isconsin's LGBT News Source

PREMIERE ISSUE

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DECEMBER 15, 2004



By By Michael Hinzman

It is time that we make our voices heard louder than ever before. It is time that we demand that our leaders in this country realize, we have the same rights as not only Americans But also Gay Americans. It is time that we no longer hide ourselves away in our professional places of employment, schools, churches, neighborhoods. No, it is time we ring the bell demanding equal rights, from our so-called leaders that would deny our simply right to be.

It is time my fellow Gay Americans to become diligent in our pursuit of happiness. We no longer can allow our community counted only when convenient. No, it is time we take our rightful place among the dogmatic heterosexual society. It is time that we teach our children the true meaning of diversity and toler-ance for others. It is time that we make it known there is no shame in which we are, and that we shall not hide any longer appearing the status quo.

It is time Gay America; we take back that which is so rightly ours. Our rights to love, live, and pursue the American dream. It is time that unity becomes an all-yearlong event for our community, helping one another. Calling on the brothers and sisters, throughout this great Nation to unite in our just cause. We no longer can allow the conservative movement to destroy what our past advocates fought so diligently for. No, we must refuse to go out quietly unassuming and most assuredly not agree-able with the obvious Gay unfriendly agenda that the current administration is so graciously building here in our home-

It is time advocates, to dust off the signs and fill this generation with the desire for equality, which has brought us this far. It is time gay America for Marches on Washington, signed petitions, letters to our leaders. Yes, positive voices united in what we have been accused of for so long. "The Gay agenda." It is time Gay America, we bring our community. Gay America, we bring our community together to prevent the separation of our community of Gay America, at the hands of the conservative agenda that is becoming more obvious every day

It is time Gay America that we stand for our causes and not allow our own self doubt and discouraging feelings, to allow these self righteous to push us back into the closet. It is time to refuse the acceptance of our community simply for the entertainment of the straight world. It is time to claim our rightful place in the UN-united states where, every man and women is meant to be created equal. It is time to stop the madness and discrimination of our people. No, we can no longer allow our community members to remain in the uncon-cerned state, that allows these self righteous to quietly heard our people as they did in days since past. We must educate our youth for the cause at hand.

It is time Gay America that we make our contributions known throughout the land. The artist, politician, doctor, lawyer, the teacher, church leaders, commu-nity worker, laborer. It is time that our daily contributions be tallied showing our right for equal justice, protection, and right to live our life. We can no longer remain quiet and agreeable with the status quo. Allowing our voices to be smothered by the conservative would be dictators. We can no longer fear retaliation for simply standing while being

It is time Gay America to show we are many not a few. It is time to come into the sunlight of free America and claim what is ours. Yes, gay America it is time to get involved and use our voices to be heard above the ranging hate and intolerance. Our losses are many, while our needs are greater yet. It is time gay America that or community goes on high alert. We are in danger to falling victim to the conservative agenda. The conservative agenda has drawn the lines, refusing to grant us what is ours by the very definition of our constitution; and that is simply freedom. Freedom to live and love whom we want. Freedom to be the person that the great power above

Gay America—We pay our taxes while contributing to society. Why should it even be suggested that we do not have the basic equality that the straight society hold as Americans? Why should we be silenced until they see a purpose for us? These are the questions Gay Americans should be asking themselves in this our darkest hour. What is to become of our community if we sit back while we are steamrolled by the conservative agenda? Pink triangles, Camps, registra-tion of our members? While, these notions may seem extreme and unlikely, ask yourself what are their plans are for

It is time Gay America, the call is now. Everyday more and more gay unfriendly rulings are setting the stage for gay life in America. We need to bring awareness of the issues to our community mem-bers. It is more than political agendas at work here. We are becoming the most discriminated against community in the United States where, even other communities of diversity and once openly discriminated against, have joined with the conservative agenda. It is time Gay America.

PRIDEFEST SEEKS INPUT AT TOWN HALL, ANNOUNCES DATES FOR 2005



The PrideFest Task Force hosted a town hall meeting Thursday, November 11, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, to present audited results of the 2004 festival and seek input for the 2005 event.

The Men in Glen Hanson's Head By Andrew Hicks

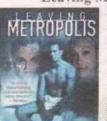


It was just a little after 10am when I picked up the phone to call artist and cartoonist Glen Hanson to chat about his new book GMEN, which will be released this month. Hanson's work contains every thing from print ads to cartoons to his comic strip Chelsea Boys that he creates with collaborator Allan Neuwirth, but we

will talk more about that later. Today, Hanson is overworked and not even noticing the time when I call.

"This is turning out to be, from a work standpoint- in terms of having to do everything myself kind of work, probably the hardest year," says Hanson as we start our conversation. While this may prove to be Hanson's busiest year, he is no stranger to working hard. After studying animation at Sheridan College, Glen went on to design characters for TV's, "Beetlejuice" and MTV's "Daria." In 2000 he launched the series "Spy Groove" and as a result was nominated for an Annie Award (which is a prestigious art director award) for his art direction and design. He has since developed shows for Nickelodeon and Disney studios. HANSON - page 14

Leaving Metropolis



Written By Cam Lindquist

Now playing on here! TV and available on DVD

What do you get when you take a famous gay painter, a questioning ex-cartoonist/restaurant owner, a doll-col-

a gossip columnist fag-hag, and a pre-op transsex-ual woman struggling with HIV? Well in Win-nipeg, Manitoba you get a love triangle and a few extras in there to spice up the mix.

METROPOLIS - page 15

Rare Infection Spreading Among Gay Men



(Atlanta, Georgia) Most gay men have never heard of Lymphogranuloma venereum, or LGV, but it is spreading in gay communities across Europe and the Centers for Disease Control warns it is heading to North America.

RARE INFECTION - page 8

A Wish Come True

Interview with Lesbian Film Director Sharon Fer-

By Andrew Hicks



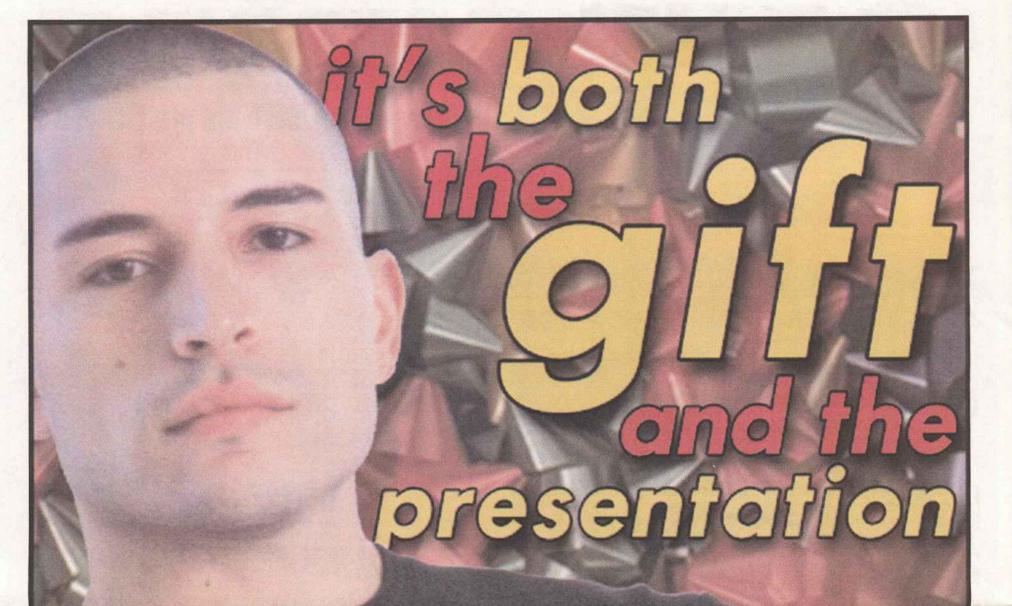
Finding a creative way to kill a group of women is no easy task. Throwing them out in the open ter-rain of Texas with nothing more than each other is a good start or at least that what lesbian film maker Sharon Ferranti thought. Her new horror flick Make a Wish was

shot just outside of Austin and is on its way to becoming a cult classic.

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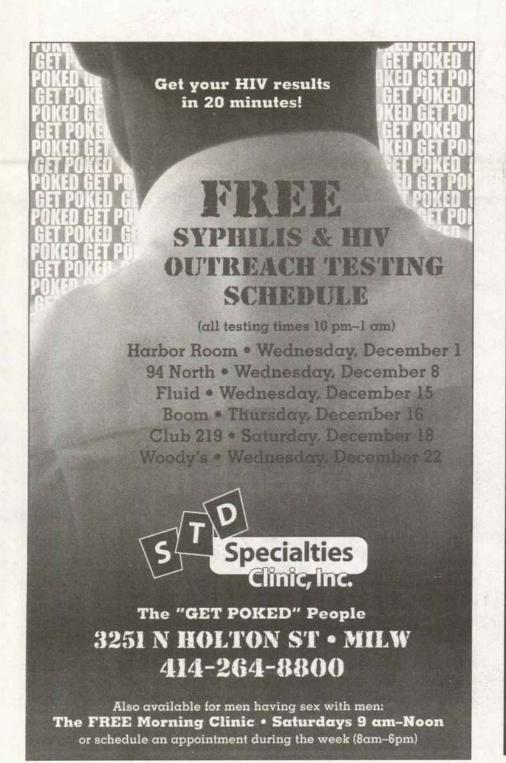
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DEAR PUTHIE

So I'm standing in my kitchenette the other day, minding my own bee's wax and enjoying some raw beef and onions, when my phone rang.

I answered it, hoping it was a telemarketer that I could berate. ("I'm sorry but Ruthie's not home. The police are questioning her about her involvement with smuggling goods into Martha Stewart's cell. Yes, they caught Ruthie with 24 Styrofoam balls, a hot glue gun and two pounds of glitter, packed up her rectum")

As luck would have it, the caller turned out to be my boss, James, of "Outbound Midwest." I hoped I was up for a raise.

"Hey Ruthie," said James, "we're starting a newspaper for the LGBT community, and we want to publish your advice column in the 'Outbound' paper as well as the 'Outbound' entertainment guide." I told him, I was game. The holidays are here which means that my gal-pal Harriet will probably overdo it on her antidepressants again, and Pearl and I could use the extra paycheck to tip the ambulance driver.

It wasn't long after I hung up the phone that I became worried, however. I wondered if the Wisconsin community really needed my services twice a month. A few weeks later, I heard that Milwaukee was about to be hit with another LGBT newspaper. I think they're calling it "Q" or "Q Life" or something. (Doesn't Wisconsin already have "Quest," which is largely identified with a big "Q" on its cover?) Later, I found out that this other paper is also planning to publish its own advice column. (So far, you get zippo for originality, boys!)

I'm not sure if the lovely Taj Mahal is still writing her advice column up in Madison, but I guess we'll have to see if there's truly enough screwed-up folks in Wisconsin for all three of us to help. Only time will tell.

I could go on, but I know the newspaper biz well enough to know that ya gotta keep things short. (Surprised? Yea, I DO know a thing or two about the newspaper racket. After all, just because someone knows how to type doesn't automatically make that person a columnist!) With that said, let's read a letter that recently popped into my cyber box. (That sounds dirty, 'eh?)

Dear Ruthie,

My former lover and I are still very close. Although I've got a new partner who I love very much, I'm still concerned about my ex-girlfriend's weight. She's always been overweight but she

got to the point where she needed angioplasty last year. Even my partner is concerned about her, as they have become friends.

