto, too!) at "Sing-a-Long Wizard of Oz"

Green Bay - "Sing-a-Long Wizard of Oz." the new interactive theatrical film experience combining audience participation with everyone's favorite musical fantasy flick, will be screened at the Robert T. Meyer Theatre, 117 S. Washington St. in Green Bay, Nov. 25-30. "Oz" has been digitally re-stored and will appear on the wide screen in all

"Sing-a-Long Wizard of Oz" invites audiences to become involved in Dorothy's journey through Oz. An MC will introduce the film and lead the crowd through the evening's audience participation, including singing along with Dorothy and hissing at the Wicked Witch. Every audience member gets a free fun pack, including a kazoo, mystical bubbles, a noisemaker and a magic wand.

To complete the experience, audience members are

encouraged to dress as their favorite "Wizard of Oz" character. The MC will lead an on-stage costume parade where prizes will be awarded for imagination and creativity. Munchkins, flying monkeys, Auntie Ems, Cowardly Lions and twisters are all welcome. Tickets are \$17-\$23 and can be obtained by calling (800) 328-TKTS.

Bialystock & Bloom Revisit Leopold & Loeb Case

Milwaukee - The Bialystock & Bloom Company is currently revisiting the infamous Leopold and Loeb murder case in John Logan's gripping drama "Never the Sinner," playing through Nov. 16 in the Studio Theatre of the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway.

In 1924, in what some call the first "trial of the century," two wealthy young socialites who were also gay were tried for the abduction and grisly murder of 14year-old Bobby Franks. Nathan Leopold Jr. (Nathanael Press) and Richard Loeb (Jason Economus) became the country's first star criminals, their nefarious deeds and courtroom drama exploited by the media.

Leopold and Loeb were believed to be lovers and were shown to be deranged teenagers whose intelligence clouded their sense of reality. Included in this theatrical tale are the arguments of legendary defense lawyer Clarence Darrow (Mark Metcalf) and the equally impassioned courtroom tactics of prosecutor Robert Crowe (Jonathan Wainwright).

Never the Sinner" is directed by B&B Artistic Director Jonathan West. Talkbacks featuring experts in the legal and forensics fields will be held after performances on Nov. 6, 11, 12 and 13. For tickets and show times, call (414) 291-7800.

LGBT Evening at Madison Rep Nov. 15

Madison - The Madison Repertory Theater and Opus Lounge are hosting an LGBT Evening at the Madison Rep on Saturday, Nov. 15. The evening begins with a reception at Opus Lounge at 6 p.m., with drink and food specials, followed by an 8:30 p.m. performance of "The Credeaux Canvas" at the Isthmus Playhouse at the Madison Civic Center, 211 State St.

In "The Credeaux Canvas," playwright Keith Bunin tells the bittersweet story of three young friends struggling to make ends meet on Manhattan's Lower East Side. Jamie convinces his roommate Winston, a painter with a knack for copying great artists, to forge a work by obscure French master Credeaux. If Winston, using Jamie's girlfriend Amelia as the model, creates a Credeaux nude that can be sold to an unassuming art collector, the group can finally stop toiling at dead-end jobs and pursue their artistic dreams. As their plan takes unexpected turns, however, more than the mysteries of the body are revealed.

For tickets and more information, call (608) 256-0029.

A Room of One's Own **Hosts November Readings**

Madison - A Room of One's own Feminist Bookstore & Coffeehouse is hosting a variety of reading this month. All events take place at 307 W. Johnson St. and are free and open to the public.

On Wednesday, Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m., journalist Anne O'Connor will read from her new book "The Truth About Stepfamilies." A longtime stepmother herself. O'Connor shares personal stories of parents and children from across the country in their struggle to create their own family and traditions amidst the history that each person has brought to the new household. Her book offers practical advice bolstered by real-life examples.

On Thursday, Nov. 13 at 6:30 p.m., local poet Tisha Turk will read from her new chapbook recently published by UW-Madison's Parallel Press. "Getting Out Alive" is a moving and understated account of the author's journey through months grappling with a life-threatening illness, and her movement into renewed energy and endurance.

On Thursday, Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m., acclaimed poet Minnie Bruce Pratt will be on hand for a reading, discussion and book-signing. She will be reading from her new volume of poetry "The Dirt She Ate." Pratt's other books include "We Say We Love Each Other," "The Sound of One Fork," and "Crime Against Nature."

On Friday, Nov. 21 at 6:30 p.m., local professor lennifer lones will read from her new biography "Anna Wickham: A Poet's Daring Life," the story of the British poet whose life was characterized by the burgeoning feminism of the early 20th century. Forcibly committed to a mental hospital at age 30, Wickham began her life-long quest for happiness upon her release, as witnessed through her poetry.

For more information, call (608) 257-7888.

Wild Space Premieres New Work Nov. 21-22

Milwaukee - Wild Space Dance Company will use its season opener to showcase the company's artistic diversity. featuring new choreography and recent repertory. The dance concert "Right Before Your Eyes" takes place Friday and Saturday. Nov. 21-22 at 8 p.m. at Alverno College's Pitman Theatre, S. 39th St. and Morgan Ave. in Milwaukee.

"Right Before Tour Eyes" premieres new work by Artistic Director Debra Loewen and guest choreographer Janet Lilly of the UWM Department of Dance, and Mary Cochran, formerly of the Paul Taylor Dance Company. The program will also feature Loewen's "Luminitza" and a theatrical version of Wild Space's 2002 site-specific performance "Seduction of Space."

Described as "richly imaginative and witty" by the new York Times, Wild Space has intrigued audiences for 17 years as one of Wisconsin's most dynamic and creative performing companies. Known for sitespecific dance events and artistic collaborations, the company merges dance with visual art, film and unusual environments to create inventive choreography and emotionally-charged performances.

Tickets to "Right Before Your Eyes" are \$20 general, \$18 seniors and students. For tickets and more information, call (414) 382-6044.

Pianist Leon Fleisher Performs with **Pro Arte Quartet**

Madison - The Guest Artist Series at the UW School of Music will present the world renowned pianist Leon Fleisher performing with the Pro Arte Quartet in a free concert on Thursday, Nov. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in Mills Hall (in the Mosse Humanities Building, corner of Park St. and University Ave.). The musicians will collaborate in the Quintet for piano and strings in F minor, Op. 34, by Brahms.

Leon Fleisher made his debut with the New York Philharmonic under Pierre Monteux in 1944 at the age of 16. He later became the first American to win the Elisabeth International



Competition in Belgium, and made regular appearances with orchestras and in recital on the world's great concert stages. His celebrated collaboration with George Szell and the Cleveland Orchestra resulted in a series of recordings, among them the Beethoven and Brahms piano concertos, that have remained touchstones of the classical catalog to this day.

Fleisher has held the Andrew W. Mellon Chair at the Peabody Conservatory of Music since 1959. In addition, he serves on the faculties of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. From 1986 to 1997, he was artistic director of the Tanglewood Music Center.

Fleisher will offer a free master class for advanced piano students at the School of Music, to which the public is invited, on Wednesday, Nov. 12, at 7:30 p.m., also in

The School of Music will also present a master class for UW pianists by the esteemed pianist Yefim Bronfman on Sunday, Nov. 9, at 6:00 p.m. in Mills Hall. Mr. Bronfman will be in town to perform with the Madison Symphony Orchestra. which is co-sponsoring the class with the School of Music. The public is invited to

For further information, call the School of Music at (608) 263-1900.

UWM Theatre Presents "Welcome to the Moon"

Milwaukee - The UWM Peck School of the Arts Department of Theatre will present "Welcome to the Moon and Other Plays" by John Patrick Shanley Nov. 13-16 and Nov. 20-22 in the Mainstage Theatre, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd. In this collection of one-act plays directed by Gale Fury Childs, Shanley explores the potential for joy and the survival of love in a fragile world.

Pamela Rehberg. Chair of the Department of Theatre, sees the production as the culmination of a process of growth. "For the past five years we have been building a strong undergraduate theatre program in the Peck School of the Arts, and we now have 140 Theatre majors in the program. Production activity is an important element in the students' growth. and performance provides an opportunity to showcase the talents being discovered in the classroom." The next stage, according to Rehberg, is to develop a BFA in Acting so that students can specialize within the department.

Tickets are \$8 general and \$5 for students and seniors, and are available by calling (414) 229-4308.

ARTS CALENDAR

THEATRE/MUSIC:

"As You Like It" (Milw.): Shakespeare's comedy gets the treatment from the ambitious Milwaukee Shakespeare company, thru Nov. 9, Mainstage Theatre, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: (414) 229-4308.

"BLAST!" (Green Bay): Dance! Brass! Percussion! Why, it's a ...Blast! Thru Nov. 9, Weidner Center on the UW-Green Bay campus. FMI: (800) 328-TKTS, or: www.weidnercenter.com.

"The Credeaux Canvas" (Madison): Keith Bunin's bittersweet play about a trio of artists and the forgery they hope to sell, thru Nov. 16, Isthmus Playhouse of the Madison Civic Center, 211 State St. FMI: (608) 258-4141.

Deidre McCalla (Chicago): The popular feminist singer/songwriter performs songs from her new CD "Playing for Keeps," Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m., Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, 1700 W. Farrgut (1 block north of Foster, 1 block west of Ashland in Summerdale Community Church). FMI: (312) 409-0276.

"The Economist and the Ballerina" (Madison): Broom Street Theater in another original work, this one the true love story between a gay economist and a prima donna, Nov. 7-Dec. 14, Broom Street Theater, 1119 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 244-8338.

"Flanagan's Wake" (Milw.): A new comedy about the rituals of an Irish wake with audience participation — come ready to be part of the fun! Thurs., Sats. & Suns., Miramar Theatre, 2844 N. Oakland Ave. FMI: (414) 967-0302.

"Forever Plaid" (Milw.): Lots of corny songs and great harmonies as The Plaids, a '60s boys' group, come back to life to perform the show they couldn't do in 1964, thru Jan. 4, Vogel Hall, Marcus Center, 929 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 273-7206.

"Late Nite Catechism" (Milw.): Sister's back – and you better know your "Hail Mary"! The hit comedy for Catholics nostalgic for the days of classroom abuse, Fris.-Suns., Miramar Theatre, 2844 N. Oakland Ave. FMI: (414) 967-4545.

"Mary Stuart" (Milw.): Schiller's drama about the battle of wills between Queen Elizabeth and Mary, Queen of Scots comes alive at the Milwaukee Rep, thru Nov. 9, Quadracci Powerhouse Theatre, 108 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490.

"Memoir" (Milw.): Angela lannone stars as Sarah Bernhardt in this one-woman retrospective of Bernhardt's life and career produced by Renaissance Theatreworks, thru Nov. 16. Off Broadway Theatre, 342 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 278-0765.

"Never the Sinner" (Milw.): Bialystock & Bloom perform John Logan's courtroom drama about the infamous Leopold & Loeb case, circa 1920s Chicago, thru Nov. 16, Studio Theatre, Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. FMI: (414) 291-7800.

"PS: Your Cat is Dead" (Madison): StageQ presents James Kirkwood's gay-themed, mad-cap comedy set in New York on New Year's Eve, Nov. 7-22, Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin St. FMI: (608) 204-0306.

"Richard III" (Milw.): Shakespeare's cruel and conniving king comes chillingly to life in the Milwaukee Rep's season opener, thru Nov. 9, Quadracci Powerhouse Theatre, 108 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490.

Second City (Madison): Chicago's legendary comedy troupe presents its hilarious hijinx, Nov. 7, 8 p.m., Madison Civic Center, 211 State St. FMI: (608) 258-4141

"Sunday in the Park with George" (Madison): Strollers Theatre presents the Stephen Sondheim-James Lapine musical based on George Scurar's painting, Nov. 6-29, Drury Stage, Bartell Theatre, 113 E. Mifflin St. FMI: (608) 238-8183.

"The Sunshine Boys" (Milw.): Milwaukee Rep performs one of Neil Simon's comedy classic, thru Nov. 9, Stiemke Theatre, 108 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490

"Winter Wonderettes" (Milw.): Musical comedy revue about girl group performing holiday concert at Harpers Hardware, Nov. 7-Jan 4, Milwaukee Rep's Stackner Cabaret, 108 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490.

Yefim Bronfman (Madison): Famed pianist performs program of Chavez, Beethoven and Sibelius with the Madison Symphony Orchestra, Nov. 8-9, Madison Civic center, 211 State St. FMI: (608) 258-4141.

BOOKS:

Thursday, Nov. 6

M. Caren Connolly and Louis Wasserman Talk (Mequon): Authors of "Updating Classic America: Ranches," 7 p.m., Schwartz Books, 10976 N. Port Washington Rd. FMI: (262) 241-6220.

Saturday, Nov. 8

Poetry Reading (Milw.): Poets Graham Foust and William Fuller read from their works, 7 p.m., \$6/\$5 members & advance, Woodland Pattern, 720 E. Locust St. FMI: (414) 263-5001.

Monday, Nov. 10

Peace & Justice Book Circle (Madison): Feminist group reads women's studies, cultural criticism, politics andhistory, 6 p.m., A Room of One's Own, 307 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 257-7888.

Tuesday, Nov. 11

Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson Talk (Brookfield): Author of "The Pig Who Sang to the Moon," 7 p.m., Schwartz Books, 17145 W. Bluemound Rd. FMI: (262) 797-6145.

Wednesday, Nov. 12

James Conroyd Martin Talk (Mequon): Author of "Push Not the River," 7 p.m., Schwartz Books, 10976 N. Port Washington Rd, FMI: (262) 241-6220.

Ralph E. and Ralph A. Weber Talk (Brookfield): Authors of "Dear America: Letters from the Desk of Ronald Reagan," 7 p.m., Schwartz Books, 17145 W. Bluemound Rd. FMI: (262) 797-6145.

Anne O'Connor Reading (Madison): Author of "The Truth About Stepfamilies," 6:30 p.m., A Room of One's Own, 307 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 257-7888.

Thursday, Nov. 13

Poetry Reading (Madison): Tisha Turk reads from her new chapbook "Getting Out Alive," 6:30 p.m., A Room of One's Own, 307 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 257-7888.

Friday, Nov. 14

Christopher Hill Talk (Brookfield): Author of "Holidays and Holy Nights," 7 p.m., Schwartz Books, 17145 W. Bluemound Rd. FMI: (262) 797-6145.

Monday, Nov. 17

Peace & Justice Book Circle (Madison): Feminist group reads women's studies, cultural criticism, politics and history, 6 p.m., A Room of One's Own, 307 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 257-7888.

Oscar Robertson Signing (Mequon): Former hoops star and author of "The Big O," 7 p.m., Schwartz Books, 10976 N. Port Washington Rd. FMI: (262) 241-6220.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

Madeleine Albright Talk (Milw.): Former Secretary of State and author of "Madam Secretary," 7 p.m., Centennial Hall, 733 N. 8th St.

FILM, TV & RADIO:

Thursday, Nov. 6

Frontiers Film Circle (Madison): Featuring "101 Rent Boys Uncut," 7:30 p.m., OutReach, Inc, 600

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Saturday, Nov. 8

"Rocky Horror Picture Show" (Madison & Milwaukee): Midnight screenings with all the queer fun! In Madison at the Majestic, 115 King St. In Milwaukee, at the Oriental, 2230 N. Farwell Ave.

Sun., Nov. 9 & Every Sun.

"Her Turn," Womyn's Radio (Madison): WORT Radio 89.9 FM. A weekly show featuring news and information by and about women, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Followed by "Her Infinite Variety" – Women in music – all gentes and styles, interviews, live guests and announcements for the women's community, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-2001.

"Better Living Through Show Tunes" (Madison): WORT Radio 89.9 FM. Host Bruce Wheeler, 2-3 p.m. (608) 256-2001 or bwheeler@cuna.com.

Women's Music Radio (Milw.): WMSE-91.7FM. 10:30 p.m. to Midnight. Variety of women's music genres and announcements of events in Milwaukee's women's community. Request Line: (414) 799-1917.

Monday, Nov. 10

"The Queer Program" (Milw.): Live weekly relecast on MATA public access cable channel 96 at 6:30 p.m. Hosts: Michael Lisowski and Charles Daniels. Rebroadcast Saturdays 12 -1 a.m. and 10-11 p.m. FMI: (414) 265-8500.

Frontiers Film Circle (Madison): Featuring "Rires of Passage," 7:30 p.m.. OutReach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: www.frontiersmadison.org.

Wed., Nov. 12 & Every Wed.

"Queery" (Madison): WORT, 89.9 FM - Madison's GLBTQ radio show, 7 p.m., followed by "This Way Out," the international news magazine, from 7:30-8 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-2001.