The doctors are very worried about my ex's heart due to her high cholesterol and high blood pressure. Her weight continues to increase, and last week she was diagnosed with diabetes

She cooks, but she uses all sorts of bad stuff like oil. I cook healthy practically every day, and I've tried to teach her how to change, but she just won't. She listens to us, and even cries to us, but she doesn't change. Any ideas on how to help her before it's too late?

(signed) Snippy One

Dear Snip,

Well, you have a few things going for ya: First, it's great that the girl likes to cook. I know broads in the trailer park who'd rather gnaw their left arm off than pick up a frying pan. Secondly, it's Christmas. What's that got to do with anything? Read on.

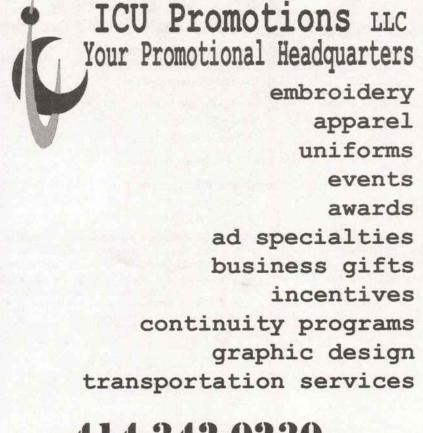
As the New Year approaches, there's a chance that your friend will happily embrace the opportunity to start anew. And you can help her! This year for Christmas, give her the gift of one home-cooked meal each month for the year. After all, if you're cooking every day for yourself, it only takes a little planning to pack up a serving for her once per month.

Deliver the meals to her house on a designated day every month. Include a menu, as well as the recipes and the nutritional information if you have access to it. Include a low-sugar dessert on occasion or some lighten-up cookies for her to snack on during the week.

Show her through regular examples that eating healthy is tastier than ever. (Or, so I'm told. My idea of a balanced diet means having a beer in each hand.) She'll likely look forward to your regular deliveries, which could spark her interest in heart-smart cooking. When her birthday comes around, surprise her with a health-oriented cookbook and explain that it's a book you use often.

You're a good friend for being so concerned, but in the end it's your ex that has to change. Keep up the support and encouragement. Hopefully, she'll take your words and actions to heart – in more ways than one.

Got a question for Ruthie? E-mail her at dearmsruthie@yahoo.com or visit her at www.dearruthie.com



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OUTBOUND WOMEN

9

LOCAL MILWAUKEE ARTIST MELISSA BEASTROM

Local Milwaukee artist Melissa Beastrom is no stranger to the stage. She began her formal music training at age 6 studying classical piano. In addition she studied clarinet, guitar and voice. some of her time has been spent as musical director for children's theatre and choir

as well as having her own roles in theatre and musicals.

In 2002 Melissa finished her first solo album entitled "Pieces of the Puzzle." It is a personal CD full of emotional vocals surrounded by lush orchestration. The public has responded well to the album, creating a loyal following.

"As a producer, I find the hardest thing to do is to find a connection with the artist I'm working

connection with the artist I'm working with that is real and not motivated by money or deadlines. In working with Melissa on "Pieces of the Puzzle" I found not only a truly gracious and creative artist, but someone who has that rare gift of being able to express themselves in an intelligent, thoughtful and melodic way, while remaining a truly fun person. As a producer and an artist I can only hope that I will be lucky enough to be part of another project that means so much to me personally......They are few and far between."

-Keven Patrick, Producer/Artist. Lost Children Studios

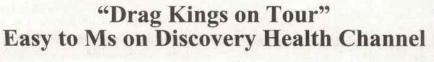
Now Melissa performs solo as singer and pianist. She delivers an intimate performance that her fans can't get enough of. Her silky rich voice is all a

song needs—whether it is an original piece or cover, she makes it her own. Melissa has a creative sense of humor and an interactive style that her audence loves. Vocally, Melissa has been compared to the late Karen Carpenter and her playing hints of Carole King.

"Talk about music that has personality... That's what you get with PIECES OF THE PUZZLE. Melissa sings from

the heart, shares her soul and speaks to those of us that have felt what she has felt. Her piano style is warm, intimate and simply sensational. Her passion for her music just shines when seeing her perform live. Melissa is a definite welcome addition to the wonderful world of women's music."

—Liz Doan, Head buyer, Music Design (Editor's Note) Melissa can be seen and heard regularly at the M&M Club in Milwaukee.



By John Emery

The documentary "Drag Kings on Tour" makes its TV premier on the Discovery Health Channel July 17th. The wonderful "don't miss" documentary is buried on an "easy to miss" cable network. A franq and ernest look at gender-bending in mid America, this documentary is not your typical drag show. As a former Emperor in the Imperial Court system, I have seen my share of Drag Kings. The Empress in my own reign, 22 years ago, was a former NOW activist and first ever Dyke Empress in the Court System. Her gender-bending of the "Empress" role and gentle drag-drag was pushing limits in those early separatist days. Since, I have sought out entertainment with true gender-bending experimentation, and am usually disappointed with the variety. In this 2004 entourage of the "Kingdom Come Tour," I expected to see the usual leather drag kings lip-syncing to Roger Miller's "King of the Road," but instead was delighted to see an ensemble of truly unique genderbenders. My favorite is Winnipeg's Carlos Las Vegas, who does a dead-on impersonation of a flamboyant queen; not to be confused with Washington DC's Ken Las Vegas, in pink sequined tuxedo doing Annie Lennox's genderbending "Why." Ohio's Luster does "pimp" drag, ala Teddy Pendergrass and organizer Pat Riarch (in gas station drag, is eerily similar to one of my Dyke sister's ex-lovers in rural Alaska) finally has an audience for her performance-art

and poetry. These performances are every bit as good as John Epperson aka Lypsinka doing Frances Faye, a 1950's Lesbian cabaret singer who did her own "straight" drag. (similar in ilk to the 1960's Rusty Warren and her "Knocker's Up" routine)

This touching documentary also features the impact of family on the performers and vice-versa. In drag shows, the biggest applause is always to the parents of the performers. For these two worlds to bridge, in such public displays, often underscore the "why" of what we do. True to form, the parents in the Kingdom Come Tour audiences create the most anxiety for the performers. The final breakthrough, for these and most gender-bending performers, is often the FIRST performance in front of Mom and Dad. Once Mom and Dad anxieties have been released, the World is their stage. The courage and consequent freedom, of these coming out stories, remind us of the old adage to "come out first to those closest to you, and the rest are a party." For the parents, hearing how rare and special it is to have parental approval and support, underscores yet again, the "why" of what we do.

By Emperor VIII of All Alaska and Portions of the Yukon Territory, Protector of the Wildlife and Watcher of the Pipelines, Keeper of the Kenai Flames and Prince of Polar Bears, His Imperial Majesty, the Denali "Boy" Emperor, John Emery

SISTERS TALK

Fighting Gay Battles with Straight Weapons

By Genia V Stevens

Lisa Miller-Jenkins, a lesbian once joined by civil union to Janet Miller-Jenkins, has decided to use laws designed for heterosexuals in order to win a custody dispute with her former partner. Lisa and Janet were joined by civil union in Vermont, where the couple decided to have a child using artificial insemination. When the couple split, Lisa, the birth mother, left Vermont (the state that recognizes homosexual unions) and moved to Virgina, where she thought she would be ensured full custody of the child she shared with Janet because Virgina does not recognize homosexual unions. Anything to win, right? Luckily for Janet, Vermont does not allow that kind of creative manipulation of the law. The state of Vermont says lesbian couples joined by civil union who have children using artificial insemination should be treated no differently than heterosexual couples who choose the same procedure or choose to adopt. Both women are legal parents of the child and Lisa has no more rights to the child than Janet does.

What we see here is a lesbian who enjoys those equal rights and freedoms that gay unions provide only if she is on the winning side of the law. When she's not guaranteed a win, she simply turns to archaic heterosexist laws that stack the odds in her favor. Millions of gays and lesbians in the United States still do not have the right to a civil union or a marriage. Lisa Miller-Jenkins enjoyed

that right in Vermont, then moved to Virginia to take advantage of discrimination gainst gays and lesbians. Lisa is cheating. She's cheating just as badly as George W. did when he used the gay ban to win votes at the polls.

When homosexual couples accept those rights and freedoms associated with gay unions, we also accept all the accompanying responsibilities. Children are a large responsibility. When we decide to share that responsiblity with another partner, our own desires take a backseat. Homosexual couples joined by civil union (or marriage in Massachusetts) who decide to raise children together, then ultimately sever their relationship will face many challenges in the courts. Homosexual couples will need to set aside their differences and work toward what's best for the children, with very little help from the courts. What Lisa Miller-Jenkins has done is complicate the issue by moving to Virginia, a state that does not recognize gay unions -removing the child from Vermont's jurisdiction, the state best equipped to help the former couple deal with the custody dispute.

The best thing to come out of Lisa Miller-Jenkins' creative maneuvering is awareness. Society has become more aware of the mess Clinton's Defense of Marriage Act has created in child custody disputes. I refuse to believe the courts will allow these kinds of messy disputes to continue for too long.

Dallas Realtor Lory Masters Named to "The 10 Most Powerful Lesbians" List



Curve Magazine— Lory Masters has worked for more than 30 years, as a lesbian volunteer and real estate broker, to make sure that LGBT people have equal rights

in America and that her community has essential services to support its people. In recognition of Lory's professional and personal contributions, Curve Magazine has named Lory Masters to its first national "10 Most Powerful Lesbians" list in the November 2004 issue.

They're here, they're queer and they smashed the glass ceiling to shards. "From the gals who've been in the boardroom forever to some up-and-coming working women, these lesbians give 9 to 5 a good name, which is why we anoint them to our annual 10 Most Powerful Lesbians list," said Julia Bloch, Associate Editor of Curve.

Lory Masters, a Certified Residential Broker, owns Master Realtors, Inc., a 20 year old Dallas residential and commercial real estate firm that targets the GLBT community. In addition to enjoying her role as a new grandmother and selling real estate, Lory has provided leadership to and fundraising for the following national and local organizations: National Center for Lesbian Rights, Human Rights Campaign, Cathedral of Hope, Gill Foundation, Uncommon Legacy Foundation, The Extra Mile Awards, Black Tie Dinner Committee, Victory Fund, DIFFA, Resource Center of Dallas, Turtle Creek Chorale, Women's Chorus of Dallas, Women's Community Association and the Flying 'W' Motorcycle Club of Dallas.

Curve Magazine, the best selling lesbian magazine, is published monthly by Outspoken Enterprises, Inc. in San Francisco, www.curvemag.com

Master Realtors, 4235 Cedar Springs Rd., Dallas, TX 75219, www.lorymasters.com

Trans Day Of Remembrance

(Washington) Communities across North America on the weekend remembered dozens of murdered transgendereds in the sixth annual Transgendered Day of Remembrance.

This was the sixth annual day set aside to draw attention to violence against the trans community.

On average, one transgender person has been the victim of a hate crime murder every month over the past 10 years. This year has been no exception.

The Day of Remembrance grew out the 1998 murder of Rita Hester, a 34-year-old transsexual living in the Boston area. Hester's stabbing death has not been solved.

In 1999 a candlelight vigil in San Francisco which has grown to encompass memorials all around the world.

This year, San Francisco's transgendered and their supporters gathered at Harvey Milk Plaza Saturday evening and walked to the LGBT Community Center for a memorial service.

Among those remembered was Gwen Araujo. The teen was beaten, battered with a shovel and then strangled to death in October 2002. Her body was found in a shallow grave several days later. The trial of three men charged in her slaying ended in a mistrial in June. It was the

only case where a trial occurred in the killing of any trans person in the US this year.

"We know that discrimination and violence against transgender people is pervasive," said NGLTF executive director Matt Foreman.

"We know that law enforcement routinely ignores and fails to investigate and prosecute anti-transgender crime, including murder. We know that for every victim whose name we know there are dozens of others who will never be known or acknowledged. Let us all use this day to not only remember, but to rededicate ourselves to bringing and end to discrimination and violence against transgender people."

Memorial services were held in 150 cities nationwide.

"As we reflect on the lost lives of transgender brothers and sisters, we must remain resolute and steadfast in our fight to ensure this violence ends," said Human Rights Campaign President Cheryl Jacques in a statement.

"It's appalling that anybody can feel motivated to harm someone just because of who they are. Until those that wrong is righted, America's promises will remain unfulfilled," Jacques said

Teacher Sues Gay Mom Over Classroom Discipline Charge

(Lafayette, LA) A lesbian mother who alleges her son was reprimanded and forced to repeatedly write "I will never use the word 'gay' in school again" is being sued by the boy's teacher.

Ernest Gallet Elementary School teacher Terry L. Bethea is seeking \$50,000 damages for defamation.

Last year Sharon Huff charged that Bethea had scolded her 7 year old son in front of his classmates and sent to a school behavioral clinic for answering another child's questions about his lesbian mothers.

Huff said the incident began when her son, Marcus McLaurin, was waiting in line to go to recess when a classmate asked him about his mother and father. He responded that he didn't have a mother and father; instead he has two mothers. When the other child asked why, Marcus told him that it was because his mother is gay. The other child then asked what that meant, and Marcus explained, "Gay is when a girl likes another girl."

Huff said that Marcus's teacher scolded him in front of his classmates, telling him that "gay" is a bad word and he should never say it at school, then sent him to the principal's office instead of letting him go to recess. The following week the school required Marcus to attend a special behavioral clinic at 6:45 in the morning, where he was forced to repeatedly write "I will never use the word 'gay' in school again."

On a student behavior contract form that Marcus had to fill out and give to his mother about the incident, Marcus wrote that the thing he did wrong was that he "sed bad wurds."

An investigation carried out by the school board that according to Huff was little more than a whitewash, found that the Bethea had done nothing wrong.

"The child was not singled out because his parent is gay. The grade two student was disciplined for behavior problems," Superintendent James Easton said.

Huff has threatened to sue the board for discrimination, and is represented by the ACLU.

This week, Bethea moved first, serving Huff with a lawsuit accusing Huff of defaming her.

The suit names Huff, ACLU representative Chris Hampton, ACLU attorney Ken Choe and Joe Cook, a New Orleans ACLU official.

In court papers Bethea accuses Huff of lying.

Results In From First Post-Election Gay And Lesbian Marriage Survey

Results are in from the first targeted poll of the gay and lesbian community since the November 2nd elections. While many states passed constitutional-level legislation denying support of same sex marriage rights, this poll shows that gay and lesbian couples will not allow such legislation to affect their personal plans.

Overwhelmingly gay and lesbian couples state that the election results, specifically those regarding same sex marriage, will not change their choice to have a ceremony of some kind to celebrate their commitment to one another.

Couples from over 40 states responded to the poll, issued by RainbowWedding-Network.com, the internet's first wedding gift registry specifically for the gay and lesbian community. The site was launched over four years ago and utilized its base within the community to mail out the poll to thousands across the nation.

Over 79% of those responding answered "No" to the question as to whether or not recent legislation would change their plans of having a wedding or ceremony. Over 46% reported plans are underway for their ceremony to take place in 2005

or 2006, with budgets ranging from \$500 to over \$10,000 per event. 31% of respondents said that they had already had a wedding or ceremony, a reminder that such ceremonies have occurred with or without legal protection.

A small number of heterosexuals also responded, showing their support for the gay and lesbian community and of marriage rights. This reflects the statistics seen over recent years by businesses in the same sex marriage business: RainbowWeddingNetwork.com, with over 4500 businesses listed throughout its directories over the past four years, reports that app. 80-85% of those businesses are not gay-owned.

Instead, it is the heterosexual business owner wishing to tap into the market who continues to step forward and spend his or her advertising dollars in upholding a policy of non-discrimination. The poll results attest to this being wise business: 64.2 % of the gay and lesbian couples responding to the poll state that they will actively choose gay-friendly or gay-owned wedding professionals when planning their ceremony.

Anti-Gay Boycotts Not Supported Poll Suggests

By Doug Windsor

(New York City, NY) A new survey of consumers indicates that few consumers care about companies' positions on gays and lesbians. The poll, by Opinion Research Corporation, found that few Americas felt they would be swayed one way or the other if companies ran ad campaigns targeting the gay community.

In fact, two-thirds (68 percent) of American adults surveyed in the national poll indicate that knowing a company promotes its products or services to gays and lesbians has no effect on how they feel about the company. And, the vast majority (81 percent) of respondents indicate it does not matter to them if a company whose products they use on a regular basis also promotes them to the gay and lesbian community.

The poll was done by ORC for FH Out Front, a new LGBT division of Fleishman - Hillard International Communications.

The survey of more than 1,000 general consumers regarding their sentiments toward marketing to the gay and lesbian community was conducted June 25 - 28 and released Tuesday to coincide with the launch of FH Out Front.

Previous surveys, which just targeted the LGBT community found that most gays are more willing to support companies which market directly to them.

The new survey will make it easier for many companies, reluctant to go after gay consumers for fear of alienating mainstream consumers.

"The results of this survey show the growing acceptance, both in corporate America and among U.S. consumers, of gay and lesbian individuals," said John D. Graham FH Out Front chairman and chief executive officer.

The survey also found that a plurality of Americans (45 percent) would do nothing if an organization launched a boycott against companies that market or promote products and services to gays and lesbians.

Giant consumer products company Procter & Gamble ran afoul of conservative Christians when the company advised its workers in Cincinnati that it supported repealing an an anti-gay city charter amendment.

Both the American Family Association and Focus on the Family organized a boycott of P&G products, which include Tide, Crest, Downy and host of other goods. (story)

But, the FH Out Front poll shows that although 8 percent of respondents said they would participate in such a boycott, more than double that number (20 percent) said they would speak out against similar boycotts.

Three-fourths (77 percent) of respondents indicated they personally know someone who is gay or lesbian, with only 21 percent saying they did not. Even more important is the finding that those who personally know someone who is gay or lesbian are more likely than others to support companies that market to the gay and lesbian community.

Research estimates the buying power of the lesbian and gay community at \$450 billion annually. Common population estimates assume that as much as 10 percent of the U.S. population is either lesbian or gay, a community recognized as one of the largest untapped audiences remaining in the communications marketplace.



HEALTH & FITNESS

French Scientists Announce AIDS Vaccine Breakthrough

(Paris) Researchers at Pasteur Institute and France's National Center for Scientific Research announced this week that they have been able to stimulate antibodies to significantly bock HIV from infecting human immune cells.

The tests have been conducted only under laboratory conditions, and the scientists say they are still a long way from developing a safe human vaccine. Nevertheless, they say it is a significant breakthrough.

Antibodies are the molecular forces that form the the frontline in the body's defense system. Many vaccines, such as those against the flu, polio and measles, are based on antibodies by using a strand of the virus to activate the immune system.

Until now, attempts have failed to stimulate antibodies against HIV.

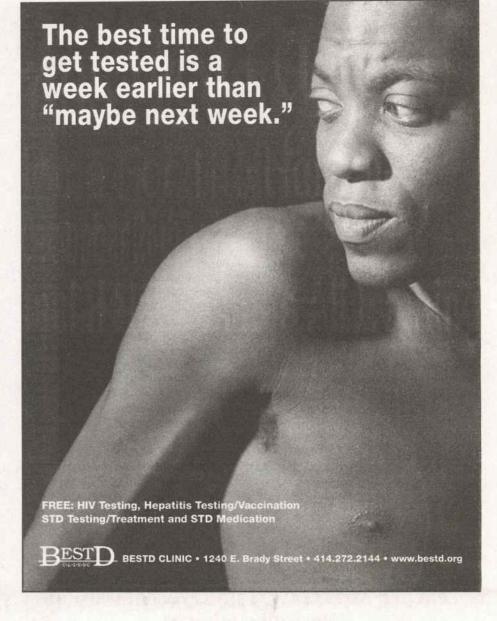
The French researchers concentrated their efforts on a tiny area of a surface protein found to be common across a range of HIV types.

They then synthesized a chain of peptides and immunized rabbits with it.

In lab-dish experiments in which blood taken from the immunized rabbits was exposed to human T-cells and the virus, it proved to be a successful shield against most of the sub-types of HIV-1, the most common strains of the virus.

The finding will "open up interesting prospects for the development of a vaccine against AIDS," said team leader Ara Hovanessian of the Pasteur Institute, in a press statement.

"Twenty years after the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) was identified, the AIDS pandemic is one of the greatest challenges to public health on a global scale."



RARE INFECTION

Continued from Cover

LGV is usually associated with chlamydia but the CDC said that this new strain, showing up in men who have sex with men, is marked by gastrointestinal bleeding, inflammation of the rectum and colon, genital ulcers, swollen lymph glands, and flu-like symptoms.

Cases have been reported in The Netherlands, Belgium, France, Sweden and the

UK. In The Netherlands, heath authorities have reported 92 cases of LGV in the past 12 months. The country usually sees fewer than five cases per year.

Complicating the situation is general ignorance of the disease in the medical community because it is uncommon in industrialized nations and easily misdiagnosed.

Many of those diagnosed in Europe, the CDC said, were gay men who had engaged in risky sex.

Efforts to combat the disease also are complicated by the tendency of some gay and bisexual men to engage in highrisk sexual behavior. The CDC is urging doctors across the country to be prepared for an onslaught of cases of LGV. If correctly diagnosed, the disease can be cured by a three-week course of antibiotics. Untreated it could be fatal.

Dr. Stuart Berman, chief of the epidemiology and surveillance branch in the CDC's division of STD prevention said that it is only a matter of time before LGV enters the US.

BESTD OUTREACHES

The all-volunteer staff at BESTD Clinic offers anonymous HIV testing at various locations as a free service to our community. Both the Rapid HIV and Oral HIV tests are offered by BESTD Clinic at all locations unless otherwise noted.

- Dec. 2nd, Thursday, 10pm 1am ETC
- Dec. 9th, Thursday, 10pm 1am Fluid
- Dec. 10th, Friday, 9pm 12am Boom
- Dec. 14th, Tuesday, 7pm 10pm Midtowne Spa
- Dec. 15th, Wednesday, 10pm 1am Cage, Dry Night
- Dec. 18th, Saturday, 10pm 1am Harbor Room

The Mission of BESTD Clinic is to provide quality professional diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases as well as HIV/AIDS prevention counseling and testing, in a manner that is sensitive to the sexual orientation and gender identity of our clients. BESTD Clinic provides its services at no cost.

SENSIBLE DIET TIPS

By Thomas Wines

Start your diet with a food diary, record everything you eat, what you were doing at the time, and how you felt. That tells you about yourself, your temptation, the emotional states that encourage you to snack and may help you lose once you see how much you eat.

Instead of eating the forbidden piece of candy, brush your teeth. If you're about to cheat, allow yourself a treat, then eat only half a bite and throw the other half away.