Friday, Nov. 14

International Film Fest (Milw.): Showcasing dozens of new films and videos from around the world and our own backyard, thru Nov. 16, Union Theatre, second floor UW Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: www.milwaukeefilmfest.org.

Saturday, Nov. 15

"Rocky Horror Picture Show" (Madison & Milw.): Midnight screenings with all the queer fun! In Madison at the Majestic, 115 King St. In Milwaukee, at the Oriental, 2230 N, Farwell Ave.

MUSEUMS:

Appleton Art Center (Appleton): "The Native American Experience" thru Nov. 26, 111 W. College Ave. FM1: (920) 733-4089.

America's Black Holocaust Museum (Milw.): Exhibits reflecting African American heritage. 2233 N. 4th St. FMI: (414) 264-2500.

Cedarburg Cultural Center (Cedarburg): Cedarburg Artists Guild Fall Show and League of Milwaukee Artists' "The Color of Harvest," thru Nov. 16. W62 N546 Washington Ave. FMI: (262) 375-3676.

Charles Allis Art Museum (Milw.): Otto R. Finger: Essay in Concrete" thru Nov. 30. Tudor style mansion with original furnishings and art collection. 1801 N. Prospect Ave. FMI: (414) 278-8295.

Eisner Museum of Advertising & Design (Milw.): "100 Years of Harley Davidson Advertising" and "Brooks Stevens: Advertising for the 20th Century" thru April, 2004. 208 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 847-3290.

Elvehjem Museum (Madison): "Medieval Art from the Metropolitan Museum of Art" thru Dec. 31. FMI: (608) 263-2246.

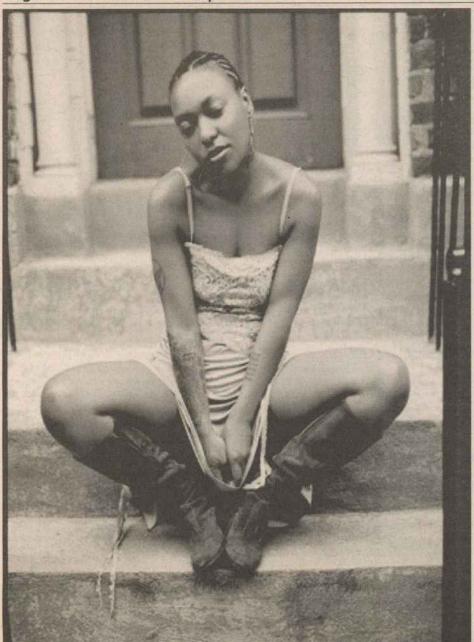
Haggerty Museum of Art (Milw.): "Peter Schringet: Contemporary German Painting," thru Nov. 30. Marquette University, 530 N. N. 13th St. FMI: (414) 288-1669.

John Michael Kohler Arts Center (Sheboygan): Exhibits, performing arts, classes and lectures, 608 New York Ave. FMI: (920) 458-6144.

Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum (Wausau): "Birds in Art." thru Nov. 9, 700 N. 12th St. FMI: (715) 845-7010.

Madison Arts Center (Madison): "Concrete Abstraction: Aaron Siskind Photographs" and "La vida en marcha: Mexican Prints from the Permanent Collection" both thru Jan. 4, 2004, 211 State Street. FMI: (608) 257-0158.





"Comfort" and Joy

An Interview with Meshell Ndegeocello

By Gregg Shapiro

nyone who opens their album with a song titled "Love Song #1" (hinting at more love songs to come) and then follows it up with "Come Smoke My Herb," such as Meshell Ndegeocello does, must be feeling pretty good. Comfort Woman (Maverick), Ndegeocello's fifth album is a bong hit of dub beats and sexy bass lines, especially on all three "Love" songs, "Good Intentions," the aforementioned lungful of "...Herb," and "Body." Ndegeocello also bares her spiritual side on a few tracks, and, like any intelligent person isn't afraid to ask important, if unpopular, questions about religion and beliefs. I recently spoke to Meshell Ndegeocello about Comfort Woman and some of her more interesting recent side projects. Here is what she had to say.

INStep: I'd like to begin by talking about two forthcoming projects with which you are involved – the first is the two songs, "Right Here's The Spot" and "Feels Like Home," which you contributed to Kish Kash the new album by Basement Jaxx. What was it like to work with Simon (Ratcliffe) and Felix (Buxton) of Basement Jaxx?

MN: It was good. I had a great time and I enjoyed it very much. It was nice to work with different people. I always enjoy the experience of making music with people.

IN Step: It sounds like you were having a lot of fun on "Right Here's The Spot."

MN: (Laughs) I go out (to night clubs) myself and I love that particular genre of music. It was fun.

IN Step:You also did a cover of "Two Doors Down" on the Dolly Parton tribute Just Because I'm A Woman. Why did you select that song to interpret?

MN: I remember that song growing up. It was one of my favorites. I'm a huge Dolly Parton fan. I think she's an amazing songwriter. I was very grateful to even be approached about it. That was a lot of fun.

IN Step:You have described your new album, Comfort Woman, as a "love record." Fittingly, there are three songs on the disc with the titles "Love Song #1," "Love Song #2," and "Love Song #3." Why was it important to you to make a "love record" at this time?

MN: It wasn't important; it's just where I am. That's just the frequency that I'm trying to get on (laugh). It was just important to me to really be conscious of what energy I was putting out into the world.

IN Step:You raise some interesting questions on the "Fellow-



ship," beginning with "Would you walk a righteous path/without the promise of heaven, paradise, streets paved with gold?" Do you think people would behave differently if they weren't following the laws of their faiths?

MN: That's a difficult question, what do you think?

IN Step: I think that those laws keep people in check. But I have to wonder if there isn't some kind of inner set of laws that say, "Hurting someone is a bad idea. I shouldn't do this."

MN: Yeah, yeah, Yeah. That's what we all hope. The most revolutionary thing a person can do is parent their child and make them aware of those choices and have a conscience that works that way.

IN Step: You also ask, in the song, "If you believe that your God is better than another man's/how you going to end all your suffering?." That question comes at a time when there is a lot of suffering and lot of things being done in the name of religion. Do you think that there will come a time when all the religions of the world will co-exist in harmony?

MN: I'm not Nostradamus, I can't really say. Hopefully, whatever's supposed to happen will happen. I'm just questioning the fact that these things that are supposed to soothe us and ease our suffering are used in so many ways. That's what I'm really trying to say with that particular lyric. How can you say that this is some-

thing that comforts you and it also causes you to act out monstrosities on the world?

IN Step: The subject of a struggle with faith can also be found in the song "Thankful." What inspired you to write about this topic?

MN: The inspiration is the experience of having doubts sometimes. Not (being) sure if I'm making the right decisions. I ask myself, in that song, "Should I lie, should I cheat?" Sometimes you struggle with your desires. Or you spend your life trying to accumulate things. That's what inspired that.

IN Step:There is an audible reggae influence on the songs "Love Song #1," "Body," and "Good Intentions." Why is that style of music so prevalent on this disc?

MN: I listen to all kinds of music. After September 11th, I became very aware of what I wanted to have in my mind. I listened to a lot of Bob Marley and a lot of dub music. I just like the vibration of it. The beats are soothing.

IN Step:Speaking of soothing, the sensuous and seductive nature of your songs also remains in force on Comfort Woman in songs such as "Herb" and "River," to name a few. There are people who compile lists of the "Ten Best Songs To Make Love To;" would you like to be on one of those lists?

MN: Yeah, sure (laughs). I'd definitely want to be on somebody's mix tape.

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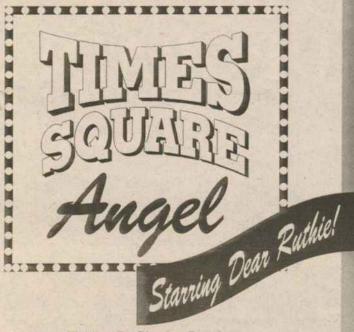
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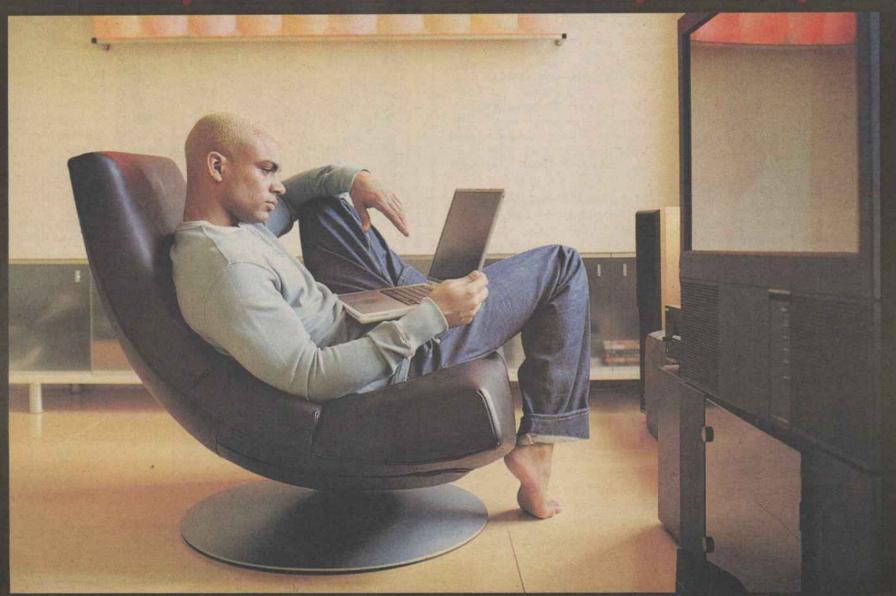
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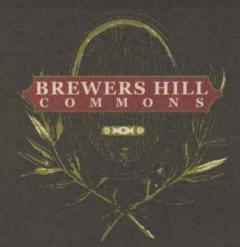
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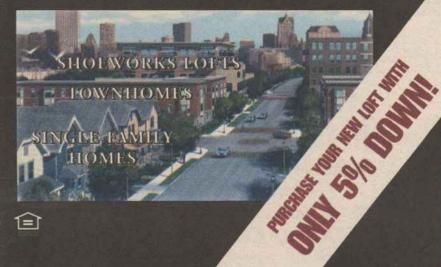
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HEALTH

Homo for the Holidays? Plan Ahead, Try to Keep Stress to a Minimum

By Jeffrey Chernin, Ph.D.

nce again, the stress-filled holiday season has begun. Taking time to plan, changing the way you view this time of year, and finding support can lead to a more enjoyable season.

You can reduce holiday pressures by expecting stressful situations to occur. Be ready for delays at the airport and overcrowded stores by taking a book, cell phone, or laptop with you.

If you are visiting your family of origin, one thing you can do to prevent getting involved in family squabbles is to become a "family archeologist." By observing how your family interacts, you can gather "data" on how growing up in your family influenced your personality. By remaining objective, you can keep some distance from family dramas. If things get rough, give yourself a break. Offer to go to the store, take a walk, or go to a gym which offers daily memberships. If you are in recovery and you're in need of a meeting, consider going to a virtual meeting at www.aa-intergroup.org/

For some people, every year has an inevitable family melt-down. Decide beforehand if it is worth getting into a fight, or see if there are some creative alternatives. For example, politely inform your family members that for every homophobic remark, you'll be sending a dollar to your favorite LBGT organization.

Not every homophobic remark, however, deserves a response, especially if it is coming from drunk Uncle Harry! Send a letter after the holidays, or wait until your anger has subsided. Above all, decide ahead of time which battles to pick. Try to view family situations with a sense of humor. There are so many things that go awry, it can be hilarious. If it is, laugh! It sure beats throwing yams across the dinner table.

If you are buying gifts for a lot of people, rather than putting more pressure on yourself by trying to find the "perfect" gifts, find ones that you think people will enjoy. More people are sending money into non-profit organizations in honor of friends and family. For those hard to shop for, buy them a Universal gift certificate. Go to www.giveanything.com/ to purchase one. If money is tight, charging all of your gifts only makes your circumstances worse. Take time to budget

If you are coming out to anyone

to avoid post-holiday spending

this year, remember that the holidays aren't necessarily the best time. In any case, rehearse what you would say, and decide beforehand to accept whatever reactions you get for the time being. One way to make your holidays more difficult is to react to a homophobic remark and to come out angrily. You will have done it, but the cost is higher than if you do it in a loving way.

For those of you who are in a relationship, talk to each other before you make your travel arrangements about your expectations if you are going to one of your families of origin. For example, if your parents don't want you sleeping in the same bedroom as your spouse, talk about whether you can handle that. If not, stay at a hotel. Discussing this and other questions beforehand will foster more harmony between you.

During your discussions, remember that your relationship has equal worth to the other married couples in your family. You do not have to settle for second class status. If your spouse is not welcome for the holidays, perhaps it is time to travel home when it's not the holidays.

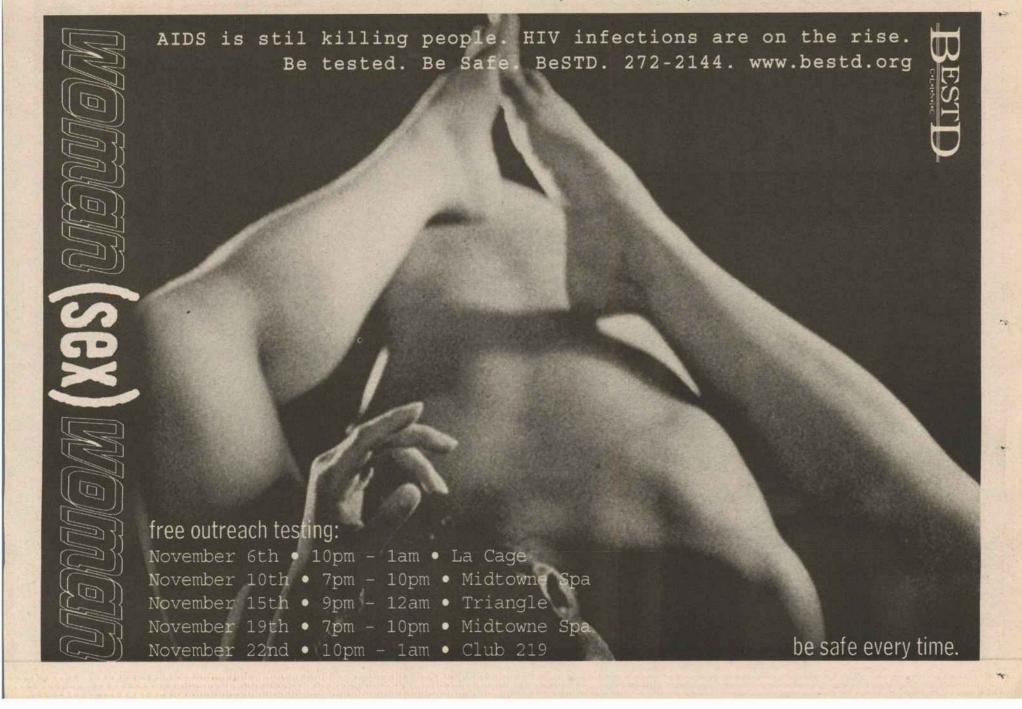
If the holidays are a sad time of year because you are missing a friend or lover who has passed away, remember that feeling bad means you cared deeply for the person, which gives your relationship meaning. To make the season more bearable, do something in honor of your loved one, maybe something he or she would have wanted you to do.

Many LGBT people cope with difficult aspects of the season by drinking, drugging, and overeating. This only adds to stress, but alcohol and drugs fuel depression. Try not to give in to the temptation to overindulge. Isolating is the worst thing you could possibly do, so make every effort to surround yourself with other people.

If you can't bear the holidays without drinking or drugging, ask yourself: is escapism is a way to cope, or more seriously, an addiction? If so, get the assistance you need without waiting until the start of the new year.

Another relatively simple way you can enjoy the season more is by changing the way you view them. Ask yourself which aspects of the holidays are within your control to change. As Holidays Anonymous (HA!) says, have the courage to change the things you can, surrender to the inevitable aspects of the holiday season (gift-buying, family pressures, and stress), and have the wisdom to know the difference.

If you have decided that there is nothing you can do that will help you survive the holidays, turn your attention to the coming year. Remind yourself that 2004 is right around the corner, and you will have the opportunity to forget about the holidays for another year. But since the holiday season is two months out of twelve, you might want to consider these, and your own, ways to make it hetter.