When hunger hits, wait 10 minutes before eating and see if it passes. Set attainable goals. Don't say, "I want to lose 50 pounds." Say, "I want to lose 5 pounds a month." Get enough sleep but not too much. Try to avoid sugar. Highly sweetened foods tend to make you crave more.

Drink six to eight glasses of water a day. Water itself helps cut down on water retention because it acts as a diuretic. Taken before meals, it dulls the appetite by giving you that "full feeling." Diet with a buddy. Support groups are important, and caring people can help one another succeed. Start your own, even with just one other person.

Substitute activity for eating. When the cravings hit, go to the "Y" or health club if possible; or just, or walk around the block. This is especially helpful if you eat out of anger.

If the pie on the counter is just too great a temptation and you don't want to throw it away, freeze it. If you're a late-night eater, have a carbohydrate, such as a slice of bread or a cracker, before bedtime to cut down on cravings. Keep an orange slice or a glass of water by your bed to quiet the hunger pangs that wake you up.

If you use food as a reward, establish a new reward system. Buy yourself a non-edible reward. Write down everything you eat - everything - including what you taste when you cook. If you monitor what you eat, you can't go off your diet.

Weigh yourself once a week at the same time. Your weight fluctuates constantly and you can weigh more at night than you did in the morning, a downer if you stuck to your diet all day. Make dining an event. East from your own special plate, on your own special placemat, and borrow the Japanese art of food arranging to make your meal, no matter how meager, look lovely. This is a trick that helps chronic over-eaters and bingers pay attention to their food instead of consuming it unconsciously.

Don't shop when you're hungry. You'll only buy more fattening food. Avoid finger foods that are easy to eat in large amounts. Avoid consuming large quantities of fattening liquids, which are so easy to overdo. And this includes alcoholic beverages.

Keep plenty of crunchy foods like raw vegetables and air-popped fat-free popcorn on hand. They're high in fiber, satisfying and filling. Leave something on your plate, even if you are a charter member of the Clean The Plate Club. It's a good sign that you can stop eating when you want to, not just when your plate is empty.

Lose weight for yourself, not to please your husband, your parents or your friends. Make the kitchen off-limits at any time other than mealtime. Always eat at the table, never in front of the TV set or with the radio on. Concentrate on eating every mouthful slowly and savoring each morsel. Chew everything from 10 to 20 times and count! Never skip meals.

Why Do Milwaukee Men Always Monkey Around?

because of...

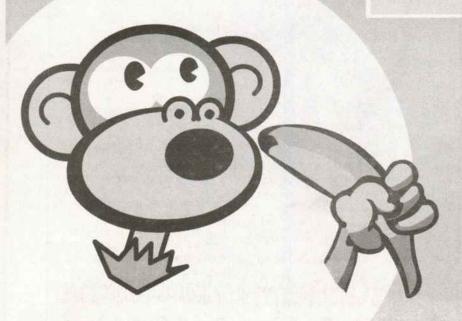


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HOLIDAY PUNCH A MILWAUKEE INSTITUTION

Dale Gutzman's HOLIDAY PUNCH is twenty six or twenty seven years old this year. There is some question as to whether the show was done in the year between its Skylight performances, and its appearance as part of Dale's new theatre company. Nonetheless, it is old. It is the oldest continual Christmas theatre tradition in town, and yet, it's fresh and new each season. That's because this fast paced comedy and music revue uses the events of the current year as fodder for its comedy sketches and parody songs. Some times HOLIDAY PUNCH is refreshingly ahead of its time, and sometimes it is charmingly old fashioned. It contains humor that appeals to

young and old alike, and enough traditional Christmas music to put you in the spirit for the season.

This year's edition of HOLI-DAY PUNCH is exception. We have some fun with the current Bollywood craze of Indian movies and stage shows by presenting our own version of and East

Indian spectacle, HELLO BOLLY. Fun gets poked at both camps in the recent election, and a television offer for a dvd featuring politically incorrect moments from Television history will raise a few eyebrows amid the laughter. The cast perform our version of "QUEER EYE FOR A STRAIGHT GUY," and do a song parody about doing your xmas shopping on ebay. There is a return appearance by Yuri Onanoff, the celebrated Russian Ballet star who is guest dancing with the Milwaukee Ballet, and a holiday fashion show of sorts. We also get a surprise visit from the Las Vegas "look and sound alike" celebrity tribute, "LIVING LEGENDS."

A special feature this year is a heartwarming sketch about lonely people at Christmas time coming together in a park and learning something about the season and themselves.

The show stars Milwaukee favorite David Flores, who stops the show with his lament about an actor put out of work when "LES MIZ" closes in New York. It features Mary Henricksen as a woman who took her harp to a Christmas Party and no one asked her to play. Sharon Rise, Kristen Pagenkopf, and Joe Fransee, who recently starred in Gutzman's sell out production of "THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW," bring their considerable singing and dancing skill

to the show. Jeremy Welter, who played Cliff in Sunset Playhouse's recent "CABARET" shows a considerable knack for OFF THE WALL'S brand of comedy. Heather Renyolds who just closed "BROADWAY, STUFF HAP-PENS" for ON THE WALL THE-ATRE, lends her beautiful soprano voice to our show, and OFF THE WALL regulars David Roper and Lawrence Lukasavage are on hand along with Gutzman himself to bring on the laughter. The musical director is Chris Wszalek.

This year's show will be done in a three quarter round nightclub setting that puts

> the audience will be who encouraged to eat and drink during the performance. the perfect environment for a wildly fun-filled evening. So if you haven't tried HOLIDAY

the actors among

PUNCH in while, this is the perfect time to take a new sip, and if you have never seen this

holiday tradition, now is the time to plunge in. It's heady stuff!

This year's show will be done in a three quarter round nightclub setting that puts the actors among the audience who will be encouraged to eat and drink during the performance. It's the perfect environment for a wildly fun-filled evening. So if you haven't tried HOLIDAY PUNCH in a while, this is the perfect time to take a new sip, and if you have never seen this holiday tradition, now is the time to plunge in. It's heady stuff!

HOLIDAY PUNCH plays at OFF THE WALL THEATRE, 127 E. Wells St.:

Wed. and Thurs., December 15, 16, and 30 at 7:30 P.M. Fri.

Sat., December 17, and 18 at 8:00 P.M.

Sun. December, 19 at 4:30 P.M.

And New Year's Eve at 8:00 and 10:15 P.M.

Tickets are \$20.00 for general seating, \$24.00 for preferred seating.

All tickets New Year's Eve are \$30.00 (including free champagne)

Call (414) 327-3552

Gay Alexander Film Draws Praise

Oliver Stone's big budget biopic about the life and loves of Alexander the Great is drawing high praise for its inclusion of the legendary leader's historically documented relationships with men as well as women.

"For a big-budget Hollywood movie about historical figures, 'Alexander' breaks new ground," says Joan M. Garry, Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defa-

mation (GLAAD).

GLAAD is dedicated to promoting and ensuring fair, accurate and inclusive representation people events in the media as a means of eliminating homophobia and discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation.

Movies like Oliver Stone's biopic Alexander, accord-

ing to GLAAD, help to increase the visibility and acceptance of GLBT people by portraying positive gay relationships

"Not only are there sexually charged moments between Alexander [Colin Farrell] and Bagoas [Francisco Bosch], but Hephaistion [Jared Leto] is clearly portrayed as the true love of Alexander's and their romance is one of the central themes of the movie,"

"Colin Farrell himself has said that, in an ideal world, two men this passionate about each other would have been depicted having a loving sexual relationship. He's absolutely right. And Oliver Stone's willingness to explore the love between these two characters moves us one important step closer to that ideal

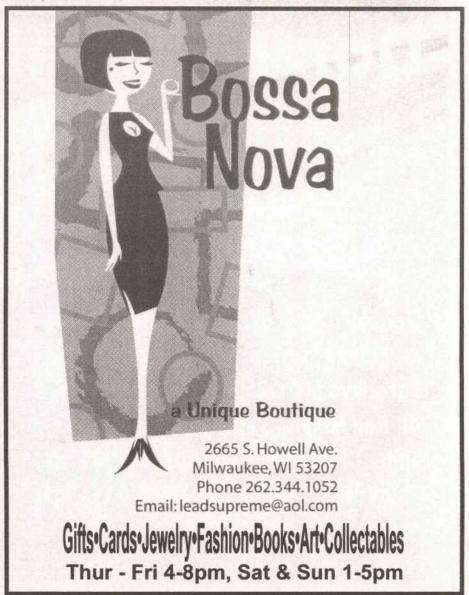
However, while praising Oliver Stone and his film Alex-

ander, Garry notes that there is still much work left to be done in battling discrimination against gays both in

film and in the real world.

"It's important to note that big-budget Hollywood films have barely begun to scratch the surface in terms of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender portrayals. There's a lot of der

work ahead. Public opinion does not change overnight, and our visibility continues to be one of our most vital tools in creating understanding and acceptance of our lives. And making sure we are a part of Hollywood's storytelling from independent films to big-budget studio epics - serves an important role in reminding people that we are an enduring, integral part of American



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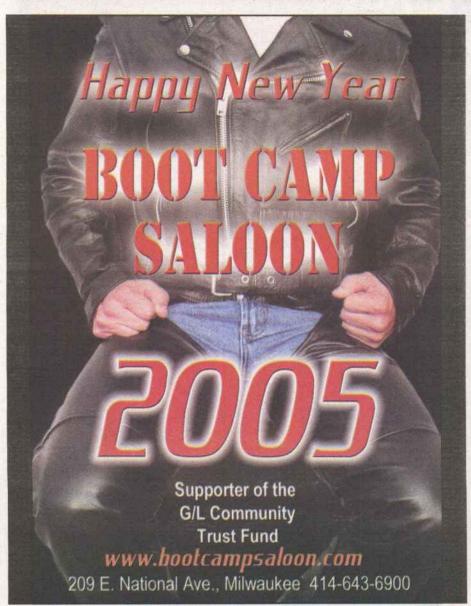
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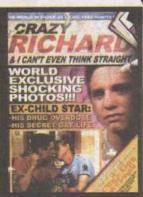
www.fluid.gaymke.com 819 S 2nd St , Milwaukee, WI 53204

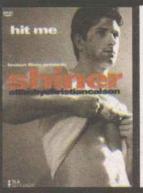


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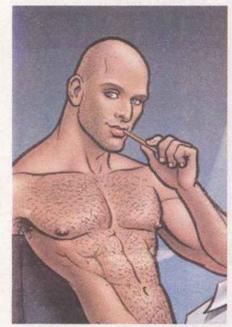
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Hanson explained that from his earliest memory he had been fascinated with drawing and much of his inspiration comes from Disney movies. "I was obsessed with Disney Movies, but at the same time I was also fascinated with Hanna-Barbara animated TV programs. Then at the age of 10, when 'Wonder Women' popped onto the television, my obsession became superheroes. Day and night; it was just superheroes, superheroes, superheroes, superheroes."

He pointed out that he focused his attention on observing the style and form of the drawn characters and he tried to draw in a similar fashion to what he

admired. He said however, that as he got older, he started doing more sophisticated comics. "With my pop culture up bringing I did a 'Three's Company' comic, which I still have, and also a 'Laverne and Shirley' comic. I think what I saw in the 70's was Hanna-Barbara based on live action television and so again I was just imitating the pattern of what I saw by taking shows that I liked at the time and drawing them in a sort of cartoony, caricature sort of way and writing stories for them."

Hanson explained that after deviating from drawing superheroes he had very little interest in going back. After getting older he was more interested in the real-life aspects of people and wanted to bring that to his comics. "With Chelsea Boys they are a cartoon, but they live in the real world. It's not fantasy. I get very bored by superhero comics that are all about how powerful the characters are, and they're fighting this character and that character. It's very interesting when you are a teenager, but now I am looking for more depth in a story and what's happening more at the human level, rather than the action level."

The lives of the Boys of Chelsea has certainly taken on a human quality over the past ten years that Hanson and Neuwirth have been bringing them to life. Now as Viacom is about to launch its new all-gay-all-the-time network, LOGO, the boys will be coming to life in animation form, something that Hanson has waited on for a long time. "Chelsea Boys came to be when I was living in Toronto right, before I moved

to New York. I just came up with the basic concept of these three gay characters living together. When I moved to New York I was looking for someone to help me develop it into an animated series and I saw an ad for Allen in a local gay paper listing as animation director and I thought this was perfect. At that time I had worked in animation but hadn't directed or produced, so I needed someone with the expertise to make that happen."

Hanson explained that he and Neuwirth began developing the idea as a work of animation, but his dream was soon squelch when they realized how much money it would take to bring his characters to life. "We wanted to build an audience for our concept, so we thought about ways of how to get people to take interest in our idea that wouldn't cost us any money. The result was the comic strip; we could write it, then I could draw it and it would be fully controlled by us. From there it just grew, and grew, and grew."

After the success of Chelsea Boys, Hanson began being tapped to create advertisements and designs for a variety of clients including ads for Grand Marnier, Timex and Bod Body Spray, on a CD cover for Blink 182, and on t-shirts for European menswear designer Andrew Mackenzie, which lead to his creation of the GMEN. "The idea didn't come from me, the idea came from the publisher who contacted me and wanted to do a book of my illustrations based on some of the advertisements I had done. No artist in there right mind would think

'hmm how can I put incredible stress on myself for four months and not see the light of day to prepare these images for the book?' Artists just don't do that."

Hanson explained that the style and design of the characters in his book came from work he was doing in the mid-90s to create male pinups. "I wanted to draw sexy men. What I was doing for animation like 'Daria' and other projects was very mainstream and family oriented. It was fun, but there was a part of me that I wasn't utilizing, so I started developing this style, but it was never profitable. It was fun and it was something that I wanted to do, but I couldn't abandon my mainstream stuff to do it."

The GMEN Hanson created were sexy and sleek with voluptuous muscles and pouty lips; all the things that he found sexy. Hanson explained that while in New York he had all but abandoned the idea of the male pinups, but after moving to Los Angeles things began to change. "I guess the irony was that after I moved to L.A. to focus more on animation, all these big advertising clients started calling and requesting that style."

Hanson's book of sexy sleek pin-up boys is available through Bruno Gmunder, along with a 2005 calendar and postcard book. For more information about Hanson or to find out more about the GMEN check out his website at Glenhanson.com.

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Wish Come True

The film follows a group of women as they head out into the open Texas range for an annual camping trip. No electric, no water, and no way of getting help is just the way Susan likes her outdoor adventures. This time however she has a motley crew of ex-lovers, who, are each 4 competing for her attention in their own unique way. Even before the first tent is pitched, there are signs of trouble brewing all around. Maybe it's the jealous boyfriend who insists on being a part of the camping trip, the crossbow-wielding redneck hunter, or the peculiar detective lurking in the shadows, but something definitely isn't right. All is well for the happy camping bunch until one by one the girls begin to disappear.

While the plot and setup of the movie echoes a classic horror style, bringing a slasher film to life was something that Ferranti had never imagined. She explained, however, that when she and producer Lauren Johnson was presented with the opportunity, they couldn't resist. Lauren and I wanted to make a feature film and we just finished a romantic comedy and knew that it was very likely we were going to have to raise the money for our own first feature. Texas (Austin) is where we both had family and friends so we came back here to do it. Once we got here were working with a distributor on my first film "A Thousand Miles" and the distributor said 'for your first feature it's smart to work in horror.

Ferranti admits that of all the people in the world to make a horror film, she was by far the least likely. "I don't even watch horror films!" she said. "But, horror is the easiest genre to sell and you don't need a star. The need for a star of some caliber is imperative to any other genre except horror. The fact that a horror fans still look at a low budget movie and accept it helped make the decision to make the film easier. Also there haven't been any lesbian classic slasher movies. So it was having the opportunity to make the first one."

She explained that with no interest or understanding of the horror genre she was reluctant to being, but after looking at how cost effective making a slasher movie could be there was no turning back. "I started not really studying horror films, but studying directors who could pull things off really well with no money. That was really what I had to do."

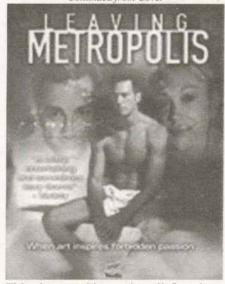
After studying the works of great horror moviemakers such as Alfred Hitcock she and Johnson turned their attention to writing a classic horror film with a lesbian twist, which as she explained was complicated for a comedic/drama writer. "There's no such thing as an easy script. When you got to school you study great screenwriters but then you find you have to kill someone every twenty minutes. So you're putting all your skills and talent into figuring out a new way to kill someone in twenty minutes."

Her challenge wasn't only devising creative murders but also thinking of ways to kill off the victims without having elaborate and expensive gore scenes. "Since we didn't have the money to make these kills exciting, like gory, especially when your target audience isn't known for liking gore, you have to come up with something else that doesn't cost money. In our case that was a tiny bit of plot and character. I think

the characters are more interesting than the horror aspect of the movie."

Developing the characters and making them interesting was nothing new to Ferranti, hoping to add in a fun twist she decide to develop the characters into a "lesbian stereotype," which she added, injected endless amounts of comedy into the film. "A lot of those lesbian jokes about how lesbian's never break up, they travel in packs of ex's and everyone is always cheating on each other, are all in the movie. I am proud of the fact that we didn't try to explain that to a mainstream audience because if they got it they got it but if they didn't they didn't."

Leaving Metroplis

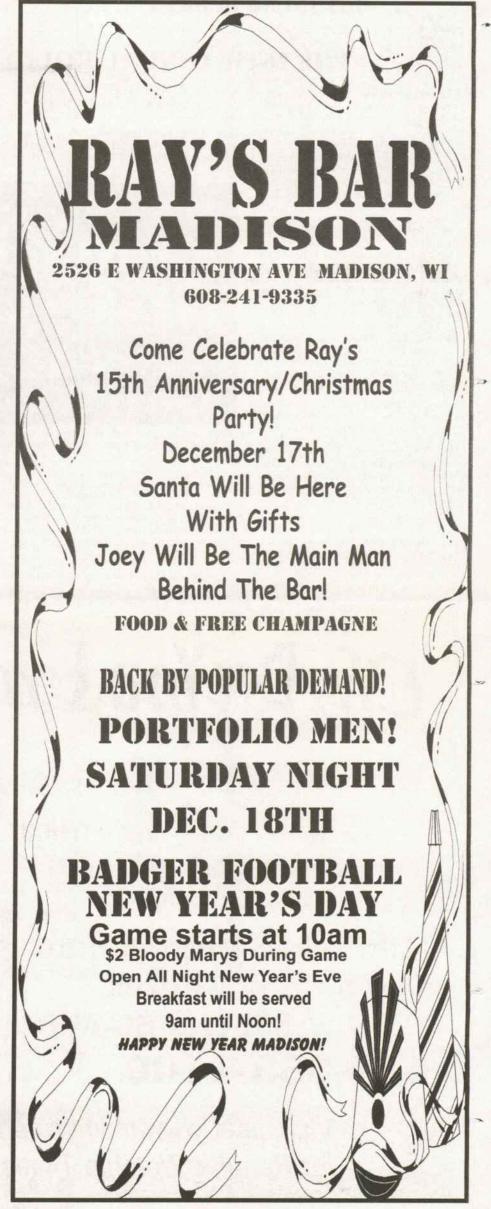


This drama with comic relief, written and directed by Brad Fraser, begins with David (Troy Ruptash), a successful painter who finds him self too well off to be inspired. Missing the life of the starving-artist-with-a-day-job, he convinces Matt (Vincent Corazza) and Violet (Cherilee Taylor), owners of a small restaurant, to hire him as their second waiter. His artistic and queer ways are an influence on the restaurant as well as their owners. When Matt finds himself the muse of David's latest work, it stirs old questioning feelings he had toward a high school chum. From there, chemistry and lust take over behind the back of the unknowing and hard working wife. As if a gay affair isn't hard enough to keep a secret, our artist David must contend with the alcoholic antics of his best friend and the health issues of his transgenered roommate. For a few short minutes his love affair with Matt, hidden from Matt's wife and David's friends, is the simplest thing either of them have going on. Too much more and I will give away the best parts, but let's just say that the twists and turns are anticipated, but the specifics are surprising which is a very good thing for this movie.

A diamond in the rough - yes; but this movie has its own little gems that make it worth owning. Vincent Corazza as Matt is the greatest thing about this film. His acting skills are surprisingly superb. He acts with his body, his face, and his voice and makes Matt's confusion about his love for Violet and David believable and heart wrenching.

My only complaint is the resolution at the end. I personally am a fairy-tale-ending kinda guy, and will never be comfortable with a realistic ending to a

So if you're in the mood to laugh, gasp, and maybe cry a few tears of sympathy, Leaving Metropolis is your ticket to an evening well spent!



OUTBOUND SPORTS



THE 26TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

HIT 26 was another huge success due to the help of all our sponsors and volunteers, we hosted 268 bowlers and participants from all across the United States, held over Thanksgiving weekend.

This year we had a Community Raffle, tickets were available at many participating bars, these tickets were also available to the bowlers when they arrived. This year's Grand Prize Winner received \$2,000.00 cash, two round-trip airline tickets and a stay at a Resort in Palm Springs, CA. The winner of the Grand Prize was Leonard Bain from Kansas City, MO. Our 2nd Prize was \$1,500.00 cash and two round-trip airline tickets, which was won by Brian Volkers from Milwaukee, Brian purchased his lucky ticket from Dee at Fluid. Our 3rd Prize winner received \$1,000.00 cash, which was won by David Segura of Milwaukee, David purchased his ticket from Rona at the M & M Club. Thanks to everyone who participated in the Community Raffle.

This year's Grand Prize Raffle winner was Bunny Conway from Milwaukee. Bunny won a Free Entry to HIT 26, a three-night stay at the Courtyard by Marriot Downtown and \$1,000.00 cash. Bunny purchased her raffle tickets during the HIT weekend at the Hospitality Suite on Thursday and while volunteering for HIT at the Lanes on Friday and Saturday.

The Banquet was held in the Northern Lights Theater at Potawatomi Casino. This year's entertainment during the banquet was Rhythm & Torch who brought the house down. They will also be performing at the M & M Club in Mid-December.

The American Drag Idol competition was held at Club 219 on Thursday, November 25, 2004 during the HIT

donated to the Holiday Invitational

This year's recipients of the HIT Hall of Fame award were Mark Groth and Mark Klemme. The HIT Hall of Fame award is an award that is voted on by the entire



The Parade of states at the HIT Banquet in the Northern Lights Theatre at Potawatomi Casino. Each person pictured represented a different state in which bowlers came from to participate in the tournament.