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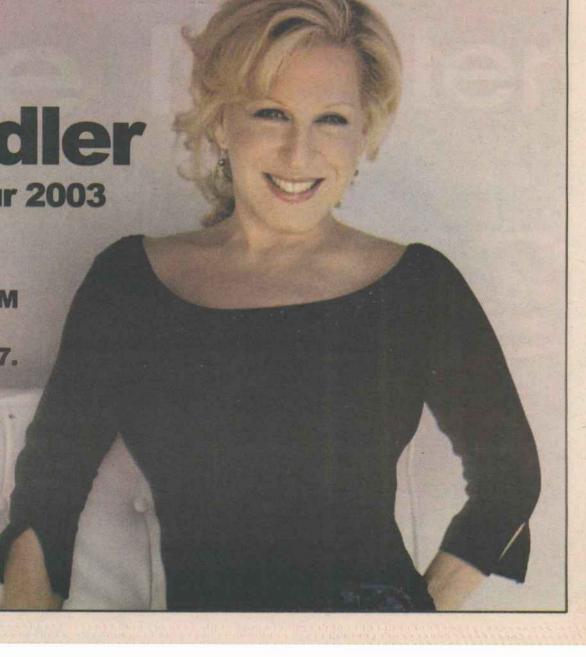
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Thursday, Nov. 6

HIV Testing (Milw.): BESTD Clinic conducts anonymous HIV testing at La Cage, 10 p.m.- 1 a.m.,801 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Friday, Nov. 7

Shamrock Bar (Madison): Frontiers Gay/Bi Men's Group Happy Hour. The group meets at 6 p.m. for cocktails every Friday. Decides where to dine at 7 p.m. 117 W. Main St. FMI: (608) 274-5959.

Café El Sol (Milw.): Great food and Latin music, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 1028 S. 9th St. FMI: (414) 384-3100, ext. 237.

Fri & Sat, Nov. 7 & 8

Chip and Py's (Mequon): Live Jazz Fridays and Saturdays, 7-11 p.m. Reservations suggested. 1340 W. Towne Square Rd. (I-43 at Mequon Rd.) Call (414) 241-9589.

Saturday, Nov. 8

Three (Milw.): INFERNO! Join the gay-friendly staff and patrons of Three for an evening that's guaranteed to heat up your weekend! Featuring the hot, sweaty beats of DJ John Murges and DJ Rob Winter. Doors open at 8 PM. No cover. 722 N. Milwaukee St. FMI: (414) 225-0003 or e-mail PumpMilwaukee@aol.com.

Monday, Nov. 10

M&M Club (Milw.): Trixie at the Piano during Cocktail Hour, plus 2-4-1 drinks, 5-7 p.m. 124 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 347-1962.

HIV Testing (Milw.): BESTD Clinic conducts anonymous HIV testing at Midtowne Spa, 7-10 p.m., 315 S. Water St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Thursday, Nov. 13

C,est La Vie (Milw.): Karaoke Night, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. 231 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 291-9600.

Friday, Nov. 14

Shamrock Bar (Madison): Frontiers Gay/Bi Men,s Group Happy Hour. The group meets at 6 p.m. for cocktails every Friday. Decides where to dine at 7 p.m. 117 W. Main St. FMI: (608) 274-5959.

Café El Sol (Milw.): Great food and Latin music, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 1028 S. 9th St. FMI: (414) 384-3100, ext. 237.

Saturday, Nov. 15

HIV Testing (Milw.): BESTD Clinic conducts anonymous HIV testing at Triangle, 9 p.m.-midnite, 135 E. National Ave. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Monday, Nov. 17

Trocadero (Milw.): Mojito Mondays, Trocadero, sweekly evening of Latin Beats and Libations, featuring John Murges on the decks and special prices on Mojitos and Cuba Libres. Food available. Perfect way to begin your week, 9 p.m. to midnight, no cover. 1758 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 272-0252.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

HIV Testing (Milw.): BESTD Clinic conducts anonymous HIV testing at Midtowne Spa, 7-10 p.m., 315 S. Water St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.



Halloween @ The Ball Game. Photo by A. Gallegos

Sundays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Juice drinks only \$3. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Top beer \$1.40.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Open at 3 p.m. with \$1.50 bottle and tap beer and soda.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Tocos & Beer with Alvin!.

Boom (Milw.): Open at 11am. Packer Game Specials: 50 cent tops of MGD & Miller Lite. \$2 Bloody Mary Myrna's.FMI: www.boommke.com

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): Beer Bash, 4-8 p.m. \$6, 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Beer Bash 3 to 8 p.m. \$6, 2-4-1 drunks up to \$3.75; \$1 off all other until 8 p.m. Live shows at 10:30 p.m.

Club 219 (Milw.): \$1 tappers, \$2 rail drinks, \$2 bottled beer. Two shows: 8:30 pm. - no cover - and 11:30 p.m.

Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Pints of Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers 8 Greyhounds - \$2.50! Shirtless men half price anytime. FMI: www.harbor-room.com.

LaCage (Milw.): Sunday Bloody Sunday – Bloody Mary bar 12 p.m-9 p.m. Queer As Folk at 9 p.m. LoCage Presents at 11:30 p.m. FMI: www.lacage.gaymke.com

M&M Club (Milw.): Brunch from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Joyce or Ginni at the Piano on Monday nights. FMI: www.mandm-club.com.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Bor-B-Q, 1-4 p.m.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): Coronos, \$1.75, Domestic Beer, \$1.25, Minipitchers, \$1.75.

Switch (Milw.): Service Industry Night. Plus.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): S8 pitcher of Lite & pizzo, S4 rail Bloody Marys, both from Noon to 6 p.m. Open from Noon to midnite.

Woody's (Milw.): Open at 2 p.m., Beer Bust from 2-6 p.m. FMI: www.woodys-mke.com.

Mondays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktoil Hour 2 p.m. to close.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special. Bud Nite! All Budweiser products, \$1.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Pizza & Beer Bust, only \$4, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.!

Boom (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8pm. FMI: www.boommke.com

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others, 3-4-1 drinks for those men in just underwear. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Hoppy Hour, 4-8 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others ALL NIGHT LONG, \$2 shot specials.

Fluid (Milw.): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 p.m. til 8 p.m. FMI: www.fluid.gaymke.com.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys. 8 3-6 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza. Shirtless men half price anytime. Bartenders, waiters, owners \$1 off drinks 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. FMI: www.harbor-room.com.

LaCage (Mitw.): Open for cocktail hour at 5 p.m. "Shake a Drink" all nite. Aces's: Free — sixes 1/2 price. FMI: www.lacage.gaymke.com



Halloween @ La Cage. Photo by A. Gallegos



Halloween @ The Ball Game. Photo by A. Gallegos



Halloween @ La Cage. Photo by A. Gallegos

M&M Club (Milw.): Cocktoil hour with Trixie at the Piono! FAAI: www.mandm-club.com.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): 4 to 6 p.m. Crobby Hour Pull tobs!

Pulse (Milw.): Import night: \$2.50 imports, FMI: www.pulsemilwaukee.com.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): 2-4-1 Hoppy Hour 4 to 7 p.m. \$3.50 and under drinks over \$3.50 get \$1 off.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-9 p.m., with \$1 off drinks. Marganita Madness - \$2.50 Marganitas and Shots of Tequila. FMI: www.switch.gaymke.com

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. - Absolut and anything, \$2.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Closed.

Woody's (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m., \$1.25 taps, \$1.75 mils. FAN: www.woodys-mke.com.

Tuesdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktoil Hour: 2 p.m to 9 p.m., Pull tabs, drinks as low as 25-cents.

Boom (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8pm. Tini Tuesdays: Specials on Featured Martini of the week. Plus Free Pizza. FMI:

www.boommke.com

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special. Vodka Nite! All vodka drinks, \$1.50 and Call Brands only \$2.50 with free, hat Klement's pizza!

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Shirts Off! Show us what you've got! Take it off for half price rail, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off all drinks. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others. Underage night begins at 9 p.m., 50c off all drinks, \$2 shot specials.

Club 219 (Milw.): Amateur Strip Nite! No cover. \$1 top beer, \$2 rails and bottled beer.

Fluid (Milw.): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 p.m. til 8 p.m., \$2 mixers 8pm to close. FMI: www.fluid.gaymke.com.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.:Noon, Bloody Marys, 8. 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Nipple ring nite - gentle rug on



Halloween @ La Cage. Photo by A. Gallegos



Halloween @ The Ball Game. Photo by A. Gallegos.



Halloween @ La Cage. Photo by A. Gallegos



Halloween @ La Cage. Photo by A Gallegos

yours, 2nd drink free! Shirtless men half price anytime. FMI: www.har-ber-room.com.

LaCage (Milw.): Open for cocktoil hour at 5 p.m. "Prize Nite." Win S100 cash — no cover. FMI: www.lacage.gaymke.com

M&M Club (Milw.): Double Bubble with complimentary Hors D'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m. FMI: www.mandm-club.com.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Half price locker.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): 7-9 p.m. Pull Tobs.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Bud Products \$1.50.The Trading Company (Eau Claire): 2 for \$2. Domestic bottles and rail mixes all night.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): All coffee drinks - \$2.

Pulse (Milw.): Two for Tuesday. Two American beers for \$2 from 9pm to 1 a.m. FMI: www.pulsemilwaukee.com.

Rainbow Room (Madison): \$1 off roil and domestic.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2:4-1 Happy Hour runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Free pool with drink purchase from 9 p.m. to close.

Switch (Milw.): Hoppy Hour, 5-9 p.m., Shoke-A-Drink - Ace = Dollar Off - and - Six = Half Price. FMI: www.switch.gaymke.com. Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks!

Walker's Pint (Milw.): \$2 Tuesdays \$2 Rail Mixers, Pints, Cold Shots



Halloween @ Switch. Photo by A. Gallegos





Halloween @ Switch. Photo by A. Gallegos

Woody's (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m., \$1.25 taps, \$1.75

Wednesdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): \$2 Docotors and Tap Beer only \$1.40 all nite. Boom (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8pm FMI: www.boommke.com

Boot Camp Saloon: (Milw.): Cocktoil Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Roil drinks only \$1.

Clubs/Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off all taps and rails, \$2.50 Coronas and shots of Drs. Additional 500 off when you are shirtless.

Milwaukee Club Guide

Ballgame (Mw, V, D, F)

196 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-7474

Boom (Mw. D. V)

625 S. 2nd St., 53204..... 277-5040 WWW.BOOMMKE.COM

Boot Camp (M, L/L)

209 E. Nat'l Ave., 53204 643-6900

C'est La Vie (Mw, D)

231 S. 2nd St., 53204 291-9600

Club 219 (MW, DJ, V)

219 S. 2nd St., 53204 271-3732

819 S. 2nd St., 53204 643-5843 WWW.FLUID.GAYMKE.COM

Harbor Room (L/L, Mw)

117 E. Greenfield, 53204.... 672-7988 WWW.HARBOR-ROOM.COM

Nut Hut (WM, G/S, F, D)

1500 W. Scott 53201......647-2673

La Cage/ETC (Mw, DJ, V, F)

801 S. 2nd St., 53204 383-8330 WWW.LACAGE.GAYMKE.COM

M&M Club (MW, F)

124 N. Water 53202..... 347-1962 WWW.MANDMCLUB.COM

Out 'N About (MW, DI, V, F) 1407 S. Water St., 53204 . . . 643-0377

WWW.MILWAUKEE-OUT-N-ABOUT.COM

Pulse (Mw, D, F)

200 E. Washington., 53204 . 649-9547 WWW.PULSEMILWAUKEE.COM

Switch (Mw)

124 W. Nat'l Ave., 53204.... 220-4340 WWW.SWITCH.GAYMKE.COM

This Is It (M)

418 E. Wells 53202 278-9192

Triangle (M, V)

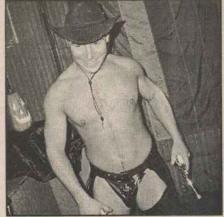
135 E. National 53204 383-9412

Woody's (Mw, D)

1579 S. 2nd St., 53204 672-0806 WWW.WOODYS-MKE.COM/

Walker's Pint (Wm)

818 S. 2nd St.., 53204 643-7468 WWW.WALKERSPINTMILWAUKEE.COM



Halloween @ Switch. Photo by A. Gallegos

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Hoppy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others. Male Dancers at 11 p.m., 500 off all taps and rails, \$2.50 Coronas and shots of Drs. \$2 shot specials.

Fluid (Milw.): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 p.m. fil 8 p.m. \$1 Off Miller botfles, 8 p.m. to close. FMI: www.fluid.gaymke.com.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, & 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Leather Nite! Men in leather, 2-4-1 drinks, 7 p.m.-close. Shirtless men half price anytime. FMI:

LaCage (Milw.): Open for cocktail hour at 5 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks all night! PLUS: '80s dance music! FMI: www.lacage.gaymke.com.

M&M Club (Milw.): Double Bubble with complimentary Hors D'oeuvies 5 to 7 p.m. FMI: www.mandm-club.com.

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Holf price rooms.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): 2-4-1, 6-9 p.m.

Pulse (Milw.): Leather Night and Mailbox Wednesday. S2 Miller products and shots of Dr. and Puckers. FMI: www.pulsemilwaukee.com

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2-4-1 Hoppy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m. \$1.50 Dr. or Schnapps with drink 9 p.m. to close

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m., with \$1 off all drinks. Balloon Bust starts at 8 p.m. Throw darts to pop balloons and win cash prizes! FMI: www.switch.gaymke.com.

Triangle (Milw.): Hoppy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. Super Beer Bust - All U Can Drink! \$5 domestic, \$7 premium.

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Hoppy Hour, 2-4-1 roils and bottles, 4:30-7:30 p.m. S4 Long islands, S4 pitchers of Lite, 7:30 p.m. to close.

Woody's (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m., \$1.25 taps, \$1.75 rails. NTN Million S Match Night, FMI: www.woodys-mke.com.

Thursdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktoil Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snocks served! Pull tabs, drinks as low as 25-cents

Boom (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8pm S8 Pitchers of MGD or Miller Lite with a Free Pizza, FMI: www.boommke.com

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktoil Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Karaoke Night, 11:45 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others all night long. Additional 50¢ off when you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Hoppy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others all night long! "Will & Groce" at 8 p.m. Karooke at 8:30 p.m. Women's night with Toni at 10 p.m. with free pool in faxhole, S2 shot specials.

Club 219 (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Cocktails are 1/2 price from 5 to

Fluid (Milw.): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 p.m. til 8 p.m. 53.50 Cosmos from 8 p.m. to close, FMI: www.fluid.gaymke.com.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Hoppy Hour, 8 a.m. Noon, Bloody Marys, 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Shirtless men half pace anytime. 10oz. Cosmopolituns \$4.50, 6-11 p.m. FMI: www.harbor-

LaCage (Milw.): Open for cocktoil hour at 5 p.m. "Super Bust" - no cover. FMI: www.lacage.gaymke.com

M&M Club (Milw.): Happy Hour from 5 p.m. to close! FMI: www.mandm-club.com

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Crazy 8 rooms and lockers. S1 locker with college ID.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): Domestic beer, S1.25, 4-6 p.m.

Pulse (Milw.): Throw down Thursdays. Purchase any well drink of beer for S1 after paying S5 start. DJ spins at 9pm. FMI: www.pulsemil-

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-9 p.m., S1 off drinks. Karaoke Contest. Win prize S, from 8:30-close, after "Will & Grace." Patio Open. FMI www.switch.gaymke.com.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. S6

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Happy Hour, 2-4-1 roils and bottles, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Import Night, all imports just \$2.50, 7:30 p.m. to close.



Halloween @ Switch, Photo by A. Gallegos

Woody's (Milw.): Double Bubble all day, all night. FMI www.woodys-mke.com

Fridays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktoil Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snocks served!

Boom (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Music Videos and Cock-tails. FMI: www.boommke.com

Boot Camp (Milw.): Cocktoil Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Shippers! Enjoy local boyz! 11:30 p.m. No cover

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 50¢ off for men in leather and unforms. Additional 50¢ off if you are shirtless.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Hoppy Hour, 4-8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks up to \$3.75, \$1 off all others.

Fluid (Milw.): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 p.m. til 8 p.m. FMI: www.fluid.gaymke.com

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m.-Noon, Bloody Marys, 3-6 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks and free pizza! Shirtless men half price anynme 10oz. coll Martinis S5, 6-11 p.m. FMI: www.harbor-room.com.

M&M Club (Milw.): All you can eat Fish Fry and other great specials

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Party night! The Nut Hut (Milw.): Pull tabs, 5 to 7 p.m.

Pulse (Milw.): 3-9pm, Ultro-fabulous pulsing prime time happy hour 1/2 price Upper Shelf. FMI: www.pulsemilwaukee.com

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m.

Switch (Milw.): Happy Hour, 6-9 p.m., with Michael Johnson (aka K.V.), \$1 off drinks, 80's music, fun, and "games!" Pana Open.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! S3 Margaritas from open to close

Walker's Pint (Milw.): Happy Hour, 2-4-1 rails and bottles, 4:30-

Woody's (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-8 p.m., \$1.25 taps, \$1.75 rails. FMI: www.woodys-mke.com

Saturdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds S3, and \$1.40 mugs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Barracks (Madison): Levi/Leather/Uniform Night! 50¢ off all drinks if dressed in L/L/U. Bortender's discretion.