Welcome Show. Congratulations to Velvetta Head Chez for winning the 2nd American Drag Idol competition. Brian Rochon raised over \$600.00 in tips for his outstanding performance, which was board for the individual or organization/ business that has made substantial contributions, either financially or as a volunteer to the Holiday Invitational Tournament during H.I.T.'s tenure The recipient, whether it be an individual or organization/business is presented this award at the Banquet in recognition by the Board for their contributions and hard work. Their outstanding efforts have made them a candidate to be chosen from 100's of businesses/organizations or individuals that have all made a great contribution to make the Tournament what it is today, but the actual winners are selected as the Cream of the Crop.

Upon completion of their 2 year term, the Executive Director and Assistant Director, Jeff Whitt and Rochelle Ciucci, respectively, announced the new Executive Director, Rick Steiner and his Assistant Director, David Burney. Jeff Whitt, HIT's 25th and 26th Executive Director announced his retirement from the Board but will continue to support HIT in any capacity he can.

Last but not least we would like to thank our Major Sponsors Potawatomi Casino, Courtyard by Marriot Downtown, Miller and Landmark Lanes for donating all the product for our hospitality suite.

HIT is looking for people in the community to become part of next year's board. If you are interested in joining the board or volunteering, please contact Rick Steiner at 414-482-1964 or attend the HIT Meeting on January 6, 2005, being held at the M & M Club at 7:00 pm in the upstairs banquet room. You can also contact our board from our website www.hitmilwaukee.org.

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Jeb Bush: No Gay Marriage Amendment

By Fidel Ortega

Jacksonville, Florida) Florida Gov. Jeb Bush has rejected a call to amend the state constitution to ban same-sex marriage, a move that has put him at odds with his brother the President.

While George W. Bush continues to call for a federal constitutional amendment to block gays and lesbians from marrying, his brother this week said that a state amendment is not needed in Florida.

Jeb Bush was commenting a call from Southern Baptists for the state to enshrine traditional marriage in its constitution. The denomination voted last week to support a gay marriage ban in the constitution.

"My belief is it's not necessary," Gov. Bush said in Jacksonville. Bush said that he believes marriage should be limited to those between men and women, but said that the state's defense of marriage act is sufficient.

The governor added, though, that if a court struck down the law he could change his opinion on an amendment.

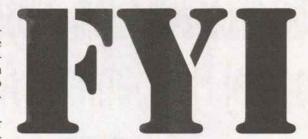
His position drew praise from the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest LGBT civil rights group.

In an open letter to the governor, HRC president Cheryl Jacques thanked Bush.

"As you correctly noted, constitutional amendments such as the one being suggested by Southern Baptists in your state are unnecessary given the fact that Florida already has laws banning gay marriage," Jacques letter stated. "Such an

amendment needlessly wastes legislators' time and taxpayers' money in an attempt to diswrite crimination into vour Constate's stitution.

tion," the letter said.



the law," said Jennifer C. Pizer, Senior Counsel in Lambda Legal's Western Regional Office and one of the lead attorneys in the case at the state Supreme Court.

"We believe that the Washington Supreme Court will look closely at the important issues this case raises and come to the same conclusion the lower court reached."

The historic ruling on August 4 by King County Superior Court Judge William Downing said that the state Constitution guarantees basic rights to lesbian and gay people — and that those rights are violated by a state law prohibiting same-

sex couples from marrying.

The ruling said the state Constitution requires

same-sex couples to have equal access to marriage. One month later, a court in Thurston County ruled similarly.

Both decisions were expedited to the Washington State Supreme Court (story), which will hear arguments in both cases on March 8.

In August's ruling, Judge Downing called the eight couples represented by Lambda Legal and the Northwest Women's Law Center "law-abiding, taxpaying model citizens," and said, "There is no worthwhile institution that they would dishonor, much less destroy."

In the ruling, Downing also said, "The characteristics embodied by these plaintiffs are ones that our society and the institution of marriage need more of, not less. Let the plaintiffs stand as inspirations for all those citizens, homosexual and heterosexual, who may follow their path."

Gay Senator Weds

By Written By Margo Williams

(Boston, Massachusetts) Massachusetts state Sen. Jarrett Barrios has married his longtime partner, Doug Hattaway, a former spokesperson for Vice President Al Gore.

The two were wed in a weekend ceremony at First Parish Church in Cambridge. Same-sex marriage became legal in Massachusetts last May. Barrios and Hattaway have been together for 10 years and have two children.

In February during a heated debate on a proposed amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution to ban same-sex marriages before they began Barrios delivered an impassioned speech to legislators.

Choking back tears he spoke about how an amendment would affect his family and how important full marriage rights are to gay families.

Barrios gave two examples of the different status he holds as a gay parent: If he died tomorrow, he said, his partner and children could not collect Social Security. He also said he cannot designate his partner as his state pension beneficiary.

"We hope that in the months and years

ahead you will continue to uphold the

sanctity of your state's Constitution as it

is never necessary to enshrine discrimi-

nation into any state or federal Constitu-

"Don't kid yourself that a ban on samesex marriage will not hurt your gay and lesbian friends, relatives, and colleagues," he told the convention. "It will. Believe me, it will."

The Legislature ultimately gave preliminary approval to a constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage but legalize civil unions. (story) If approved again during the next legislative session it could be put to voters in November 2006.

The wedding guests included an array of state and city officials. Ironically, one of the sponsors of the anti-marriage amendment, Senate President Robert Travaglini (D-Boston) toasted Barrios and Hattaway at their reception.

Spokeswoman Ann Dufresne said Monday that this was not an indication that Travaglini was backing away from the marriage ban.

Ten Quick Tips For The Successful Job Search

Ten Tips to make your job search easier and less stressful

By Michael Hinzman

Presentation tools: You want to be prepared for what comes your way. So, along with several handy resumes, you'll want to ensure you have any documents that will make your interview and applications as marketable as possible. This is the time for your research of local companies you may want to apply with. Information is the key. Going into a situation with information about the company can help you snag that dream job.

References: You will want to make sure you have three professional, as well as three personal. Every employer is different and will require different references for your employment opportunity. Having their address, time known, and telephone number will come in handy. You will not have to fumble looking for this information when asked.

Dress: You will want to dress in professional manor. It is the rule of thumb. Weather it is trade work, or professional level. You want to present yourself as a professional in whatever field you belong. Making that first impression count. Wearing comfortable business casual is appropriate.

Have a plan: Before heading out on your search, you'll want to come up with a plan of attack. Listing your destinations so you can make the trip out, as less stressful as possible. You can go according to geography as to make your trip as rewarding as possible.

Know your market: You may be applying within your field of experience or not. You should know the market which you approach. Breaking into new markets or trades can be successfully done. However, you do not want to go in clueless about the trade/service. Many employers do not mind training worthy candidates. However, they do not want, nor look for ground zero. It is an unspoken expectation that you have a minimal understanding of the position for which you apply.

Time Management: Do not spend unnecessary time within your application process. If there is a manager available, speaking with them while turning in the application is a plus. However, do not take more of their time, nor yours than necessary. You do not want to come across as overbearing. You want to show your confidence in your material speaking for itself. Than later when they offer you the opportunity to interview, you can share the extras not found on a resume. That is your personality.

Get a good nights sleep: Your physical and mental character will be viewed in your delivery. You want to be at your best, while meeting possible future employers. This will also help you have a more positive approach in your search. The importance of this tool is severally overlooked in general. You will feel your best as well, Look the part.

Prep work: Do any and all of the prep work necessary the day before. You will have everything ready to go verse struggling to find that certificate, or other important document, the day of your actual field foot work. Being prepared can set the tone of your day. Phone calls, inquiries, and on-line submitting can be utilized in your prep work.

Practice interviewing styles: Doing a dry run with a friend may help you to better prepare your presentation. Going over questions will cut down on your chance, to become stumped when questioned. Expect the unexpected. Be prepared to answer any and all question in a professional manor. Interviewers can see the preparation you put into your presentation.

Social etiquette: While in any public interaction, you want to make sure you observe proper etiquette. Refrain from chewing gum during any portion of the application process to the interview. Do not over talk an interviewer. Allow them to guide the conversation. Leave slang at the door. You do not want to come across as unprofessional, unless you want to remain unemployed.

Put on that award winning smile, and be on your way. You are ready after all of this to successfully complete any interview. Remembering you are your greatest asset.

Washington State Supreme Court Told Gay Marriage Equals Equality

(Seattle, Washington) Same-sex couples must be allowed to marry in Washington State, according to a brief filed at the state Supreme Court today.

The brief, by Lambda Legal and the Northwest Women's Law Center, asks the state's high court to uphold a ruling earlier this year that said the state's prohibition on same-sex couples marrying is a violation of the Washington Constitution.

The case involved eight same-sex couples who were denied marriage licenses in King County.

"Our clients pay all the same taxes as their neighbors and coworkers, and they deserve all the same legal protections. As long as gay couples cannot marry, they are not being treated equally under

Eating Out With DeManda Martini

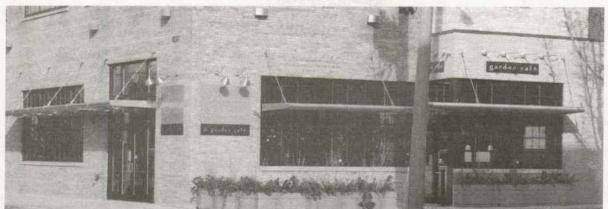
Hello Food Fans,

I'm DeManda Martini. I'll be exploring hot new restaurants and favorite old stand-bys in the coming months and reporting back to you with the inside scoop. There are all kinds of great date destinations in this mad-capped metropolis, so let's get started.

Speaking of hot and new, I dropped in on the hot, new kids in town at Barclay Gallery and Garden Café. You know, it's right on the corner of Pittsburgh and Barclay near the Waterfront Condo-

miniums. John LeBrun and Brian Santner have opened what people are calling a "Soho experience" right here in Milwaukee. And what an experience it is! The only words that do this fine establishment justice are these: Girl, you gotta get there!

I was greeted at the door by this cute young thing (turns out to be Brian) who walked me through the gallery and pointed out all of the beautiful crafts that my friends could buy me for Christmas. I got writer's cramp just making out my list. My head was swooning with Christmas Day anticipation, so Brian showed me to the bar where I could DeManda Martini.



Barclay Gallery and Garden Café in Milwaukee's 5th Ward

As I sipped my cocktail and took in the delicious ambience, I noticed this handsome man coming toward me. I straightened my hair and arched my back as he said "Good Evening. I'm John. Will you be dining with us tonight." Well, I don't know if it was his piercing eyes or the seductive aromas from the kitchen, but I whispered "yeah," whipped out my phone, and got my friend, Dinah Lott, to throw on something pretty. It was the right thing to do.

Now, Dinah, that girl can eat, which was perfect because there were so many things on the menu that we wanted to try. Our server, Tony, wasn't on the menu, but Dinah wanted to take a bite out of him. Unfortunately, she's trying to squeeeeze into a size 24 before the

holidays, so we settled for a spicy Warm Crab Dip (\$7.95), and a melt-in-yourmouth Spinach and Artichoke Quesadilla (\$5.95) to start. For dinner, we shared a perfectly-done Beef Tenderloin (\$17.95) and a delicious Grilled Tuna Steak (\$14.95), you know, like our own surf and turf. We had cocktails and salads with Barclay's signature Zesty Garden Café dressing and cocktails. I don't know if those pink squirrels were going to Dinah's head, but she started talking about adopting Tony, who is too cute for words. Well, they have these little cards on the table with information about the server, and I had to point out to Dinah that Tony's secret, that his friends don't know, is that he's bossy (You didn't hear that from me because it's a secret)

and his favorite movie is "Beaches." I had to remind her that the only person that's going to be crying and yelling at her is me. Then I started crying and made her go to the gallery and buy me the salt and pepper shakers that were on the table because they were so cute and I didn't have them.

As we were leaving, John and Brian were at the door saying "Good Night." I straightened my hair and whispered "night" and there's Dinah with half her blouse hanging out of her elastic waistband. I

don't care if she ate too much. That doesn't look right.

The next time I go, I'm bringing one of my classy friends, you know, for breakfast or lunch or brunch. These boys are open all the time except for Mondays. On Mondays, it's just the coffee counter from 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. which is fine for me because I can get my coffee and danish and go home and watch my programs.

Well, thanks for coming along. Oprah's on so I've got to go. Talk to you next month.

Chow, Demanda Martini

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By Michael Johnston

I guess, I got my Christmas present early this year. Since the demise of a very popular bi-monthly newspaper, I was looking for an outlet for a column I started over five years ago. This is it! "OutBound News." The way I understand it — we will get together every two weeks. I also will continue as a contributor on a monthly basis with Out-Bound Magazine. The way I take it, the need was there and now is filled. I truly appreciate the countless people who have missed me; and my gift to you is this... "It is a thrill to appear in a premiere issue and just in time for the Holidays!"

Looking back at last month's Social Event for November, it had to be HIT 26 over Thanksgiving Weekend. The "Welcome Show" was cited as one of the best! It certainly was filled with talent, creativity and production values the likes I have never seen. Club 219 was gracious enough to open their doors to HIT. Chuck is always very accom-modating and how can I express my gratitude to Kimberly Anne for all of his technical expertise. The banter and laughs we share, it's a pity the dressing room isn't on tape for the audience!

Over 270 bowlers took to the lanes, bars, restaurants, hotels and casino to add soooo much to our Community. In return, I hope they had as much fun as I did — and I don't even bowl! I had the distinct pleasure of hostessing and bringing to the stage an evening that will not be forgotten! The Headliners this year, my "Sisters in Print," Dear Ruthie and Cheap Talkin' Chi-Chi. Ruthie brought down the house in her own inevitable style and then joined Chi-Chi and Cordially Yours in a little salute to the "Dreamgirls." What an honor and fun! Though these two stars are always a step ahead of me, I was able to keep up



Outbound's Own "Dream Girls'

Many thanks to that talented trooper Charlotte Lorraine, for assisting in choreography; and to David Howser of Bossa Nova for costuming us. It really was a "dream come true!" Of course a new fixture to the "Welcome Show" since last season is "The Drag Idol Contest." It is very popular and profitable for HIT. Prior to the Tournament weekend, three competitions are held, providing the contestants for the Drag-Off.

This year there was an embarrassment of riches with the original, hardworking, unique talent exhibited. Jazzin' Jeffrey sang live! A first, in "Cowboy Drag"

AND live! Remember Drag is Drag feathers/leather/uniforms/sequins...



The very sweet Candy Stick was next up proving no one can kick as high as this

Adding the art of dance and water ballet were the love children of Esther Williams and Mark Spitz — the Patrician Poole Sisters. Yes, both Kitty (Lane) and Kara (Poole-Lane) brought their merry mermaid-ism to the stage to satisfy the thirst of their adoring public. Talk about water sports..



Next up was the always-game Anna Conda. Every one is fond of Ms. Conda and her ideal interpretation of song

And last, but certainly not least, picking up the rear as they say was Velveeta Head Cheez



Velveeta Head Cheez

All of them were incomparable in their own way - if you saw it, you know of where I speak. By chance, if you didn't, I am sure Chi-Chi will be more than glad to play it for you, any Monday night at The M's.

The winner is selected by who brings in the most money that night. The crown went to the spreadable, edible Velveeta, raising over \$600. After seeing her costar trainer, Jerry, money wasn't all that was raised that night!

Unfortunately, due to a family concern, Wilma Finger-Do of Fluid (last year's Winner) was unable to appear and do the honors of tiara-ing. Wilma was greatly missed and I look forward to being back on the boards with her again real soon! Pitch-hitting was the milliondollar smile of Todd Richards, HIT's Coverguy for 2004. Well, the coronation was a bit of challenge considering Ms. Cheez's hair do or don't. But dewigging herself, the crown sparkled brightly. What fun!

Quite a show — but that doesn't even include the prestigious HIT Board grinning and baring it all! The group number, always greeted greatly, was a "Fire Theme." After all, the Banquet was held at that hot spot Potawatomi Casino. Rita, AKA Jeff Whitt, director of HIT, fell into a "Burning Ring Of Fire." What a way to start a four-alarm show!



HIT Group Number



Brad and Rita in 'A Ring of Fire'

Jeffrey, Steve and BoBo were rapping firemen. Sasha, Rosalind and Candy were "The Pointer Sisters on FIRE." Candy was hysterical with her almost "Janet Jackson Costume Malfunction." David had "Great Balls Of Fire" mean that was his number. Billy Benatar was hot, hot, with "Fire & Ice." And then, they reminded us all that they didn't "Start The Fire." Or did they? A hot time in the old town that night!

After HIT cleared the stage, The Men of 219 took over - London and Don Juan kept the flames burning until closing time. From there it was to The Ball Game where we put out our fires and shared the wealth in the neighborhood.

As stated earlier the Banquet was held at Potawatomi in the Northern Lights The-The Cocktail Hour was in the Woodland Conference Center, a beautiful location. Keep your eyes on this site. Rumor has it; we'll be enjoying the sounds from that room sooner than later...

The Theater was an outstanding place to hold their night. Admittedly, at first I thought it as an odd choice. But once seated and sampling the delectable feast, I was thoroughly convinced just the opposite! I sincerely hope they have it there next year and I hope I am invited! The only thing better than my dinner, were my table mates: BoBo, Cindy, Jeff, Todd and Anita. Kudos to Cindy O -Banquet Lady!

Rythm & Torch serenaded us during din-din. I personally forgot how live music really enhances an evening. Steve Polifka and Yolanda Roth, and excuse me, another gentleman whose name escapes me, will be returning to The M&M Club this month. So please watch or rather listen for them.



Rhythm & Torch

Last year, I had the thrill of a lifetime to be put into the "HIT Hall Of Fame." So, this year I had to return the Award and the honor of a new inductee. Mark Klemme was the incredible individual I got to introduce. His many contributions space does not allow for trust me, well earned.



Then, I brought to the stage a remarkable man in his own right, Harvey Groth. Mr. Groth, a previous winner, got to induct his son Mark Groth into The Hall. I am very fond of both Marks and HIT really was on the mark, singling out these guys and their monumental worthiness



Needless to write countless awards for bowling merit, prizes of both the raffle and chance variety were given out, and I believe it was over \$30,000. in gifts and winnings.

After the banquet: gambling, night clubbing and celebrating into Sunday. Where else is there to do The Farewell Brunch than The M's? BoBo, Chef Jack, Debbie & Bob and C.S. biscuits & gravied us into sobriety.

Then the games began! All Sunday afternoon videos and photo CDs, songs, numbers and a variety of fine HIT fashions were all on parade! I believe history took place as Ruthie, Chi-Chi and I actually did a number BEHIND the bar! Hopefully it wasn't just a Dream...

Rick Steiner will be the Director for the next two years and David Burney will serve as his assistant as they Sail into the future. Rest assured, Milwaukee — Bowling has been very good to us and the heat will be felt again in six months as IGBO (International Gay Bowlers Organization) holds their 25th Anniversary right here over the Memorial Day Holiday.

Back to now and what we have to look forward to — The M&M Club is offering some excellent music: Be it Ginni on Sundays and Wednesdays - including a very special Sing-A-Long with Bonnie, Mondays belong to the terrific talents of Trixie, Rythm & Torch and Singsational Productions - THE Karaokee Kids all return this month to keep you in fine tune for the Holidays.

Dan and the Staff of Taylor's will be making Merry (or maybe Mary) on Wednesday, December 15, with their annual gala.

Switch will hold their Holiday Party on Friday, December 17. I get to haul out the holly, beginning at 5, when we open — see you there!

For other Holiday Fare right here in Brew Town, we have:

• The Santaland Diaries by David Sedaris starring Milwaukee's favorite Court Jester of fine humor, John McGivern. On the same bill, Merry Christmas My A - -, running through Sunday, January 2, 2005 at Vogel Hall, Marcus Center and Hart & Kaufman's classic, You Can't Take It With You, at The Milwaukee Repertory Theater - Quadracci Powerhouse Theater You can take in through Sunday, January 9, 2005.

• The Chamber Theatre's production of **Kimberly Akimbo** starring the First Lady of the Milwaukee Stage, Ms. Ruth Shudson, is on the boards until Sunday, December 19, 2004.

• The Skylight Opera Theatre's **Cabaret** is up until Sunday, December 19, 2004. This Kander & Ebb opus is quite timely during this time of political unrest and questioning.

• The world's most popular musical, Les Miserables rings in our New Year Tuesday, January 4 through Sunday, January 9, 2005 -- Uihlein Hall -- Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.

Still in a quandary about what to get or where to go to get it? Start with Our Community:

- David Howser's **Bossa Nova**, 2665 South Howell Avenue, has a little bit of everything — for everyone!
- OutWords-Milwaukee, 2710 North Murray Avenue — Carl provides the Community with a Rainbow of choices for you to select from.
- The Flower Studio, Ltd., 6858 North Santa Monica Boulevard — Larry & Michael have a brand-spanking-new store for you to visit and check your Christmas Gift List off.
- It's Always Happy Hour Somewhere -Brian & Andy have everything to make every bar a 24-hour happy hour: www.alwayshappyhour.com — Shopping from home or the Bar!
- A handsome little bird, actually two (AKA "Heckel & Jeckel"), inform me there is a Moroccan restaurant to open in The Historic Third Ward. It is a reported four-star eatery.
- David Rogers has returned to Eagan's
 — This time out bartending. Go share a cup of cheer with him. You can also spot him at Cafe LuLu's on K.K. where he continues his art form.

During this most special time of the year, it's marvelous seeing old friends return to town. To that special guy who remembers and holds a special place in his heart for you -- even after fifteen years...

So ends the Maiden Voyage of Still Cordially Yours, I am back again — hopefully you will be too!

Have a Most Special Time of the Year
—As I remain, STILL Cordially yours



Steve Polifka on Rhythm & Torch:

"About a year and a half ago, I decided I wanted to play out again as a solo act, or maybe a duo. I had this idea for a number of years, but didn't think the format would fly. I mean, piano and congas? Pop, ballads, and folk with Latin affectations? Who'd really go for that? So I announced to Yolonda 6 months ago, that I was serious about trying this and she said, "Oh, I think we need to do something together." and well, here we are!

"Yolonda and I have known each other for about eight years. We met at Mama Roux's while doing some karaoke style performances for benefits and shows. We've written a few songs together and have done lots of singing with each other for various events. She's a good friend and absolutely awesome performer.

"The Latin/Caribbean influences can be heard early in my songwriting. I've been writing for almost 30 years in almost every genre — dance, pop, folk, rock, and jazz. Rhythm & Torch blends a lot of styles and influences together, both in the original and the cover tunes.

"If Rhythm & Torch does well, it's because we are only doing songs we love. No current top 10 hits here. Eclectic to be sure, but have you listened to what's out there lately?

"I figured if it didn't work, no harm done and I'd retire again. Well, with the

response we've received, perhaps there is an audience out there after all."