C'est la Vie (Milw.): Female Impersonators with Big Mama at 11:30

Boom (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Music Videos and dancing FMI www.boommke.com

Club 5/Barracks (Madison): 500 off for men in leather and uniforms. Additional 504 off if you are shirtless.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 8 a.m. Noon, Bloody Marys! Shirtless men half price anytime: Pitchers of beer, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$4.50 domestic & \$6.50 Harbor Room's own brew! FMI: www.harbor-room.com.

The Nut Hut (Milw.): Beer Bust, S7, 4-6 p.m.

LaCage (Milw.): Open at 9 p.m. Where Milwaukee Dances! FMI www.lacage.gaymke.com

Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Bor-B-Q, 1-4 p.m.

Pulse (Milw.): \$2 Bud Products noon till 9 p.m. \$2.50 small pitchers. S4 large pitchers 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Hot DJ starts at 9:30 p.m. FMI www.pulsemilwaukee.com

Switch (Milw.): Open at 6 p.m., featuring current dance music, DJ spin. Potio Open FMI www.swtich.gaymke.com

Walker's Pint (Milw.): 55 Redbull rail vodka — all nite!

Woody's (Milw.): Open at 2 p.m. FMI: www.woodys-mke.com.



Halloween @ Switch, Photo by A. Gallegos



Halloween @ The Pint. Photo by A. Gallegos





Halloween @ The Pint. Photo by A. Gallegos



Halloween @ The Pint. Photo by A.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November 6 - November 19, 2003

ACTIVITIES

Thursday, Nov. 6

Anniversary Celebration! (Milw.): Wisconsin Citizen Action celebrates 20 years of working for progressive change in Wisconsin, evening of comedy with Will Durst, dancing food and good company, 5:30-9:30 p.m., Sprecher Brewery, 501 W. Glendale Ave. \$40. FMI: (414) 272-2562.

Friday, Nov. 7

HIV Seminar (Milw.): "Does Nonadherence Cause Resistance to HIV Antiretroviral Therapy?" presented by Dr. David Bangsberg, 10 a.m., CAIR Conference center, 2071 N. Summit Ave. FMI: (414) 456-7763.

Polyamory Group (Madison): A discussion group about polyamory or responsible non-monogamy, 7 p.m., OutReach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 266-7086.

Saturday, Nov. 8

SCRAWI. Open Mic (Madison): All-girl spoken word open mic original poetry, short stories, music, 7 p.m., free, A Room of One's Own Bookstore, 307 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 251-1861, or scrawlgirl@yahoo.com.

Sunday, Nov. 9

Cream City Squares (Milw.): LGBT square dance club holds bi-weekly summertime dance, 1-4:30 p.m., Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave. FMI: (414) 445-8080

Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus (Madison): Weekly rehearsal, new members welcome! 7-9 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, 116 W. Washington Ave. FMI: info@perfectharmonychorus.org.

Monday, Nov. 10

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys (Madison): All welcome, "I'm the One" Line Dance, 7: 30 p.m., then open dance to 11 p.m. 5 Applegate Ct. FMI: (608) 255-9131, email: rfkilmer@facstaff.wisc.edu.

Tuesday, Nov. 11

Vigil for Juana vega (Milw.): Candlelight vigil on second anniversary of Vega's murder by her girlfriend's homophobic brother, 6-7 p.m., 1138 S. 25th St. FMI: juanavegascholarship@hotmail.com.

Prairie Fairies (Madison): Prairie Fairie Heart Circle, 9 p.m., Martha's Co-op, 225 E. Lakelawn, near McTaggarts. FMI: (608) 246-8515, or visit: www.radfae.org

Wednesday, Nov. 12

PrideFest Town Hall Meeting (Milw.): The PrideFest re-organization committee is expected to report on plans to get the festival out of debt and back on track, 7 p.m., UWM Student Union Room W181, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd.

Honeymooners Bowling League (Madison): Bowling for Gays and Lesbians with 3-person team format, 9:15 p.m., Village Lanes, 208 Owen Road.

Thursday, Nov. 13

Peace Action Annual meeting (Milw.): Chili supper at 6 p.m. (cost: \$5), followed by meeting with guest speaker Kevin Martin from National Peace Action, Kingo Lutheran Church, 1225 E. Olive St. FMI: (414) 964-5158. Briarpatch (Madison): Group for middle school LGBT kids, middle school kids of LGBT families, and friends, 6 p.m., 512 E. Washington Ave. FMI: (608) 251-6211.

Friday, Nov. 14

Transgender Support (Madison): Thanksgiving party and 2004 event planning 7 p.m., OutReach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 259-9225, or wistsgroup@charter.net.

Saturday, Nov. 15

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers (Madison): 3K to 10K run or walk, 9 a.m., Lake Wingra Park, Knickerbocker and Arbor Dr. FMI: (608) 663-6463.

Gay Video Club (Madison): Call for location: (608) 244-8675 (eves), or visit: www.mgvc.org .

Sunday, Nov. 16

PFLAG Meeting (Madison): Monthly meeting of Parents, Friends and Families of lesbians and gays, 2-4 p.m., Friends Meeting House, 1702 Roberts Ct.

Open Space (Milw.): Open discussion group for all lesbians, 6 p.m., Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett St. FMI: (414) 271-2565.

Bette Davis Bowling League (Madison): Bowling for gays and lesbians, 5-person team format, 3 p.m., Bowla-Vard Lanes, 2121 E. Springs Dr. FMI: (608) 273-8275 or 837-8889.

Monday, Nov. 17

Monday Night Irregulars (West Allis): Milwaukee area bowling league starts its fall season, newcomers welcome, \$10 each week, 7 p.m. at AMF West Allis Lanes off of 10901 W. Lapham St. FMI: (414) 527-0132, or (262) 253-0610.

Living As a Gay Man (Madison): Drop-in discussion group for gay men, 5:30 p.m., OutReach, 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 255-8582.

Tuesday, Nov. 18

Womonsong (Madison): Madison's feminist community choir rehearses, 7-9 p.m., women of all ages and backgrounds welcome, Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound St. FMI: (608) 643-0673.

Project Q (Milw.): Drop-in for LGBTQ youth ages 14-24, 4;30-9 p.m., LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 223-3220, or visit: www.projectq.org.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

Cream City Chorus (Milw.): Milwaukee's LGBT chorus rehearses at 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome. FMI: (414) 276-8787.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS & EVENTS

(READ CAREFULLY. Some meetings occur the same day weekly, others the same day bi-weekly or monthly. Groups: please send us updated info.)

THURSDAYS

AIDS Network (Madison): Meditation and Wellness, 6-7:30 p.m., 300 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 252-6540, ext. 26.

Disabilities Support Group (Milw.): Support group for LGBTs with disabilities meets final Thursday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 201, Independence First, 600 W. Virginia St. Contact is Leslie Myers. FMI: V/TTY - (414) 291-7520, ext. 325.

Diversity G/L Resource Center (Rockford, IL): Located at 610 E State St. Open from 4 to 9 p.m. Teen Drop-in Hours. FMI: call (815) 964-2639.

Gay AA * "Living Sober" (Milw.): Meets every Thursday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AAOpen Meetings (Appleton & Green Bay): There are five open AA Meetings for the gay and lesbian community each week in Appleton and Green Bay. FMI: & Locations call (920) 336-2868 or (920) 954-9169.

Gay AA/Gay Al-Anon, 12-Step Meetings (Kenosha): These recovery groups meet every Thursday at St. Mary's Lutheran Church, 2001 80th Ave., at 7:30 p.m. FMI: call Bill or Art at (414) 694-0115.

Gay/Lesbian AA Closed Meeting (Madison): Meets weekly at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 1609 University Ave. FMI: call (608) 222-8989.

Grief Support Group for Lesbians (Madison): Drop-in group for lesbians grieving the death of a life partner, family member or friend. Meets first Thursday of every month, 6-7:30 p.m., Anderson HospiceCare Center, 5395 E. Cheryl Parkway. FMI: (608) 276-4660.

HIV/AIDS Support Group & Hotline (Upper Peninsula, MI): These projects serve Dickinson, Iron, & Menomonee Counties. For information on the support group in Iron Mountain, Michigan on the first Thursday of each month, call the HIV/AIDS Hotline at (906) 779-2904.

HIV Self-Help Group Monthly Meeting (Baraboo): This group sponsored by persons living with HIV, Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital & the AIDS Network meets every 3rd Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. in Baraboo. Refreshments are served, transportation assistance is available. FMI: (608) 643-7241 or (608) 643-7583.

HIV Testing (Milw.): ARCW provides free and confidential HIV/AIDS testing every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Midtowne Spa, 315 S. Water St. FMI: (414) 225-1535 or 271-HOMO.

Lavender Salon (Fox Valley): Reading and discussion group for gays and lesbians in the Fox Valley area, meets 3rd Thursday of each month, locations vary between Appleton, Green Bay and Oshkosh, Call for details, FMI: (920) 738-0497.

LGBT Community Center Lesbian Singles Discussion Group (Milw.): Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Ongoing discussion about unique challenges and rewards of being single, open to all lesbians. The group picks a different topic each month, FMI: call (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Community Center Rainbow U Lecture Series (Milw.): Every 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. Series encourages awareness, discussion of issues important to the LGBT Community. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Campus Center - Boy-Oh-Boy Gay/Bi Men's Group (Madison): This weekly group provides outlet for gay/bi students at UWM. Social outings, great discussion. Hosted by University Health Services and Sex Out Loud, Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m., LGBT Campus Center, second floor, UW-Madison Memorial Union. 800 Langdon St.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting every Thursday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 299-0755.

South Madison Health & Family Center (Madison): Free, anonymous walk-in HIV testing from 5 to 745 p.m. at 2202 South Park St. FMI: call (608) 261-9270.

Triangle Coalition - LGB Support Group (Rockford, IL): Meet to establish and explore friendships & relationships. Discuss a variety of topics every Thursdays at 8 p.m. FMI: call (319) 583-1834.

Wisconsin Gender Organization (statewide): A support, education, and activism network whose primary function is to help Transsexual individuals to succeed and grow before, during, and after their gender transition. Meets the fourth Saturday of each month. For location and more information: www.wisgen.org http://www.wisgen.org/.

Women's Consciousness Raising Group (Madison): Meets weekly at 5:30 p.m. at 122 State St. Suite 403. FMI: call (608) 250-6775.

Unitarian Universalist Church - Lesbian Support/Discussion Group (Rockford, IL): The group meets weekly from 7-8 p.m. at 4848 Turner Rd. FMI: call (815) 636-7298.

FRIDAYS

Frontiers Dining Out (Madison): Madison-area Gay/Bi men meet at the Shamrock Bar around 6 p.m. Decide where to go to eat. FMI: (608) 274-5821.

Gay AA ' (Milw.): Sixty Minutes Group, topic meeting. Meets every Friday at 5:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw): Group 794, select A topic/as Bill Sees It. Meets every Friday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201, FMI: (414) 276-6936.

High Tea & Talk - Men's Group (Madison): High Tea & Talk is an opportunity for men of all ages, who enjoy the company of other men, to chat and graze at Monty's Blue Plate Diner, 3 p.m., 2089 Atwood Ave. FMI: (608) 257-9751.

LGBT Community Center - Project Q Youth Drop-In Night (Milw.): The group meets Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m and Tuesdays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Drop-In nights provide a variety of youth activities in a space that is welcoming, safe and accessible to LGBTQ (questioning) youth. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Youth Group Meeting (Kenosha): This group meets the first & third Fridays of the month from 7 to 10 p.m. at the ARCW Offices, 1212 - 57th St. FMI: call (800) 924-6601.

Madison Transgender Group (Madison): A support and advocacy group for Transsexuals (M-T-F and F-T-M), Cross-dressers and their friends, families and significant others. Confidentiality assured. Meets second & fourth Fridays of the month from 7-9 p.m. at Outreach. 600 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 235-0512 or emailwists-group@charter.net.

MGLO & MGLPO - Red Light Night (Marshfield): Every Friday night from 10:30 p.m. to 3:30 a.m., 130 S. Central Ave., above the Thimbleberry Bookstore. Meet local LGBT people, enjoy Videos and Dancing, Everyone is welcome. FMI: Jim (715) 384-6731 or Vic (715) 387-2068.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Weekly HIV/AIDS Social Group (Duluth, MN): The group meets from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple opera Block, Suite 309. An opportunity for men with HIV/AIDS to socialize and find support. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

OUTCARE Sexual Health Clinic (Milw.): A satellite clinic of Planned Parenthood inside the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. Walk-ins Monday. Tuesday and Friday nights from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. FREE services for teens. (414) 277-9370.

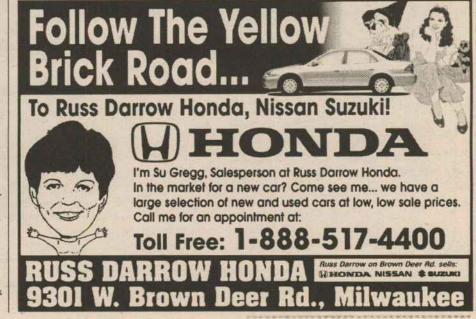
SAGE, Senior Action in a Gay Environment (Milw.): For older gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transsexuals. Offers alternating game nights, movie nights, guest speakers and discussions every Friday, 6:30 p.m., LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 224-0517.

Transgender Support (UW-Madison): Providing support for transgendered students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, meets the third Friday of the month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., UW Memorial Union, 800 Landon St. (check "Today in the Union" for room). FMI: (608) 235-0512, or e-mail: Wistsgroup@charter.net.

True Colors LGBT Youth Coffee Chats (Milw.): 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7-9 p.m. Open discussion and free beverages, Call for location. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

SATURDAYS

AIDS Network - HIV/AIDS Support Group (Madison): Meets from 10 a.m. to noon at UW Hospiral, 600 Highland Ave. in K6/Rm. 280, 2nd floor. FMI: (608) 252-6540 or (800) 486-6276.



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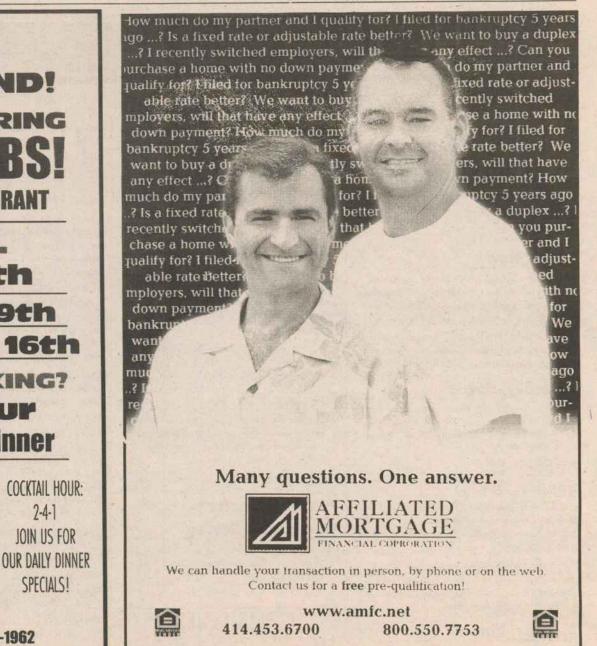


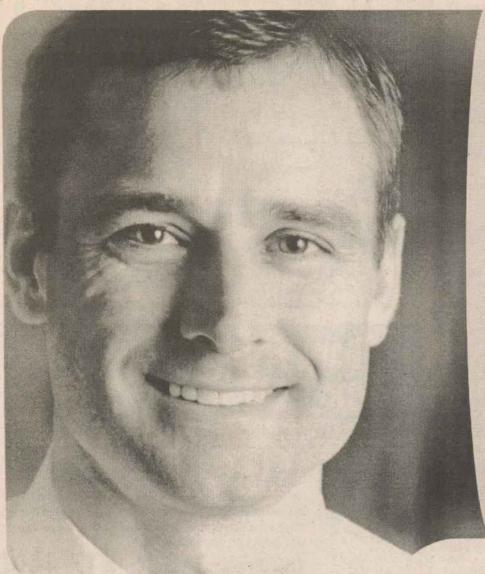
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BESTD Clinic - Pozitively Social (Milw.): Drop-in HIV+ men's gathering 'no structure! No preaching! Videos and music, refreshments but no alcohol please. 8 p.m. to midnite, last Saturdays of the month, 1240 E. Brady St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Black & White Men Together (Milw.): Meetings are the third Saturday of the month, 7-9 p.m., at the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: Milw4BWMT@aol.com.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 1094, topic meeting. Meets every Saturday at 8 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

GLB AA - Open Meeting (Madison): Every Saturday at 6 p.m. at OutReach, 14 W. Mifflin, Suite 103. FMI: call (608) 255-8582.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Social Night (Duluth, MN): Meets every Saturday. Activities include games, videos and other social events from 6-9 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple Opera Block, Suite 309. FMI: (218) 722-8585. Potluck/Social Gathering (Sheboygan): For gays and lesbians in the Sheboygan area, second Saturday of the month. Call for location and more information (920) 208-8695.

Transsexual Support Group (Madison): Offering support, direction, and social assistance to Transsexuals who are pre-op, post-op, M-F, F-M, 18 or older. Seeks to help transsexuals in every aspect of their transition and journey. Confidentiality assured. Group meetings free. Meets third Saturday of the month at Outreach, 600 Williamson St., FMI: (608) 235-0512, or email-wistsgroup@charter.net.

SUNDAYS

AA Rainhow Group (Kenosha): Meets at 7 p.m. every Sunday at St. Mary's Lutheran Church, 2001 80th St. (west entrance). FMI: (262) 694-8951.

AA for GLBTs (Fond du Lac): 6:30 p.m., Fond du Lac County Health Care Center, 459 E. 1st St. FMI: Gay AA Hotline at (888) 492-3439.

Angels of Hope MCC - Religious Services (Allouez and Appleton): Services are held every Sunday at 11 a.m. at 3607 Libal St. in Allouez, and 5 p.m. at 815 N. Richmond St. in Appleton. FMI: (920) 991-0128.

Cream City Squares (Milw.): LGBT square dance club holds weekly dance alternate Sundays through Sept. (then every Sunday thru May), 1-4:30 p.m., Lake Park Lutheran Church, 2647 N. Stowell Ave. FMI: (414) 445-8080.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 394, step/topic meeting. Meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 1394, Big Book meeting. Meets every Sunday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court Sc., Suite 201, FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw): Group 94, step/topic meeting. Meets every Sunday at 6 p.m., All Saints Cathedral, 816 E. Juneau Ave. FMI: (262) 790-0197.

Gay Al-Anon (Milw.): Papillion group, topic meeting. Meets every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay Al-Anon (Milw): Group 94 [], step/topic/slogan meeting. Meets every Sunday at 6 p.m., All Saints Cathedral, 816 E. Juneau Ave. FMI: (262) 790-0197.

Gay Men's Discussion Group - Monthly Meeting (Milw.): The group meets at the Counseling Center of Milw., 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., every second Sunday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Topics range from relationships, dating and HIV/AIDS to spirituality and mental heath. FMI: Bill Hanel at (414) 271-2565.

James Reeb Unitarian Univeralist Church - Worship Service (Madison): Services at 9 and 11 a.m. at 2146 E. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 242-8887.

LGBT Catholics (Milw.): Monthly discussion group for LGBT Catholics meets from 10:30 a.m. to Noon at Holy Trinity/Guadalupe School, 613 S. 4th St. FMI: (414) 481-8543.

Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus (Madison): Perfect Harmony is Madison's all-inclusive chorus for gay, bisexual, transgendered and gay-friendly/allied men. We are a non-audition chorus. We rehearse Sunday evenings from 7-9 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, 116 W. Washington St. FMI: (608) 221-9599.

Seeking Sobriety - Non-Religious Recovery Group (Milw.): This recovery group meets at 6 p.m. every Sunday at BESTD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St. (use side door). FMI: Danny at (414) 540-0961 or Richard at (414) 442-1132. Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting every Sunday at 6 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 200 0755

Silver Space - Older Lesbian Discussion Group (Milw.): Meets on the third Sunday of the month at the Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., from 6 to 8 p.m. \$3 donation. FMI: (414) 271-2565.

University Congregational Church - Worship Service (Madison): Weekly services are at 10 a.m. at 1127 University Ave. FMI: (608) 256-2353.

MONDAYS

BGLASS - Weekly Meeting (Appleton): The Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Society meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 109 of Coleman Hall at Lawrence University Memorial Union, 615 E. College Ave. FMI: Irene (920) 722-7572 or Bernie (920) 982-0220.

Gay AA (Milw.): "Came to Believe" group 'spirituality in the AA program Meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201, FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA/Gay Al-Anon - 12-Step Meetings (Racine): These recovery groups meet every Monday at 625 College Ave. at 8 p.m. FMI: Art at (414) 694-0115.

LGBT Youth Pride Support Group - New Meeting (Green Bay): This group will be available to youth every Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Counseling Center, 311 Jefferson St. FMI: (920) 437-4325.

OUTCARE Sexual Health Clinic (Milw.): A satellite clinic of Planned Parenthood inside the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Courr St. Walk-ins Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. FREE services for teens. (414) 277-9370.

True Colors LGBT Youth Activity Nights (Milw.): 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at ARCW, 820 N. Plankinton Ave., 1st Floor Conference room. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

Two Spirit Society (Milw.): Cultural and social support group for indigenous LGBT people, with tribal origins from North, Central and South America. Monthly events, LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. FMI: (414) 985-5151.

WISH - Generic AA 12_Step Meeting (Madison): Meets weekly at 6 p.m. at the Atwood Community Ctr., 2425 Atwood Ave. FMI: (608) 249-5096.

UWM Rainbow Alliance (Milw.): University LGBT group meets at 7:30 p.m. in Student Union Room E307. FMI: (414) 229-6555.

TUESDAYS

Gay AA (Milw.): The Over and Under 40 group. Topic meeting, everyone is welcome. Meets every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay AA (Milw.): Meeting every Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite #201. FM1 cal (414) 276-6936.

Gay Narcotics Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting. Basic Text. Meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

HIV/AIDS Support Group - Fox Cities (Menasha):
Free, confidential and open to any person living with
or affected by HIV/AIDS, the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of
the month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Family Resource
Assn. of Fox Valley, Midway Rd., 1488 Kenwood
Drive. FMI: (920) 739-4226 or Sylvia at (00) 6759400.

HIV Testing (Milw.): ARCW provides free and confidential HIV/AIDS testing the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., LGBT Resource Center at UWM, ground floor, Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: (414) 225-1535 or 271-HOMO.

LGBT Community Center - Project Q Youth Drop-In Night (Milw.): The group meets Tuesdays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m. Drop-In nights provide a variety of youth activities in a space that is welcoming, safe and accessible to LGBTQ (questioning) youth. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Madison Community Health Ctr. - HIV Testing (Madison): Free, anonymous, walk-in HIV testing from 3 to 545 p.m. at 1133 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 255-0704.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Open Discussion Group (Duluth, MN): Meets weekly from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple Opera Block, Suite 309. Topics include coming out issues, support & resources. No age limits. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

OUTCARE Sexual Health Clinic (Milw.): A satellite clinic of Planned Parenthood inside the LGBT Community Center. 315 W. Court St. Walk-ins Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. FREE services for teens. (414) 277-9370.

PFLAG Milw. Open Office (Milw.): A representative of Milwaukee PFLAG will be available to speak to parents, youth or anyone who wants to stop and say hello each Tuesday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center, FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Radical Faerie Heart Circle (Madison): 9 p.m., Martha's Co-op, 225 E. Lakelawn, near McTaggart's. FMI: (608) 442-1695.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (Milw.): Closed meeting. "The Blue Group" meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m., Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201, FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Sober Seniors AA Meeting (Milw.): This meeting is focused on the unique recovery needs of elders, and meets every Tuesday morning from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at 3200 W. Highland Blvd. FMI: ElderLink (414) 289-6874.

UHS Counseling & Consultation Services Sex Out Loud (Madison): This discussion group for Gay/Bi students meets in the Memorial Union at 12 Noon every Tuesday. FMI: (608) 265-4901.

Womonsong Rehearsal (Madison): This women's chorale meets at the Beth Israel Center at 7 p.m. FMI: (608) 222-2987.

Yoga Spirit Free Classes (Milw.): Every Tuesday there are free classes for all people living with HIV. Among other things you can reduce stress and ease neuropathy & joint pain. Classes are held at 301 N. Water St., Suite 410 at 3:30 p.m. FMI: (414) 289-9660.

WEDNESDAYS

Diversity G/L Resource Ctr. Coming Out Support Group (Rockford, IL): Meets every Wednesday at 610 E, State St. from 7 to 8 p.m. FMI: (815) 964-2639.

Gay AA (Milw.): Group 494, 12 Steps/12 Traditions. Meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Galano Club, 315 W. Court St., Suite 201. FMI: (414) 276-6936.

Gay/Bi Men's Al Anon Group (Madison): Meets at the University United Methodist Church, 1127 University Ave., every Wednesday at 6 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-4107 or (608) 846-2860. HIV/AIDS Support Group (Milw.): Every Wednesday evening at the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. Call Bill at ARCW



Ruthle Halloween @ M&M

for more information: (414) 225-1551.

HIV/AIDS Support Group (Green Bay): Free, confidential and open to any person living with or affected by HIV/AIDS on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. Meetings take place at Renaissance Healing Arts Ctr., 311 S. Jefferson from 7:30 to 9 p.m. FMI: (920) 437-4325 or Sylvia at (800) 675-9400.

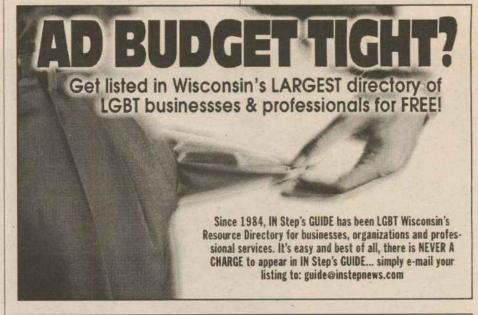
HIV Testing (Milw.): ARCW provides free and confidential HIV/AIDS testing every Wednesday from 5-7 p.m., ARCW Office, 820 N. Plankinton Ave. FMI: (414) 225-1535 or 271-HOMO.

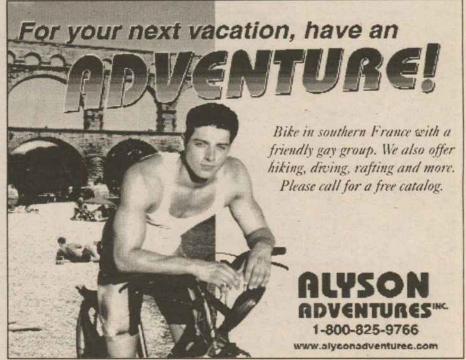
LGBT Campus Center Les/Bi Curious Women's Group (Madison): This weekly group, open specifically to lesbian, bisexual and curious women who are UWM students, meets every Wednesday night, 8 p.m. at the LGBT Campus Center on the second floor of the UWM Memorial Union, 800 Langdon St.

Madison Vet Center GLB Veterans Meeting (Madison): The group meets every Wednesday at 147 S. Butler at 5 p.m. FMI: (608) 262-7084 or (608) 264-5342.

Queer Chicks Social Group (Madison): Meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at 219 N. Hamilton St. FMI: (608) 265-3344.

True Colors LGBT Youth (Milw.): ARCW's youth group holds drop-in activity nights every second and fourth Wednesday at 820 N. Plankinton Ave. FMI: (414) 225-1573.





"Saturday Night"

By Carl M. Szatmary

There is perhaps a touch of irony in that Stephen Sondheim's first musical, "Saturday Night" has become something of a reclamation project over the past few years, much the same time frame that Sondheim's latest (dare one say final) offering, "Bounce," is winding its troubled way from workshop to pre-Broadway to its hopeful final destination, Broadway.

"Saturday Night" has had an even longer journey. Written back in the 1950s, when Sondheim was a mere 23, "Saturday Night" is a saga of a bunch of Brooklyn boys desperately seeking a date for Saturday night. The production, based upon "Front Porch in Flatbush," a play by Academy-award winning Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein, was all set to go. The death of its producer Lemuel Ayers brought the production to a halt, leaving the show to languish in obscurity until a small London company gave "Saturday

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oww.chanticleerguesthouse.com, E-mail: chanticleer@ital.com 4072 Cherry Rd. (HWY HH) Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 Night" its premiere back in 1998.

Sondheim would of course go on to do a few more Broadway shows over the years, including such heralded classics as "Company," "Follies" and "Passion."

Thanks to Mark Bucher and the Boulevard Ensemble, Milwaukee theatergoers have the opportunity to Sondheim as a youthful songwriter/lyricist.

The time is 1929, months before the Crash. Gene (Jason Powell) is a lad with big dreams, determined to start making the sort of money that everyone, even the lowly elevator boy in his building, are making on Wall Street. Gene's aspirations, quintessentially following the quest of the American Dream, is what separates him from his Brooklyn pals Artie, Ted, Dino and Ray. Their biggest concern is whether they'll have a date come Saturday night.

You can take the boy outta Brooklyn but that doesn't mean you can take Brooklyn outta the boy. Gene stumbles upon what he is sure to be a sure thing, getting all of his friends to ante up. When the stock goes south, as we all know it is going to, Gene goes to greater extremes in his quest for wealth and respect. Curiously, such a quest is also central to Sondheim's latest, "Bounce," in which real-life brothers Addison and Wilson Mizner too seek the elusive pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

As is the nature of 1950s musical, a happy ending is surely in the works.

'Saturday Night" is a perfect show for the Boulevard Ensemble requiring an energetic, youthful company and perfectly suited for its intimate playing space. Director Mark Bucher is fortunate to have two excellent leads to anchor the show.

Jason Powell successfully makes Gene

both a conniving opportunist and yet likeable. Powell exudes an easy charm, a cinch to successfully woo Kristen Pawlowski's charming Helen. Both actors wonderfully flesh out rather underwritten characters in Julius J. Epstein's choppy, meandering book.

Sondheim enthusiasts will welcome the opportunity to see the long lost Sondheim musical. Others will enjoy an unabashedly optimistic, feel-good show with a pleasant, if not exactly memorable score.

"Saturday Night" continues until Nov. 9th at the Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre located at 2252 S. Kinnickinnic.

"Never the Sinner"

By Carl M. Szatmary

Thile the phrase "trial of the century" may no longer be in vogue, there is no questioning America's continued fascination with high profile murder cases, especially if there is some degree of celebrity and race involved. If there is an element of perversion, all the better.

What image, for example, could be more quintessentially synonymous with the 1990s than that of O.J. Simpson's Ford Bronco chased through Los Angeles's freeway system? For weeks, America was literally glued to their television sets and the onetime football star was tried and convicted in millions of living rooms long before the case ever made it to a courtroom.

Jump back 60 years to Chicago, 1924 and there was another such celebrated murder trial - that of Richard Loeb and Nathan Leopold, Jr. The "Leopold and Loeb" case has inspired countless books and movies, most recently "Never the Sinner," a docu-drama written by John Logan and currently offered by Bialystock & Bloom at the Broadway Theatre Center's Studio Theatre.

Many theatergoers will be familiar with the basics of the "Leopold and Loeb" case, in which two good-looking, affluent young men - one 18 years old, the other 19 - kidnapped 14 year-old Bobby Franks, murdered him and mutilated his body, in effort to prove that they were superior ("ubermenschen") beings and therefore above the law.

As is so often the case, these Nietschean supermen-wannabes screwed up. Found near the boy's broken, nude body was Leopold's pair of eyeglasses with a very special hinge. Eventually the two would confess but never with even a suggestion of remorse.

Logan's play moves freely in time and place, taking the audience along for the ride before ending with their celebrated trial where none other than the legendary Clarence Darrow defended the two young murders. While Logan is clearly fascinated with these intriguing youths, he has a higher agenda in mind, wishing to explore

questions of the media's involvement in turning criminals into celebrities while at the same time offering debate on the merits of capital punishment.

To curious effect, Director Jonathan West centers the action within a boxing ring, placing the audience on all four sides.