About Steve Polifka:

Native Wisconsinite; degree in graphic design; writing songs since high school; plays piano, mountain dulcimer, guitar; performed in many bands and solo, at Summerfest, Pridefest, Festa Italiana, weddings; numerous clubs in Wisconsin and inTexas, Illinois, Indiana.

Currently, a piece of music he wrote for Channel 10/36 can be heard everyday on 'Ready to Learn Little Lessons.' He has also written two songs for the Center for Creative Learning. He spends his other time with his partner, Jeff.

Yolonda Roth on Rhythm & Torch:

"I've always known that Steve and I were meant to work together musically. Although we've written some great songs together, the timing and the motivation were never in sync for a project like this. I'm glad he finally came to his senses!" (laughs)

About Yolonda Roth:

Native Milwaukeean, studied voice at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music; performed with bands like Climate Control and Big Bad Blues; has been songwriting for 14 years; influences are blues, opera, swing, jazz and R&B.

Men's Voices Milwaukee

Holiday Concert



Mens's Voices Milwaukee (MVM) presented another great performance Saturday, December 4, composed of two acts. Due to past audience response, this year's performance included Angels, White Christmas, O Tannenbaum and adding a little humor with their rendition of Santa Baby. The night closed with a resounding performance of Halleluhah Chorus.

During the intermission between acts, the audience had the oportunity to browse a silent auction befefiting the organization. MVM is a choral ensemble dedicated to musical excellence by performing a broad range of men's choral music. Formed in June 2001 and originating with 30 singing members, MVM continues to grow. Every member of MVM believes in the most important element fof the chorus—the music. MVM is committed to broadening and strengthening the LGBT choral movement in southeastern Wisconsin (and beyond) through performance, education and outreach activities. And MVM shares this philosophy by entertaining audiences at every performance.



PrideFest Town Hall Meeting

Continued from Cover

By Jennifer Gryniewicz, Executive Director Cream City Foundation

The independent audit confirmed a \$209,000 turnaround from the 2003 festival, which had incurred a debt of nearly \$150,000. The dramatic results were attributed to strong financial support from community members, an aggressive expense-cutting effort by festival planners, and strong festival attendance. Copies of the audit are available by request.

The Task Force also announced an effort to seek community input about the festival through listening sessions and a survey, which can be accessed online at www.surveymonkey.com/

s.asp?u=30892657011. Festival planners need community feedback to shape the future structure of the festival, as well as entertainment and activity ideas

for the 2005 festival. For more information about participating in a focus group or receiving a hard copy of the survey, contact Urban Strategies at (414) 221-9500.

"While we had great success this year, the long term goal is to stabilize the festival by establishing an accountable, community-based organizational structure. We need community input to make sure PrideFest continues to have success for years to come," said Denise Wise, President of Cream City Foundation (CCF), the organization that oversaw fiscal planning for the 2004 festival.

"PrideFest still has a debt of approximately \$56,000, but that has been negotiated with favorable terms to allow us to plan for coming years," said Jennifer Gryniewicz, CCF Executive Director. Among this year's production successes, the Task Force highlighted the festival's commitment to increasing accessibility, increasing partnerships with community groups and businesses, and retaining key sponsors.

The festival was reduced to two days, but had attendance of 15,800, an increase of 200 over the three-day festival in 2003.

PrideFest 2005 will be held during the weekend of June 10, 11 and 12th. No decision has been as whether the festival will be held over two days or three days. The PrideFest production team is seeking volunteers for several open positions, including several Director-level positions.

For more information about volunteering, call PrideFest at (414) 272-3378.

SAGE — December Events

Thursday, December 16 ~ SAGE Drop-In Center at the SAGE/Milwaukee offices from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. come by and visit with friends, play cards or board games.

Thursday, December 23 ~ Holiday Movie Night at the SAGE/Milwaukee offices at 6:30. Enjoy Christmas Eve, a holiday movie starring Loretta Young and Trevor Howard. In this feature, made when Miss Young was an older woman, she reaches out to the homeless in a humorous and pleasant way. We are planning this as an appetizer pot luck where everyone brings a hot or cold hors d'ouvre to pass.

Thursday, December 30 ~ SAGE Drop-In Center End of the Year Get Together at the SAGE/Milwaukee offices from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. come by and visit with friends, play cards or board games.

Sunday, January 9 ~ SAGE Sunday Afternoon Movie ~ Holiday Heart. Popcorn and beverages will be served. Doors open at 1:30 and movie begins at 2:00 p.m. at the SAGE/Milwaukee offices, 1845 N. Farwell. Please call 224-0517 to reserve your place.

Community Listings

Action Wisconsin, 1202 Williamson St., Madison 53703, www.actionwisconsin.org, (608) 441-0143

Aeon Group (Interactive Fiction Gaming), P.O. Box 93953, 53203-0953, (414) 291-0530

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, 820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202, www.arcw.org, (414) 273-1991 (800) 359-9272

Alcoholics Anonymous (Request gay meetings), (414) 771-9119

Bi Definition (Bisexual community events), 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI 53212, Suite 101, (414) 299-9612

BiNet USA (National bisexual political organization), http://norn.org/pub/other-orgs/brc/binet.html, (202) 882-4384

Brew City Bears, P.O. Box 1035, Milwaukee, WI 53201, (414) 299-0401

BWMT-Milwaukee, P.O. Box 091475, Milwaukee, WI 53209, http://members.aol.com/bwmtmilwaukee/, (414) 540-9437, ext 3

Castaways M.C. (Levi/Leather club), P.O. Box 1697, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Counseling Center (LGB & discussion groups), 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202, (414) 271-2565

Cream City Chorus, 315 W. Court, Milwaukee, WI 53212, http://www.creamcity-chorus.org/, (414) 276-8787

Cream City Foundation, 315 W. Court, Milwaukee, WI 53212, http://www.creamcityfoundation.org/, (414) 225-0244

Cream City Squares (Square Dancing Club), (414) 445-8080

DAMES (Dykes Against Minority Erotic Suppression), P.O. Box 1272, Milwaukee, WI 53201, (414) 278-0323

Fest City Singers (gay choral group), P.O. Box 11428, Milwaukee, WI 53211, (414) 961-0713

Firebirds (L/L group), P.O. Box 159, 53201-0159

Front Runners (running group), (414)

G/L Community Trust Fund, P.O. Box 1686, 53201, (414) 643-1652

Galano Club (chemical free recovery club), 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI

53212, http://my.execpc.com/%7ereva/, (414) 276-6936

Gay Lesbian Education Employees of Metro Milw., (414) 462-8404

Gay Straight Alliance (Waukesah County Technical College), GSA c/o Student Life C121, 800 Main St., (262) 691-5388

Gay Youth Milwaukee (peer group meetings), P.O. Box 090441, Milwaukee, WI 53209, (414) 265-8500

Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline, http://gym.8m.com/, (414) 272-TEEN

Gay/Lesbian Studies UWM, (414) 229-6402

Gemini Gender Group (TV/TS/TG support/social), P.O. Box 44211, 53214, (414) 297-9328

Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee, P.O. Box 862, Milwaukee, WI 53201-0862

GLEAM/SPECTRUM (GLBT Employees of SBC), P.O. Box 254, Milwaukee, WI 53201, (414) 482-4310

Great Lakes Harley Riders, P.O. Box 341611, Milwaukee, WI 53234-1611

Holiday Invitational Tournament (G/L bowling event), P.O. Box 899, Milwaukee, WI 53201

HRL-Pac (Political Action Committee), P.O. Box 510407 Milwaukee, WI 53203-0074, http://www.hrl-pac.org/index.html, (414) 319-9863

Keep Hope Alive (HIV Holistic Support), P.O. Box 27041, West Allis, 53227, (414) 548-4344

LAMM (Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee), 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI 53212, (414) 272-9442

Log Cabin Republicans-Wisconsin (Gay Republicans), P.O. Box 199, Milwaukee, 53201, LCCWI@aol.com, (414) 299-9443

Marquette Gay/Straight Alliance, Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St., Milwaukeee, WI 53233, (414) 288-6873

Men's Voices Milwaukee, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI 53212, (414) 765-9198

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club, (414) 704-1688 (Brian)

MGALA (Marquette U. GL Alumni), P.O. Box 92722, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Milwaukee GAMMA (sports/outdoors/recreation/social), P.O. Box 1900, Milwaukee, WI 53201, mkegamma@execpc.com, (414) 365-3453

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court, Milwaukee, WI 53212, http://www.mkelgbt.org/, (414) 271-2656

Milwaukee Symphony Chorus, (414) 559-9330

Narcotics Anonymous (request gay mtgs.), (800) 711-6375

New Beginnings PENPALS (Mo. newsletter), Box 25, Westby, WI 54667

Orgullo Latino (a Latin Pride), c/o Murguia, 1532 N. Astor St., Milwaukee, WI 53202, (414) 276-8546

Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group, (414) 963-9833

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG), 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI 53212, (414) 299-9198

Pathfinders (youth counseling, shelter), 1614 E. Kane Place, Milwaukee, WI 53202, (414) 271-1560

Pride in Wisconsin Government, c/o OutReach, P.O. Box 310, Madison, WI 53701, http://my.execpc.com/%7edross/ pride/, (608) 255-8582

PrideFest (Annual Pride festival), 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI 53212, http://www.pridefest.com/, (414) 645-FEST

Project Q (Youth Program of the Milwaukee LGBT Center), 315 W. Court, Milwaukee, WI 53212, http://www.projectq.org/, (414) 223-3220

Queer Program, The (Cable TV Show), P.O. Box 090441, Milwaukee, WI 53209, (414) 265-8500

Rainbow Alliance at UWM, Box 122, 2200 E. Kenwood Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211, (414) 229-6555

Rainbow Families Wisconsin (LGBT-Family Support), 600 Williamson St., Suite 1P, Madison 53703-3588, http://www.geocities.com/rainbowfamilieswisconsin/, (608) 270-1024

Riverwest Rainbow Association, 1001 E. Keefe Ave., 53212, (414) 225-1645

SAGE Milwaukee (for older LGBTs), P.O. Box 510492, Milwaukee, WI 53203-0091, http://www.sagemilwaukee.org/, (414) 224-0517

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA), (414) 299-0755

Shoreline (country dancing, instruction), P.O. Box 510283, Milwaukee, WI 53203-0051, (414) 747-0388

Silver Space (for older lesbians), c/o Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., Milwaukee, (414) 271-2565

SSBL (Saturday Softball League), P.O. Box 92605, Milwaukee, WI 53203-0091, (414) 454-9204

Two Spirit Society (Indigenous LGBT People of America), 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI 53212, (414) 985-5151

WI. Legislative Hotline, (800) 362-WISC

Wisconsin AIDS Library, (414) 225-1539 (800) 359-9272

Wisconsin AIDSline (free/anonymous), (800) 334-AIDS

Wisconsin DHFS HIV/AIDS Program, P.O. Box 2659, Madison 53701-2659, (800) 991-5532

Wisconsin Haverim (GLBT Jewish Group), http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WisconsinHaverim, (414) 202-8074

Wisconsin Outdoor Women (outdoor sporting events), P.O. Box 94, Hales Corners, 53130, (414) 427-2082





It's The Middle Of December. The Malls Are A Warzone. What's a last minute Shopper to Do???

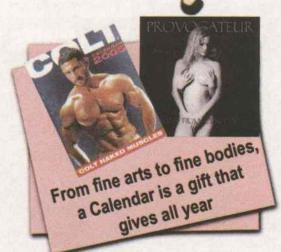
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