While act one takes the two young men up to the murder, act two places their trial center stage, a trio of actors assume the roles of the dozens of trial reporters and emerging as something of a Greek chorus. With Leopold and Loeb pleading guilty, the two lawyers argue their suitable punishment. Jonathan Wainwright's prosecuting attorney Crowe is shrewd and determined, knowing that the media-charged public expects a hanging, seeks to oblige. Mark Metcalf expertly offers a worn and weary Clarence Darrow, hating the death penalty - and hoping to keep his successful streak alive - endeavors to make some sense out of this seemingly senseless murder

Despite Logan's meticulous research, Leopold (Nathanael Press) and Loeb (Jason Economus) remain enigmas, as surely they must. In brief, tantalizing glimpses, we begin to sense their complicated relationship, one that defies easy labeling as "boyfriends." Generally regarded as the bookish, nerdy one, Press's Leopold is for the most part made of steelier stuff. While his obsession with the handsome, extrovert Loeb is complete, Logan offers the suggestion that Leopold demands sexual favors from the often reluctant Loeb in exchange for his participation in their criminal activ-

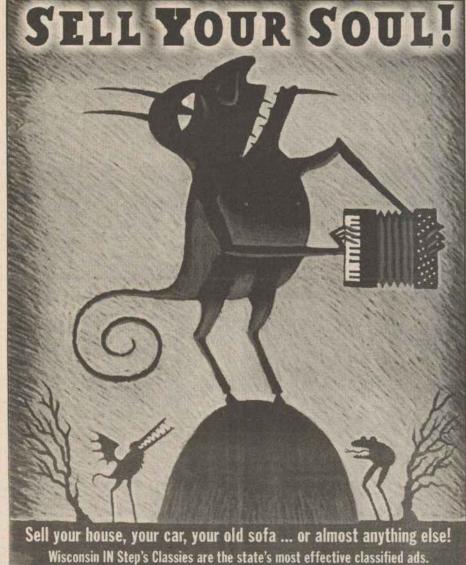
Ecomonmus's Loeb is less effectively rendered, perhaps in the actor attempt to balance the character's fascination with crime while outwardly appearing to be a typical boyish youth who loves baseball and goes out with girls. And what exactly is the nature of Loeb's devotion to Leopold?

Chillingly, Logan ends "Never the Sinner" at the very moment when the story begins. Is it chance, when bored at a party, the two young men meet? Or rather, with Loeb emerging as Leopold's prey in much the same fashion as poor Bobby Franks would later, is perhaps Logan suggesting that homosexual desire is at the root of their evil?

With West's sharp, well-paced direction and fine performances all around. "Never the Sinner" is relentless disturbing and compelling.

Highly recommended.

"Never the Sinner" continues until Nov 16, 2003 at the Broadway Theatre Center's Studio Theatre 158 N. Broadway



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GOTCHA!

By Billy Masters

ebra Messing is pregnant! I should say, Debra Messing is ALLEGEDLY pregnant, and her condition has thrown the Will & Grace production team into a frenzy. Why? We hear that there are "complications". Due to Messing's small frame and low weight, doctors have reportedly restricted the funny gal to bed rest (Sophia Loren went through this - twice) and are even initiating occasional IVs to provide nourishment to the fetus. This would explain "Grace" heading to Cambodia at the same time as the fortuitous arrival of "Will's" latest suitor, Dylan McDermott. Messing won't be totally missing from the show - sources say that she's pre-taped several phone conver-sations that will be spliced into the episodes (kinda like Suzanne Somers toward the end of her tenure on Three's Company). The hope is that Debra will be strong enough to resume a limited work schedule after the first of the year. Keep your fingers crossed (and, congrats Deb and Danny).

In other pregnancy news, Holly Marie Combs is also expecting, but her pregnancy will be written into Charmed. And, regardless of what her brother-in-law is telling people, Courteney Cox tells us that she's NOT pregnant...yet.

As previously reported, the British soap Coronation Street scored record ratings with the smooth between Bruno Langley and Adam Rickett - about 50% of the people in Merry Ole England were glued to their tellies. This wake-up call has prompted the brass at the 43-year-old show to take the nextstep -Bruno's character ("Todd Grimshaw") will get a boyfriend. Casting for the suitor is already proving to be quite fierce, with British thesps chomping at the bit to be part of this high-profile storyline (the frontrunner is Lee Latchford, a former singer with the group Steps). I hear that this romance will commence within the next three months. Meanwhile, in six years, Will has barely had a second date!

I attended Sheryl Lee Ralph's thirteenth annual Divas: Simply Singing concert, which benefited two local AIDS charities -Project Angel Food and the Black AIDS Institute. Ralph was in remarkable form, not only sounding better than ever but delivering some exceptionally strong comedic material. It's fascinating to note that most of these divas not only know how to command a stage, but also how to pick the perfect dress and song. Highlights included Loretta Devine, Jackée, and Linda Clifford. But without a doubt, the show was deftly stolen by Jenifer Lewis, who had the capacity crowd eating out of the palm of her hand. After the audience leapt to their collective feet, Sheryl literally dragged Jenifer back on stage to explain their long history. Lewis tried to escape Ralph's grasp, exclaiming, "Look, I got my standing ovation - can I go home now?" This blockbuster event was marred only by the ill-advised gay cabaret act of Geri Halliwell. She looked divine in Marilyn's "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" dress, but her weak warbling of "My Heart Belongs To Daddy" accompanied by an accordion were simply out of place.

I also attended the LA premiere of Die, Mommie, Die. Sadly, my beloved Charles Busch would not be there to bask in the adulation because he's still in NYC working on Taboo. As he wrote me, "How lovely to have such problems!" Indeed – it's no hardship to miss your big Hollywood premiere because you're busy at work on a

Broadway musical. In case you've been living under a rock, Die, Mommie, Die is a film adaptation of one of Charles' theatrical masterpieces - particularly important as it's the only professional documentation we have of him immortalizing one of his grande dames. And don't take my word on it - the film has won virtually every important award on the film festival circuit, including Charles snagging Outstanding Performance at the Sundance Film Festival. Not too shabby. While Charles' absence was surely felt at the premiere, cast members Natasha Lyonne, Jason Priestley, and the très adorable Stark Sands were in attendance and all clearly enjoying their triumph. No one saw hide nor hair of Tom Hughes and Christopher McDaniel, who play the incredibly hunky moving men who help to "console" Charles' character. But you should definitely look for their brief fullfrontal nude scene when you see the flick. Or wait a few weeks, and I'm sure we'll have it on our website!

From the big screen to the small screen, we bring you the naked body of Tom Welling. Rumors have persisted that the last time the Smallville star had a nude scene, we were actually seeing his body double. But in the October 22nd episode (entitled Slumber), there is no doubt that Tommy did his own "stunts". The scene in question shows Tom as he stands on a dock, strips, and dives into the water. In the version that aired, the camera is behind him and pointed at his ankles. You see Tom drop his clothes and dive into the water. In the version we have obtained, Welling is seen from a different angle - still from behind, but now from head to toe. The scene is staged the same way - Tom still strips and this time we see him completely naked. You'd think that would be the best part, but as he dives into the water, he overshoots a bit and reveals that he is wearing what we in the business refer to as a "Cock Sock" - that's when an actor takes a white gym sock and uses it to cover his penis, attaching it around the base with an elastic or some similar product. Let's just say that Tom's CS is quite long and bouncy, proving that there ain't nothing smallville

Because a picture is worth a thousand words, I say head over to www.filth2go.com, where you can see the entire alternate version as well as some revealing stills – sock and all – courtesy of the Filth2Go Technicians (oh, they were working around the clock on this one).

Could it be that a certain hunky actor is exploring his same-sex options? With that body, he's got TONS of potential partners, but when the paparazzi are lying in wait outside your cottage, it's hard to continue experimenting. That's when a clandestine visit to an all-night sex shop comes in handy. And nothing says loving like a training-sized butt plug and a slightly larger dildo (you have to do these things incrementally – so I'm told). I hear that he's even taken to wearing his accoutrements out in public, which would explain that swagger in his step. From the sound of it, he likes having company in his sweet valley.

When actors are wearing cock socks and butt plugs, then it's definitely time for me to get a job on the set and end yet another column. Talk about diversity. And that pregnancy story came in about two hours before deadline. In the interim, I'm always here for you. Just dash off an e-mail and send it to Billy@filth2go.com and I promise to get back to you before I'm invited to Debra's baby shower! So, until next time, remember, one man's filth is another



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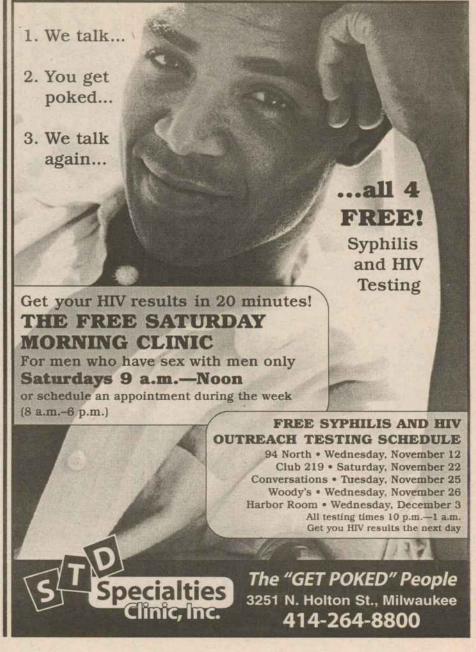
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INK

"Boy Meets Boy," "Geography Club" and "Rainbow High"

By Jim Drake

hree recent novels have taken up the theme of being gay in today's high school culture. The main characters in all three books are male teens who already know that they are gay. Each of them is attempting to find ways in which to live with themselves and with others. They discover people to whom they are attracted. They believe themselves to be in love and they feel for the first time the pain, loss and joy of trying to love someone.

In "Boy Meets Boy" David Levithan creates a world in which people to not differentiate between gay and straight. The Gay Straight Student Alliance is more for straight



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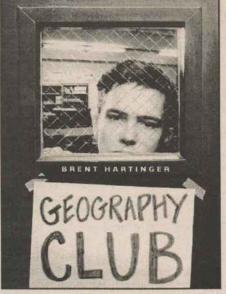
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students to understand gays. His main character, Paul, a budding baseball player, has just broken up with Kyle and has known he was gay since kindergarten when a teacher identified him as such. In Third Grade he ran for class president and won because he was the only boy known to be gay.

While this seems like a "Big Eden"

While this seems like a "Big Eden" idyll, the tolerant milieu in which these teens live allows Levithan to explore Paul's new relationship with Noah, coping with a few of the homophobic students and adults who still abide in their town and examine how a supportive family nurtures good mental and emotional health in a teenager, who happens to be gay. In this atmosphere teens can talk to each other more honestly, communicate with adults with less self-consciousness and express anger, hurt and affection with less guilt.

"Geography Club" Brent Hartinger's gay teen-agers start a club for themselves. Since they want to avoid being persecuted as gay, they call this club the geography club. Led by main character Russel Middlebrook they discuss their lives and some of the homophobia with which they contend. Russel has discovered that a nemesis in the locker room, the popular Kevin Land, is actually gay, as they meet first in a chat room, then later in a park. Russel discovers he has more confidence



being gay than Kevin does. And Russel will learn how growing up means leaving some cherished dreams behind.

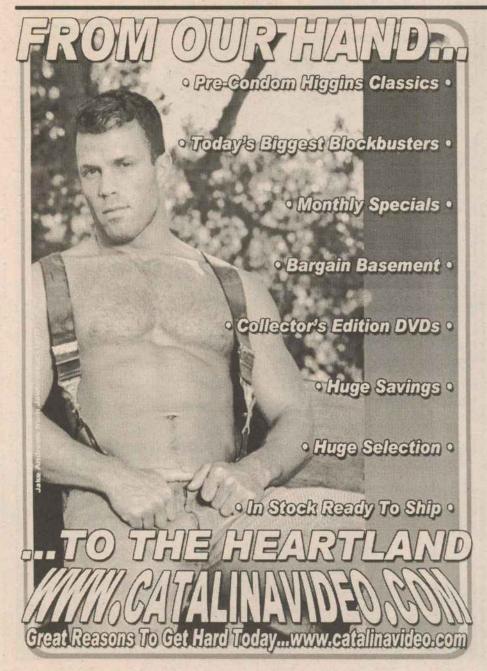
Reading this book one finds little parent involvement. Hartinger writes through Russel that they don't come in these episodes because they don't come in his life.

Russel has invented terms for the social structure of his high school. The Land of the Popular is inhabited by those students whose exploits in athletics and the social life of the school are dominant and dominating. The Borderlands of Respectability is the place where the conformists live. They do not get harassed. But they have little space in which to dream. And Outcast Island is reserved for gays, nerds and others who are so designated by the hierarchy of the Popular. Every teen in high school can identify with that structure.

Alex Sanchez's "Rainbow High," a sequel to "Rainbow Boys" and the prequel to the probable three-quel Rainbow College concerns three seniors, Jason, the popular basketball player, Kyle, a recordbreaking swimmer, and Nelson, the out and about gay boy. Sanchez follows each student as he deals with his gay identity. Nelson is out with everyone, including his mother who is very supportive, but not of his new relationship with 19-year-old Jeremy, who is HIV-positive. Jason and Kyle discovered each other in the previous novel and now must explore their relationship and future. Jason wants to come out to his basketball team, but does not want to jeopardize a college scholarship. Kyle wants to be with Jason, stifle the homophobia of his swimming mates and take advantage of a college career available to him.

In this novel Sanchez portrays how coaches, parents, and school administrators can hurt or help gay teen-agers in their quest for honesty and acceptance. His version of high school is less homophobic than Russel's and less tolerant than Paul's. Of course, many gay teens may see all-these high schools as being too idyllic.

Gay fiction, particularly fiction involving gay teen-agers, is moving away from sadness, depression, suicide and living in the margins as weird outcasts. Authors such as these are describing the different worlds of possibility available to gay teens. Also by treating the gay young person as a normal, growing teen, they portray falling in and out of love, meeting academic, social and athletic challenges and family living through the lens of being gay. They are able then to chronicle for both gays and straights the differences and similarities that growing up gay has with growing up straight. And in these three stories, there is more similarity than difference.







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DEAR RUTHIE

What a Halloween! I can't tell ya what a fantastic time I had this year! Thanks to the

175+ folks who showed up at the M&M Club for the spooky soiree on Oct. 25. The costumes were incredible and the company was great. I know I can speak for the hosts — The Halloween Fab Five - when I say thanks to all who attended! (And that certainly includes the fun and accommodating gang who work at M&M's.)

Between hosting the night's variety show, kicking up my heels in the dance tent, singing karaoke, and waking up under a skinny little Elvis impersonator the following morning, I sure was hurting come Sunday.

October 31 found me up to my elbows in dead celebrities when I attended "Hollywood Dead" — a morbidly marvelous party thrown near the UWM Campus. (Anytime there's chance of running into college boys, you can count on me to be there.) I planted my keister on the red carpet, happily playing Dolly "Joan Rivers" Levi before a camera. It was great welcorning guests as they entered, and I thank God I didn't have to put up with that bitch-daughter Melissa.

Now it's November and we're on to other things...like the Charles Busch comedy "Times Square Angel," featuring yours truly. I play a 1940s stripper who loses her Christmas spirit and goodwill toward mankind in general. (Imagine Joan Crawford playing Scrooge.)

The hilarious Hollywood sendoff runs Nov. 20 through Nov. 30 at Off the Wall Theater (directly across the street from The Rep). If you're considering a holiday show this year, make it "Times Square Angel." Tickets are selling quickly, so call (414) 327-3552 to reserve yours. Now, let's read a letter.

Dear Ruthie,

My lover is wonderful. Although there's a slight age difference between us, we have a wonderful relationship.

The problem is that he is so busy with social events and hobbies that I'm having a tough time keeping up with the house, yard and our three dogs by myself.

He keeps busy with his bowling team (a straight one), PTA events (he's a teacher), numerous after-school activities, and library and community-related volunteer work.

Now he's taking classes to learn sign language and he recently signed up to become certified to teach children's swimming classes. In the summer he's on two softball teams which eats up our weekends together.

In the beginning I liked this about him, but now that I'm getting older, I just can't manage all of our home affairs myself.

Not to mention how we don't see each other much. Do you think it's alright to ask him to cutback on such activities?

Home Alone

Dear Homer,

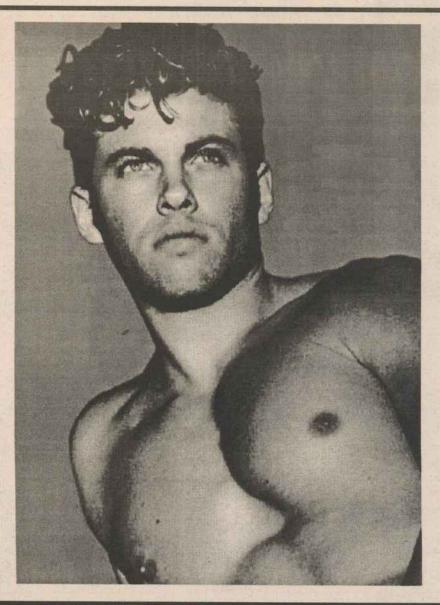
Sounds like you've got quite a busy little beaver on your hands. Answering your question is hard for me since the only interests my ex-husbands ever had was memorizing beer labels and changing channels on the TV.

It sounds to me like you've got some reasonable complaints, Sugar-booger. After all, he's out doing what he wants to do (i.e. having fun) and you're stuck taking care of business at home. I don't think you'd be out of line by asking for some help around the house. Explain that you also want more time with him.

Be reasonable and discuss things calmly. If he doesn't want to cut back on his hobbies, strive for middle ground. If he's as great of a guy as you say he is, I'm sure he'll help out a bit more and cool it with the other activities.

Do you have a question for Ruthie?

Drop her a line at
dearruthie@instepnews.com.



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Box 75, Little Chute, 54140 Web: www.pflagfoxcities.org Rainbow Alliance for HOPE (UW-O group) Reeve Memorial Union, 748 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh 54901, HOPE@uwosh.edu Web: www.uwosh.edu/organizations/hope Rainbow Over Wisconsin 703 E. Wisconsin Ave., 54911-4830 Web: www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org TSON (Transgender Support) Appleton .733-1883 ..788-4797 Religious Angels of Hope (MCC Church) 815 N Richmond991-0128 Green Bay (920)731-0849 Prarie Lakes UU Society P.O. Box 574 Ripon, WI 54971-0574 Meeting address: 315 Eureka St., Ripon Green Bay/NE **ACCOMMODATIONS** Chanticleer Guest House 4072 Cherry Rd Sturgeon Bay, 54234 . . .746-0334 BlackSmith Inn Bed & Breakfast Box 220, Baileys Harbor, 54202839-9222 Prince Edward B&B(715) 526-2805 203 West 5th Street, Shawano 54166 BARS AJ's on Broadway (Mw)436-9970 301 S. Broadway, 54303 Brandys II (MW)437-3917 1126 Main Street, Green Bay, 54301 Buddies (MW)437-9256 1264 Main Street, Green Bay, 54301 Club XS (MW, G/S, DJ, V) 1106 Main, 54301... 884-2949 Napalese Lounge (MW, DJ, F) 515 S. Broadway 54303 .432-9646 SASS (Wm. DJ) 437-7727 840 S. Broadway, 54304 Sorry, We're Closed (MW) ...884-2835 715 S. Broadawy, 54304 Za's Historic West Theatre (Mw, G/S, DJ, V, F) 405 W. Walnut St., 54303435-1057 AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin ..920-437-7400 824 S. Broadway, 54304..... Web: www.arcw.org Eastport Chiropractic (Mory Werner D. C.) Eastport Center, Suite 242, 54301 _____362-5057 HIV+ Support Groups Northeast437-7400 Indepedent Assesment & Counseling (Kenneth Sahn) 130 E. Walnut, #406 54301 ... 438-8141 Marriage and Family Therapy Center (Gerald Wellens) 735 E. Walnut, #406, 54301 . **ORGANIZATIONS** AA Hotline (for gay meeting referrals)731-4331 Argonauts of Wisconsin (L/L Social Club) PO Box 22096, Green Bay 54305-2096 Entertainers Against AIDS (Brandon) ..437-7400 X. 103 P. O. Box 2040, Green Bay 54306-2040 Katrina Kaye Productions (USofA preliminaries) Green Bay PFLAG Door County (Sandy) ...743-8146 Meetings: Hope Church, 12th & Michigan, Sturgeon Bay Positive Voice (Gay and Lesbian-Support) P. O. Box 1381, Green Bay 54305...........435-4404 Web: www.positivevoice.org or PVnew4glbt@aol.com Rainbow Alliance (St. Norbert College) 100 Grant Street DePere 54115-2099 www.snc.edu/rainbow/index.htm or rainbow@snc.edu

Straight & Gay Alliance (SAGA)

AngelS of Hope (MCC Church)

3607 Libal Street, 54301 ...

Web: www.greenbayuu.org

Union Congregational Church-UCC

Web: www.uwgb.edu/tenpcnt

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716 S. Madison St, Green Bay 54301437-9266

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Door County

P.O. Box 859, Sister Bay, WI 54234-0859

269 Koessl Lane, Sister Bay 54234854-7235

...465-2343

UW-GB(Brian)

Religious

Madison (608) ACCOMMODATIONS

Prairie Garden B&B

CE's (Wm)

2415 Winnebago St., 53704241-5042

121 West Main St., 53703 ORGANIZATIONS

Briarpatch 512 E. Washington St. 53703257-0394 Web: www.brpatch.org Brew City Bears P.O. Box 8815, 53708-8815, Milw......299-0401 E-mail: bcbears@aol.com Campus Womens Center 710 University Ave, #202, 53715 262-8093 Different Spokes G/L/B Bicycling Club....241-8184 18-21 Yr Old Social Group256-2667 Flaming Dykasaurus E-mail: dykasaur@aol.com Frontiers (Gay/Bi Mens Activities Organ.) 600 Williamson St, 53703..... 274-5959 Gay/Bi Father's Group 600 Williamson St. 53703.... Gay/Lesbian Information Recording (ask for tape #3333).... Gay Mens Video Club 244-8675 P.O. Box 8234, 53708 .

75 Bascom Hall, Madison 53706263-5700

Madison Area Gay/Lesbian History Society 839-4060 E-mail: dbergren@facstaff.wisc.edu Mad City Bears 225-8582 c/o OutReach, 600 Williamson, Madison 53706

600 Williamson St, 53703255-8582 email: outreachine.com, web: www.outreachine.com Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians P.O. Box 1772 53701

SAGE/Madison-Dane _____255-8582

Scrawl (Women's Open Mic, Music)245-9681

http://www.checkpages.com/brainiacs/allgirlscrawl Shake It Up! (L/G/B/T Social Org)240-0504 http://www.aplaceforus.org/shakeitup.htm Stage Q (Theater Group)663-6463 http://www.stageq.com 10% Society (student organization) http:/tps.storg.wisc.edu, e-mail: .262-7365 P.O. Box 260394, 53726 .. Unicorns of Madison (L/L club) P.O. Box 536, 53701 UW LesBiGay Alumni Council262-2551 Womansong (Woman's Charal Group)246-2681 RELIGIOUS Affirmation (L/G United Methodists) University Church, 1127 Univ. Ave, 53705 Church of the Holy Spirit (Inclusive) 2144 E. Johnson St., (meeting at James Reeb) ...661-4462 Coming Out, Coming Together (Interfaith) ..249-1537 E-mail: cwolfe@mailbag.com First Congregational UCC Church233-9751 1609 University Ave., 53705 Web: www.firstcongmadison.org Integrity/Dignity P.O. Box 730, 53701. ...836-8886 James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church 2146 E Johnson, 53704 Services Victoria Hewelt Cazel (Attorney) 6701 Seybold Rd., Suite 103 KMA Systems of Madison (Computer Consultants) 4702 Dutch Mill Road #14 Retail

Milwaukee (414)

Border's Books

Rubin's

3416 University Ave., 53705 _____232-2600

317 E. Wilson St. 53704 _____255-8998

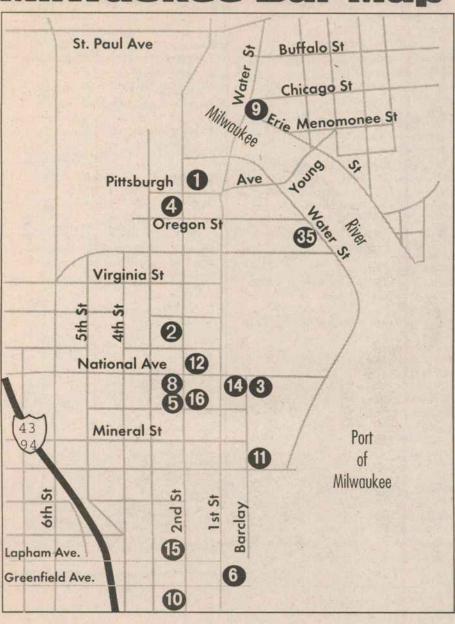
Gay/Lesbian Studies UWM .229-6402
Gay People's Union
P.O. Box 208, 53201 .645-0585
Gay Youth Milwaukee (peer group meetings)
P.O. Box 090441, 53209 .265-8500
Gay Straight Alliance
(Waukesah County Technical College)

Great Lakes Harley Riders, P.O. Box 341611, 53234-16 Holiday Invitational Tournament (G/L bowling event) P.O. Box 899, 53201

www.instepnews.com • Septemb
Keep Hope Alive (HIV Holistic Support)
P.O. Box 27041, West Allis, 53227 548-4344
P.O. Box 27041, West Allis, 53227
315 W Court 53212 272-9442
Log Cabin Republicans (Gay Republicans) P.O. Box 199, 53201
P.O. Box 199, 53201
MGALA (Marquette U. GL Alumni)
P.O. Box 92722, 53202
Marquette Gay/Straight Alliance
Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St, 53233 288-6873
Men's Voices Milwaukee
315 W. Court St., 53212
Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club (Brian)704-1688
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center271-2656
315 W. Court, 53212
Milwaukee Symphony Chorus
Auditions/Info
Narcotics Anonymous (request gay mtgs.)800-711-6375
Orgullo Latino/a Latin Pride
(c/o Murguia) 1532 N. Astor St. 53202 276-8546
Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group 963-9833
Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group963-9833 Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
315 W. Court. 53212 299-9198
Pathfinders (youth counseling, shelter)
Pathfinders (youth counseling, shelter) 1614 E. Kane Place, 53202
PrideFest (annual Pride festival)
907 S. 1st St., 53204
Web Site: www.pridefest.com
Project Q (Youth Program of the Milwaukee LGBT Center)
315 W. Court, 53212, www.projectq.org 223-3220
The Queer Program (Cable TV Show)
PO Box 090441, 53209
Rainbow Alliance at UWM
Box 122, 2200 E. Kenwood 53211
Web: www.uwm.edu/studentorg/glbc/ Riverwest Rainbow Association
1001 E. Keefe Ave., 53212
SAGE Milwankee (for older (GRTs)
PO Box 510492 53203-0091 224-0517
Saturday SoftBall League (SSBL)
P.O. Box 92605, 53203-0091
C 10 11 4 (COA) 000 0000
Sexual Computatives Anonymous (SCA)
P.O. Box 510283, 53203-0051
SHVET Space (for older lesblans)
c/o Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett
Two Spirit Society (Indigenous LGBT People of America)
315 W. Court St., 53212
Wisconsin Haverim (GLBT Jewish Group)
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WisconsinHaverim
Zohar Harari: zoharwi@yahoo.com (414) 202-8074 Mark Behar: mpbehar@wisc.edu, (414) 277-7671
Wark Benar: mpbehar@wisc.edu, [414] 277-7671
Wisconsin Outdoor Women (outdoor sporting events)

ber 11 – September 24, 2003
P.O. Box 94, Hales Corners, 53130
RELIGIOUS
All Saints' Episcopal Church
818 E. Juneau Ave., 53202
ARCW Spiritual Care
P.O. Box 92487, 53202 225-1565
Central United Method Church
639 N. 25th St., 53233
Cross Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)
1821 N. 16th St., 53205 344-1746 Dignity (G/L Catholic Church)
PO Rox 597 53201 873-9591
P.O. Box 597, 53201
1342 N. Astor St., 53202
Lake Park Lutheran Church
2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211
Lutherans Concerned P.O. Roy, 1676, 53201 372,9663
P.O. Box 1676, 53201
(UFMCC) 1239 W. Mineral St., 53204
Adm. Office: 170 S. 2nd St., 53204
Pentecost Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)
5226 W. Burleigh St., 53210
15400 W. North Ave., Brookfield 53005 .[262] 782-6440
Plymouth Church-HCC (Open & Affirming)
2717 E. Hampshire St., 53211
1636 W. National Ave., 53204
St. Ann's Church
5933 W. National Ave., 53214
St. James Episcopal Church
833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233
Village Church (Reconciled in Christ) 130 E. Juneau Ave., 53202
Medical
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
820 Plankinton Ave., 53203
Maria Pala PA C (Faral J. Para Cara) (800) 359-9272
Mark Behar, PA-C (Family/ Primary Care) Family Care Center, 1834 W WI, 53233
BESTD (Brady East STD Clinic) (STD/HIV diagnosis/treatment)
www.bestd.org; bestd@execpc.org
1240 E. Brady St., 53202
Health Options (Holistic Health Services)
823 N. 2nd Street, #811, 53202
4311 W Vliet, 53208
Positive Health Clinic
Medical Center Specialties Clinic
945 N 12, 53233
3251 N Holton, 53212
22271101011 30212 11111111111111111111111111

Milwaukee Bar Map



Bars/Clubs	
Ballgame (Mw, V, D, F) 196 S. 2nd St., 53204	
Bar Map: #1 Boom (Mw, D, V)www.boommke.com	
625 S. 2nd St., 53204277-5040	
Bar Map: #2 Boot Camp (M, L/L) 209 E. National Ave., 53204	
209 E. National Ave., 53204	
C'est La Vie (Mw. D)	
231 S. 2nd St., 53204	
Club 219 (MW, DJ, V) 219 S. 2nd St., 53204	
Bar Map: #4 Fluid (Mw)www.fluid.gaymke.com	
819 S. 2nd St., 53204	
Bar Map: #5 Harbor Room (L/L, Mw)www.harbor-room.com	
117 E. Greenfield Ave., 53204	
Bar Map: #6 Nut Hut (WM, G/S, F, D)	
1500 W. Scott 53201	
La Cage/ECT (Mw, DJ, V, F)www.lacage.gaymke.com	
801 S. 2nd St., 53204	
M&M Club (MW, F)	
Bar Map: #9	
Out 'N About (MW, DJ, V, F)	
Bar Map: #10 1407 S. Water St., 53204	
Pulse (Mw, D, F)	
200 E. Washington St., 53204	
Switch (Mw)	
Bar Map: #12	
This Is It (M) 418 E. Wells 53202	
Bar Map: #13 Triangle (M, V)	
135 E. National 53204	
Bar Map: #14 Woody's (Mw, D)	
1579 S. 2nd St., 53204	
Walker's Pint (Wm) 818 S. 2nd St.,, 53204	
818 S. 2nd St.,, 53204	
Restuarants Azteca	
816 South 5th St., 53202	
Bella's Caffe (Coffee House) 189 N. Milwaukee St., 53204	
Cafe Knickerbocker 1030 East Juneau, 53202	
Cempazuchi	
1205 E. Brady St., 53202	
1340 W. Towne Square Rd., Mequon, 241-9589	
733 South 2nd St., 53204	
Harry's Bar and Grill 3539 N. Oakland Ave, 53211	
10 M&M/Glass Menagerie (lunch, dinner, Sunday brunch) 124 N. Water 53202	
North Shore Bistro	
Riverpoint Village, I-43 & Brown Deer351-6100 Out 'N About (lunch, dinner, Sat. & Sun. brunch)	
Silver Dollar Cafe	
831 South 16th Street, 53204	
Gay People's Union	
(866) GAY-YOUTH	
Milwaukee Metro	
Information and referral	
Wisconsin AIDSline (free/anonymous) (414) 273-AIDS	
Services (800) 334-AIDS	
Affiliated Mortgage	
A&J Promotions (Promotional Products)	
aandjpromotions@aol.com Bay Tax Service, Paul Rathjen	
Frank J. Berger, (Real Estate)	
BttG Construction 405-7843 Sean Buckley (Individual Psychotherapy) 562-2403 Bill Buresh (Real Estate) 579,0500	
Bill Buresh (Real Estate)	
1840 N. Farwell Ave. Ave	
Clarity (Writing and Research)	
Downtown Autobody (Car Repair)	
3425 N. Holton Ave	
Discovery & Recovery Clinic (Counseling) 6510 W Layton Ave, 53215	
Diva Plumbing Co. 324-6698	
Residential & Commercial, divaplumbers@ao.com	

	vvisconsin ilv step rage so
	Dykeman Family Heating (heating/cooling)
i	1023 E. Brady St., 53202
	2266 N. Prospect, Suite 206 53202 272-2427 Full Moon Productions (Women's Music Promoters)
Ì	N235 Co Hwy W, Campbellsport, 53010
	The Garden Room (Garden Design)
ì	2385 S. Kinnickinnic Ave
	Horizon Travel (Member IGTA) N81 W15028 Appleton, Men. Falls 53051 255-0704
	Hume, Attorney Kathleen
	5665 S 108th, Hales Corners, 53130
	hypnosis, HIV & Vocational Counseling) 276-8669
	Warren Klaus (attorneys) 5665 S. 108th, Hales Corners 53130529-2800
	C.A. Klein (Accounting Services)
	Linda Jo Martin (Psychotherapist)
	Saukville/Port Washington
	Red Tail Painting & Restoration
	Red Tail Painting & Restoration
1	Reiki Master/Wm Jacobs
	[energy balancing]
1	Diane Bloom/Sandy Lewis
	Jeanie Simpkins, (MS), (counseling)
1	home/voice mail
	Streff Advertising/Sandy Lewis
1000	7600 Harwood Äve., Wauwatosa, 53213 The Right Angle (carpentry)
	Tech Support (computer technical support)
	Third Coast Courier (delivery)
	515 Glenview, Wauwatosa, 53213
	Travel Experience (Travel Agency)
	by appointment only
	1661-N. Water St., Suite 411, 53202272-2116
	2Burn (Ventless Fireplaces, Gifts)
	11708 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa607-7000
	Absolute Furniture 5520 W. North Ave
	Body Ritual (Body Piercing, Jewelry, Gifts)
	2010 N. Farwell Ave., 53202
	7219 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, 53214607-4068
	Clinton Street Antiques 1110 South First Street
	Constant Reader Bookshop 1627 E Irving PL, 53202
	Eyez Unique (optical)
	2238 S. Kinnickinnic Ave,
	2201 E Capitol Dr., 53211
	6011 W. Layton Ave
	Great Frame Up 507 E. Silver Spring Dr
	Frank Cantile (Auto Danler)
	Hwy 20. Racine
	1209 E Brady St., 53202
	1901 E. Rawson Ave., Oak Creek 53154
	1225 E. Brody St., 53202
	Out of Solitude Jewelry 918 E Brady St., 53202
	Outpost Natural Foods 100 E. Capital Dr., 53212
	exchange@execpc.com
	Outwards (LGBT Books and espresso bar) 2710 N. Murray Ave., 53211
	exchange@execpc.com Popular News (adult books, videos)
	225 N. Water St., 53202
	6833 W. North Ave
i	Rubin's 274 F. Chirago St. 53202 278-8100
	Coartland 2 (materialise)
	721 S. 13th St
	1418 E. Brady St, 53202
	Wishful Things (Antiques) 207 E Buffalo, 53202 964-9799 Health Clubs
	35 Midtowne Spa (Gay Health and Recreational Facility)
	315 S. Water St., 53204
	Central (715)
	AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin 1105 Grand Ave., #3, Schofield, 54476(800) 551-3311
	Central Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance
	P.O. Box 390, Stevens Point, 54481
	ext. 5920200 (715) 592-6245,
	Joseph T. Chojnacki, PH.D. (Psychologist)
	Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, 54449387-5442 The Edgewater - Inn & Resort
	Eagle River, 545211-888-334-3987
	http://www.edgeinn.com

	w.instepnews.com • No
A ST WATER	ociety/Wausau848-0608
UWSP	10% Society
UWS	pus Activities Complex, Box 68 P, Stevens, Point, 54481346-4366
LDS Br	otherhood (Gay Mormons)
P.O.	Box 152, Wausau, 54402848-0343
Oz (MV	V, DJ, V)
	Washington, Wausau 54401842-3225 DS Spiritual Support & Education
	4th Ave, Stevens Point 54481345-6500
Marshi	field Gay Lesbian Organ. (MGLO)
	30 S. Central Ave., #3 Marshfield, 54449
	715) 387-2068 Jim:(715) 384-6731 Edward B&B
	W 5th, Shawano 54166526-2805
Wausa	u Narcotics Anonymous
(ask	for Gay meetings)536-LIFE
Women	n's Resource Center UWSP Nelson Hall, Stevens Pt. 54481346-4851
	th Cent. (715)
	sbian Support Group 247A, 1411 Ellis Ave. Ashland 54806
	rn WI Lambda Society
	Sox 802, Rhinelander 54501362-4242
SHEM	Support, Heal, Educate) for Parents, Family, Friend
	sys/Lesbians/Bi's359-7432
Out Up	North (G/L Social/Info/Network) Box 695, Washburn, 54891682-2890
She	eboygan (920)
	te (Mw) 1029 N. 8th, 53081
	ats & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
	cy: 458-2506Carolyn:
823	Jnion Avenue, Sheboygan458-4889
Dac	ine/Kenosha
	esource Center of Wisconsin
	57th St., Kenosha, 53140657-6644
********	(800) 924-6601
	4 (MW, DJ)857-9958
	120th Ave (Hwy Ctt I-94) Kenosha 53140
	Sentile (Auto Dealer) 20 Racine 53403886-5111
	(MW, DJ)634-9804
	Racine St (Hwy 32) Racine 53403
What A	bout Me? (WM)
1000000	5th St. Racine 53403632-0171
	(Group 294 Meeting)554-6611
	bian Union of Racine College, Racine 54303634-0659
IIW-Pa	rkside G/L Organization595-2244
900	Nood Rd., Box 200, Kenosha 53141
	Kenosha/Racine(262) 649-2729
	lox 580058, Pleasant Prairie, 53158 il: pflagkenosha@aol.com
	nitewater G/L Student Union472-5738
309	AcCutchen Hall, Whitewater 53190
Wychw	olde (Jewelry & Gifts)843-4209
8321	Antioch Rd (Hwy 83), Salem 53168
Sou	th Cent. (715)
AIDS N	etwork Satellite Office (AIDS Info)
P.O. E	lox 8486., Janesville 53545756-2550
Nor	thwest (715)
AIDS R	source Center of Wisconsin836-7710
	Dewey Street S., Suite 107 Eau Claire 54701
-	(800) 750-2437
	esource Center of Wisconsin394-4009
1507	Tower Ave., Suite 230, Superior 54880 (877) 242-0282
Backwe	ods Bears (For Bear Men)
	ox 264, Superior 54880
Do-Ri-	Chi (Bed & Breakfast)
	Spruce St, Chippewa Falls723-0943
	ove B&B (egicove@cannon.net)448-4302
	7 120th Avenue, Maiden Rock, 54750
	(Campus LesBiGay group) Barfield, 132 Davies Ctr, Eau Claire 54701
1354	ommunity Center of Chippewa Valley
	enter@hotmail.com)
LGBT C	147
(gayo	geocities.com/glbtcommunitycenter/
(gayo www. P.O. E	ox 383, Eau Claire, 54702(715) 559-5751
(gayo www. P.O. E The Tra	geocities.com/glbtcommunitycenter/ lox 383, Eau Claire, 54702(715) 559-5751 ding Company (MW, DJ)838-9494 au Claire Street, Eau Claire 54701
(gayo www. P.O. E The Tra 304 E The Ma	iox 383, Eau Claire, 54702(715) 559-5751 ding Company (MW, DJ)838-9494 au Claire Street, Eau Claire 54701 in Club (MW, DJ)
lGBT C (gaye www P.O. E The Tra 304 E The Ma 1217	iox 383, Eau Claire, 54702(715) 559-5751 ding Company (MW, DJ)838-9494 au Claire Street, Eau Claire 54701 in Club (MW, DJ) Tower Ave, Superior 54880392-1756
(gayo www. P.O. E The Tra 304 E The Ma 1217 Northia	iox 383, Eau Claire, 54702
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Great P.O. B The Tra 304 E The Ma 1217 Northia 8 N. 2 Parents Great P.O. B 22 (soc P.O. B	lox 383, Eau Claire, 54702

Trio (Wm)



By Michael Johnston

hey say there is no place like home – I can't help but agree. Yet, a strong argument would be Key West,

Florida during FantasyFest. And the fact that it was their 25th Anniversary only added a little silver to it!

I've had the pleasure to visit this Paradise before, my "first time" as part of legion that established The Key West International AIDS Memorial. It's still there! The Memorial still has the same effect on me it did seven years ago when it was dedicated. Evoking memories of my affiliation with the Miller Brewing Company, Landmark Enterprises and dear colleagues: Jon Martin, Jim Moore, Dan Austin and Tommy Kuehl to name but a few.

For long-time readers, you may remember I rang in the New Century in Key West, too. This time I went with a "Party Troop" of: Jerry Skals, Lee Trudell and the unofficial Mr. Key West, Roland Hoffmann. Our accommodations were at the award-winning Equator Resort. Here is where Gary, Steve, John and The Equatorettes treated us like visiting royalty! I guess when Miss Chattanooga is your hostess, how else would one be received? Oh how I miss the black bottom pool, my rubber ducky, the whirlpool spa and all the fun we shared at this top notch guest house.

Our first night we were welcomed with a Toga Party! Now, I know why the Roman Empire fell... The Masquerade March was simply marvelous starting off - where else? - but their Historic Cemetery! Due to geographical constraints, this is an above ground grave yard. Great monuments and headstones - my favorite one read: "May I Help You?" next line "Are You Retarded?" This Parade in a word was WILD! Such costumes, originality and well-executed! Guest houses, restaurants, bars and some grand homes offered punch of every description to the revelers. That was our role also. We dressed as Dr. McGillicuddy(s) offering other marchers and audience alike a "shot" of the good doctor. Talk about great P.R. That is one Dr. who is going to get MY bill! To get the total visual, think Mardi Gras with public participation - very daring, exciting and tasteful.

Thank God for digital cameras! At the March is where I connected with a dear, dear friend of yore – Mike Bento, my Washington, D.C. connection. He has spent some favorable days and even more favorable nights here in Milwaukee. It was great catching-up with him and meeting his impressive beau, Chris Watts. Beware BrewTown, he's promised a return in the not so distant future!

The Key West Wreckers held their annual Leather Ball at the Island House. I had the pleasure of attending. The music was nice, I don't remember too much dancing... Talk about your nights, or is that knights, in black leather... What I won't do for this column! Captain Morgan's Fantasy Fest Parade – celebrating the 25th year this magical procession has WOWED partygoers – literally closed down the town. Everyone was there, and talk about overall diversity and acceptance! Floats to rival the Macy's Day Parade, Costumes and the lack there of... Beads – truly phenomenal!

It Ain't Over Till The Fat Lady Sings
Tea By The Sea is the final formal event of
FantasyFest. Save the last dance for the fat
lady, fulfill your fantasies and take a walk
on the wild side! That is how the Sunday
Tea Dance is billed. Atlantic Shores is the
legendary spot to be seen at and to see, at

CORDIALLY YOURS

the sea. An outdoor bar, restaurant, pool, the ocean and hotel. This resort welcomes everyone and, in accordance with the island, is clothing optional. Think St. Tropez in the old U.S.A. The option being: I'll keep my clothes on, you take yours off!

Here is where neighbor lady Rosalind, Jerry Skals, Lee and Cordially yours hooked up with our Washington connection, Mike & Chris, spending the sunny Sunday afternoon sipping on bloody(s). Katey, the manager of The Shores, was reuniting with Rosalind when the subject of who was doing the honor of closing ceremonies came up. As fate would have it, for the first time in the Silver years this extravaganza has been held their was no one cast... not yet at least!

Roland Hoffmann, aka Neighbor Lady Rosalind nee Irving "Swifty" Lazar (my agent), got ME the gig! Now I wasn't crazy about the billing, but... it could be spelt PHat lady! Well, the rest of the day is a bit of a blurrry, so many things to see to ... (what to wear, what to perform ...) With the help of Lee and Roland the song "I Am What I Am" by Gloria Gaynor from La Cage was selected. It didn't hurt that Jerry Herman, who owned two mansions on the island, wrote the tune. Before I knew it, there I was before 1,000 celebrants! With the ocean as a back drop and four trusted friends "spotting" me from an upright dance box I sold the song and closed the party. What a rush! Not since opening for Bette Midler at AIDS Walk Wisconsin 1996 have I known such a natural high! I must acknowledge my gratitude to Roland, because he got me that gig, too! To more bookings...

Such universal love, acceptance, approval - a thrill should be bottled and available to all! To think, I went to FantasyFest not knowing what to expect my good friend David Howser said "K.V., just go and have fun..." and that is just what I did. The party continued at the 801, then Bourbon Street and Aqua - a night I'll never forget. I only wish that Goldie Adams would have been there to make me stage-ready! Like every party, it's the people who make it, so besides Roland, Jerry, Lee, Mike, Chris, Katey, Gary, Steve, John, Monty, there was New Hampshire's very own Norman, David & Doug, Don (who left his trailer behind) & David from Minneapolis, Michelle the lovely localite of AIDS Help, Eddy & Nick who have their own East Coast inn, The Sandy Hook Cottage Bed & Breakfast in Highlands, New Jersey. Their charming abode is a flawless ferry ride from Gotham City. Check out their wonderful website: www.sandyhookcottage.com. We flew into Miami and motored the Keys - what a view! Well worth the time invested.

O.K., enough of my Autumn sojourn. While I was away things didn't stop for a minute in good ole' Milwaukee. Just like last year, Mark Hagen & Todd Richards with Jeff Gosseck and Jeff & Eric hosted THE Halloween Party II. This year's venue was the venerable M&M Club. I heard it was the place to be and great fun was had by all.

Before flying off to FantasyFest, I did enjoy The M's 27th Anniversary Party, "Polka Till You Puke Octoberfest." The room was full of the cherished patrons that make M&M that home away from home: BooBoo, John, Joan Bennett, Peter Harvey, Ms. Rona, DeDe, D.J., Tony, Barbie, C.S., Debi Vance, Crispy & Chad as well Coda helping out on the drums represented the faces of The M's. The drums belonged to The Dombrowskis, alias "Mr.

Yummy," who with his Mrs. played that old squeeze box into dawn's early light. Raising their collective glasses were: Jerry Skals, Keith, Jim Bartelt, Princess Debbie, Princess Charlotte Lorraine, Ginger, David Howser & Dean, Doug, Dan, Tony Heller, Michael Davis, Lizzie Bordeaux, Bruce & Phyl, Paul Milakovich & Todd "the bod," Richard Quick, Cindy O., Michael & C.C., Stewie on camera, Joyce Bevan, the piano lady, BoBo, Candy Stick, Cookie Sue, Martina and many, many more. Excellent food, music, dancing, singing, drink specials, "Queen For A Day" (and no I didn't win!).

A Gay-la that I was able to attend was Dr. Beto & D.J. Tim's Halloween Ball. Come as your favorite dead Hollywood star. Most of mine are otherwise taking that old dirt nap. The scene was The Northshore Funeral Home and Jody & Bill were kind enough to open their doors to about 300 guests. The food catered by Sharon Dixon and ETC./La Cage. Kudos for costumes Cream City! All were a treat no easy trick there! Lucy Ricardo, Marilyn Monroe, Carmen Miranda and Audrey Hepburn were the overall most popular. Although on occasion I enjoy getting gussied up, it confounds me at these parties. Who are they? Trying to be or in real life - so it's a bit of a challenge..

I'll site their personas and you can go from there: Joan Crawford, Roz Russell, Meryl Streep, Natalie Wood, the Tin Man with a heart on, Glinda, the Gladiator, Frankenstein, The Oscar, Hattie McDaniel, Errol Flynn, Gene Autry, Jay Silverheels, Telly Savalas, Linda Lovelace (eyeing up his lollipop), The 3 Stooges. I was Gloria Swanson. At other gatherings we were treated to Elizabeth Taylor & Richard Burton as George & Martha, Harpo Marx and David Gest & Liza Minelli, Ike & Tina Turner. Bravo, you were all award winners!

The final "American Drag Idol" was held at Woody's. Those boys made us all feel sooo welcomed. Thank you! I only wish Steve would have been there ... A great turnout with 5 extraordinary contestants: Anna Conda, Joan Bennett, Chi Chi & Jeffrey, Amber and, all the way from Madison, the considerable talents of The Hudson Sisters. Crowd faves: Alexis Winters and Dear Ruthie did double duty entertaining us all with a number and judging along side HIT/MilMAIDS devotee Debi Vance. Receiving the positive nod from the judges were: ChiChi and The Hudson Sisters, joining other winners Maraschino Shari and Wilma Finger-Do in the honor of performing at The HIT Welcome Show. The show will take place Thanksgiving night at Club 219 at 10 p.m.

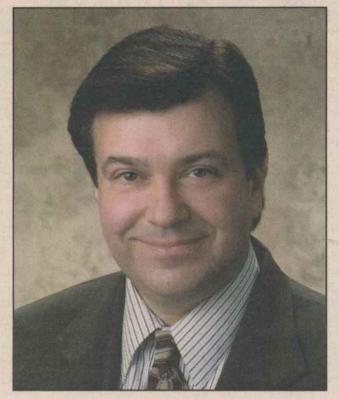
David & Tim of Boom will be bringing an up and coming New York comedian to Milwaukee on Friday, Nov. 16 as a Fund-raiser for Mens Voices Milwaukee. While the men may bring you music, drop by Boom and get dose of much needed laughter!

Brava to Ms. Debi Vance, her Halloween Costume was tops! She went as a Princess, Nurse, Nun, Entertainer all-inone designer scrubs, the answer Charlotte Lorraine!

Sending "Get Well" wishes to Diane Weise of The Marcus Center – soon she'll be back and better than ever!

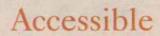
A fond farewell to Michael, who is off to Poland. You may live anywhere in this vast world Michael, but please remember Milwaukee will always be Home!

Until next time, I remain Cordially Yours.



Jack H. Smith

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